

**FRIDAY EVENING BEFORE PALM SUNDAY
THE SERVICE OF LITTLE COMPLINE WITH
THE CANON TO THE RAISING OF LAZARUS THE RIGHTEOUS**

****INSTRUCTIONS****

An icon of "The Raising of Lazarus the Righteous" is placed on a stand in the middle of the solea, like in the Akathist services of Fridays in Great Lent. The candles are lit and the church is semi-illuminated. No censer is needed. The curtain and Holy Doors are closed for the entire service. The priest wears a gold epitrachelion over his exorasson and starts Little Compline in front of the icon.

Priest: Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art in all places, and fillest all things, Treasury of good things, and Giver of life, come, and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain; and save our souls, O good One.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (THRICE)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 Thine is 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 ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*twelve times*)

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

- *A metanoia is made after each verse below.*

Choir: Come, let us worship and fall down before 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.

- *The Priest goes to stand at the chanters stand.*

PSALM 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

PSALM 69

O God, be attentive unto helping me; O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be shamed and confounded that seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and brought to shame that desire evils against me. Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me: Well done! Well done! Let them be glad and rejoice in Thee all that seek after Thee, O God, and let them that love Thy salvation say continually: The Lord be magnified. But as for me, I am poor and needy; O God, come unto mine aid. My helper and my deliverer art Thou, O Lord; make no long tarrying.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

THE LITTLE DOXOLOGY (Plain Reading)

- + Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.
- + We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee; we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.
- + O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.
- + O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; O Thou Who takest away the sins of the world.
- + Receive our prayer, O Thou Who sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.
- + For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.
- + Every evening will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever; yea, forever and ever.
- + Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in all generations. I said: Be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.
- + Lord, I have fled unto Thee: teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.
- + For with Thee is the fountain of life: in Thy light shall we see light.
- + O continue Thy loving-kindness unto them that know Thee.
- + Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy Name forever. Amen.
- + Let Thy mercy, O Lord: be upon us, as we do put our hope in Thee.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy statutes.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy statutes.
- + Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE NICENE-CONSTANTINOPOLITAN CREED

People: 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 worlds, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by 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 was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried. And on the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures. And ascended into heaven, and sitteth 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 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE CANON OF THE RAISING OF LAZARUS THE RIGHTEOUS, CHANTED IN TONE ONE

ODE ONE

Let us all sing a triumphant song unto God, Who has done strange wonders with His mighty arm, and has saved Israel: for He is glorified.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O my Savior, Thou hast raised Lazarus who was four days dead, and freed him from corruption by Thy mighty arm; and in Thy strength Thou hast revealed Thy power.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Calling Lazarus from the tomb, immediately Thou hast raised him; but Hell below lamented bitterly, and groaning, trembled at Thy power, O Savior.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast shed tears for Lazarus, O Lord, thus proving that Thou hast truly taken flesh at Thine Incarnation; and that, being God by nature, Thou hast become by nature a man like us.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast made the tears of Martha and Mary to cease, O Lord and Savior, by raising Lazarus from the dead, and in Thy power Thou hast endued a corpse with the breath of life.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Obedient to the laws of human nature, Thou hast asked, O Master, where Lazarus was laid, showing to all, O Savior, that at Thine Incarnation Thou hast become true man for our sake.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Calling Lazarus by name, Thou hast broken in pieces the bars of Hell and shaken the power of the enemy; and before Thy Crucifixion, Thou hast made him tremble because of Thee, O only Savior.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Master, Thou hast come as God to Lazarus, bound captive by Hell, and Thou hast loosed him from his fetters, for all things submit to Thy command, O Mighty Lord.

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

Let us now glorify Father, Son and Holy Spirit, undivided Trinity in Unity of Nature, and with the angels let us glorify Him as one uncreated God.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Virgin Mother, still remaining virgin, Thou hast conceived the Creator of the World through the Holy Spirit, according to the good pleasure of the Father; and without alteration or confusion, He became what we are.

ODE TWO

Attend, O Heaven, and I shall speak and sing in praise of Christ, the Savior of the world, Who alone lovest mankind.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Glory to Thee, Who alone hast called a four-day corpse from the tomb, raising Lazarus, Thy friend.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

A lifeless corpse, he heard Thy voice; and at once he rose from the dead, filled with the breath of life and glorifying Thee, O Lord.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Lazarus already stank; but, receiving the command of Thy life-giving voice, O my Savior, he arose from the tomb.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast shed tears for Thy friend Lazarus, O my Savior, proving that Thou hast taken on Thyself our nature, and then Thou hast raised him up.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Hell trembled when it saw him, bound in his grave-clothes yet returning at once to the life of this world when he heard Thy voice.

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

The Jews were amazed when Thou hadst called Lazarus, O Savior, and raised him by Thy word, though his corpse already stank.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The palaces of Hell were shaken, when in its depths Lazarus began once more to breathe, straightway restored to life by the sound of Thy voice.

ODE THREE

The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the rock upon which Christ has established the Church that He has redeemed from among the nations.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O strange and marvelous wonder! Although He knew the answer, yet as if ignorant, the Maker of All asked: Where does he lie, whom ye lament? Where is Lazarus buried, whom I shall shortly raise up for your sake, alive from the dead.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Jesus commanded them to take away the stone that they had rolled upon thee when they buried thee; and immediately He raised thee, calling thee: Lazarus, rise up and come to Me, that Hell may tremble at My voice.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Shedding tears for Thy friend, O Savior, Thou hast shown the reality of Thine Incarnation: the flesh that Thou hast taken from us was united to Thee in essence, not in appearance only. And, since Thou art a God Who lovest mankind, immediately Thou hast called him and raised him up.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Woe is me! Now am I destroyed utterly, Hell cried out, and thus he spoke to Death: See, the man from Nazareth has shaken the lower world, and cutting open my belly He has called a lifeless corpse and raised it up.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

'What is this madness that has seized you, O ye Jews? Why do ye disbelieve? How long will ye wander in falsehood? Ye see the dead man leap up when Christ calls him, and do ye still disbelieve in Christ? Truly ye are all children of darkness.

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

I acknowledge Thee as one of the Trinity, even though Thou art incarnate, and I worship Thee as one single Son, Who hast without seed taken flesh from the Theotokos, yet art glorified with the Father and the Spirit.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O strange and dread sight, foreseen by the prophets who proclaimed the truth: by divine providence the Virgin Theotokos conceived without seed and gave birth to God without corruption, remaining still a virgin after childbirth.

ODE FOUR

The sun's light was extinguished and the moon was halted in its course; Thou wast lifted, O Longsuffering Lord, upon the Cross, and with it Thou hast built Thy Church.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Lord, Thou hast shed tears for Lazarus, showing that Thou art man; and Thou hast raised him from the dead, O Master, showing to the peoples that Thou art the Son of God.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Lifeless, he heard Thy command, O Loving Savior: Lazarus, come forth; and bound with grave-clothes he leapt up at once, bearing witness to Thy power.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Christ our God, Thou hast made the tears of Martha and Mary to cease; calling Lazarus, through Thine own authority Thou hast raised him by Thy voice, and he worshipped Thee.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

As man, Thou hast shed tears for Lazarus; as God, Thou hast raised him up. Thou hast asked, O Loving Lord: Where is he buried, dead these four days; thus confirming our faith in Thine Incarnation.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Wishing in Thy love to reveal the meaning of Thy Passion and Thy Cross, Thou hast broken open the belly of Hell that never can be satisfied, and as God Thou hast raised up a man four days dead.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Who has ever known or heard of a man raised from the dead, when his corpse already stank? Elijah and Elisha raised the dead, yet not from the tomb or four days after death.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Lord, we sing the praises of Thy might; O Christ, we sing the praises of Thy Passion: for through the one in Thy tender mercy Thou hast worked a miracle; and the other Thou hast as man accepted willingly for our salvation.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou art God and man, proving by Thine actions the true reality of both Thy natures. In the flesh Thou hast come to the tomb, O Word, and as God Thou hast raised up the man four days dead.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

The Jews were amazed, O Master, when they saw dead Lazarus rising from the tomb at Thy voice; yet still they believed not in Thy miracles.

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

Without beginning hast Thou shone forth from Thy Father as one of the Trinity, O Savior; and within time Thou hast come forth from the Spirit, taking flesh in the Virgin's womb, O transcendent God.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Theotokos conceived without seed and gave birth without suffering corruption. For, bringing forth these wonders to pass, God emptied Himself that He might be united to us.

ODE FIVE

Give us Thy peace, O Son of God, for we know no other God save Thee. We call upon Thy Name, for Thou art God of the living and the dead.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Since, O Lord, Thou art Life and true Light, Thou hast called dead Lazarus and raised him up, for in Thy power Thou hast shown to all that Thou art God of the living and the dead.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Hell, that had received so many, was unable to resist Thy sovereign command, O Jesus; but trembling, it surrendered Lazarus, four days dead, yet brought up to life by Thy voice.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Joining dust to spirit, O Word, by Thy word in the beginning, Thou hast breathed into the clay a living soul. And now, by Thy word, Thou hast raised up Thy friend from corruption and from the depths of the earth.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

None can withstand Thy behest, O Lord, for when Thou hast called dead Lazarus, though lifeless, he arose at once, and though his feet were bound, he walked.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O folly of the Jews! O blindness of the enemy! Who hast ever known a corpse raised from the grave? Once Elijah raised the dead, yet not from the tomb or four days after death.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

There is none like Thee, O Forbearing Lord. Thou doest all things for our sake as God, and Thou sufferest as man. Make us all partakers of Thy Kingdom, at the prayers of Lazarus.

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

O Trinity Who wast before all things began, Father Almighty, Son and Holy Spirit, coeternal and equal in honor, Holy Unity in three Persons: save us children of Adam who with faith sing Thy praises.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thine undefiled womb was sanctified, O pure Virgin, by the transcendent God Who took flesh from it: He is adorned as one of the Trinity, the Word from the Father, one God with the Spirit.

ODE SIX

Thou hast cast me, O Savior, into the deep waters of the sea; yet Thou hast saved me from the servitude of death, and loosed the bonds of my transgressions.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou knowest all things, yet hast asked where I was buried. As man by nature, Thou hast wept for me, O Savior, and Thou hast raised me from the dead by Thy command.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

‘Thou hast called me from the lowest depths of Hell, O Savior,’ cried Lazarus to Thee when Thou hast set him free from Hell; ‘and Thou hast raised me from the dead by Thy command.’

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast clothed me in a body of clay, O Savior, and breathed life into me, and I beheld Thy light; and Thou hast raised me from the dead by Thy command.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast breathed life into my flesh, O Savior, when there was no breath within it; Thou hast bound it fast with bones and sinews, and Thou hast raised me from the dead by Thy command.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast broken open the all-devouring belly of Hell and snatched me out, O Savior, by Thy power; and Thou hast raised me from the dead by Thy command.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou hast clothed Thyself in all my human nature, O Savior, and hast kept pure in childbirth the undefiled womb from which Thou camest forth incarnate, being one of the Trinity.

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

O Holy Trinity, I glorify Thy compassion, and with the angels I sing the thrice-holy hymn: have mercy on the souls of us who praise Thee.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O marvelous wonder! The Word entered Thine undefiled womb, pure Virgin Mother, yet preserved it virgin after childbirth.

ODE SEVEN

The fire, O Savior, did not touch or trouble Thy children in the furnace. Then with one voice the three sang Thy praise and blessed Thee, saying: O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Savior Who lovest mankind, Thou hast wept over the dead, in this way showing to all the peoples that, being God, Thou hast become man for our sakes; and, shedding tears by Thine own choice, Thou hast given us proof of Thy heartfelt love.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

When Lazarus, four days dead, heard Thy voice below, O Savior, he rose up and sang Thy praises, crying aloud joyfully: Thou art my God and Maker; I glorify and worship Thee, for Thou hast raised me up.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Though I lie in bonds, O Savior, Lazarus cried from below to Thee his Deliverer, yet shall I not remain forever in the depth of Hell, if Thou wilt only call to me, 'Lazarus, come out;' for Thou art my Light and my Life.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

I implore thee, Lazarus, said Hell, Rise up, depart quickly from my bonds and be gone. It is better for me to lament bitterly for the loss of one, rather than of all those whom I swallowed in my hunger.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Why dost thou delay, Lazarus? cried Hell. Thy Friend stands calling to thee: 'Come out.' Go, then, and I too shall feel relief. For since I swallowed thee, all other food is loathsome to me.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Lazarus, why dost thou not rise up swiftly? cried Hell below, lamenting. Why dost thou not run straightway from this place? Lest Christ take prisoner the others, after raising thee.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Thou art magnified, O Master Christ, through the many miracles Thou hast performed. For Thou hast given light to the blind and opened the ears of the deaf by a word; and, calling Thy friend Lazarus, as God Thou hast raised him from the dead.

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

Let us sing praises to the Trinity, glorifying the eternal Father, the Son and the Spirit of righteousness, one single Essence that we magnify in threefold song: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Trinity.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We glorify Thee, O Christ, as one of the Trinity. Without changing, Thou wast made flesh from the Virgin, and hast endured all things as man, O Jesus; but, though united with us, Thou wast not divided from the Father's nature.

ODE EIGHT

O heaven of heavens and the waters that are above the heavens, bless and praise the Lord.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

The Maker, Who upholds all things, came to Bethany in his compassion, to raise Lazarus.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Four days dead, already stinking, bound in grave-clothes, lacking the breath of life, at Thy call, O Lord, Lazarus leapt up endued with life.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

The Jewish people, seeing the dead man rise at Thy command, O Christ, gnashed their teeth in fury.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Jews, the Light shines round you, but ye still remain in darkness. Why do ye doubt the resurrection of Lazarus? It is the work of Christ.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Rejoice, Zion, and sing praises to the Giver of Life, Who by His word has raised Lazarus from the tomb.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

The heavenly hosts and men on earth sang Thy praises, O my Savior, for Thou hast raised Lazarus.

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

I glorify and praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and with never-silent voice I cry: O Thrice-Holy, glory to Thee.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I bless and worship Thee, born from the Virgin, yet never parted from the throne of Thy holy glory.

ODE NINE

He has showed strength with His arm; He has put down the mighty from their seats and exalted the humble, for He is the God of Israel. The Dayspring from on High has visited us and guided us into the way of peace.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Let Bethany sing with us in praise of the miracle, for there the Creator wept for Lazarus in accordance with the law of nature and the flesh. Then, making Martha's tears to cease and changing Mary's grief to joy, Christ raised him from the dead.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

To confirm men's faith in Thy Resurrection, O Word, Thou hast called Lazarus from the tomb and as God hast raised him up, to show the peoples that Thou art both God and man in very truth, Who dost raise up the temple of Thy body.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Shaking the gates and iron bars, Thou hast made Hell tremble at Thy voice. Hell and Death were filled with fear, O Savior, seeing Lazarus their prisoner brought to life by Thy word and rising from the tomb.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

All were dismayed to see Thee, Savior, weeping over dead Lazarus, and in their misery they said: Behold how He loves him. Then Thou hast straightway called him, and at Thy command the dead man rose, delivered from corruption.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

The gates were shaken and the bars were shattered, and the bonds which held the dead man were loosed. When Christ spoke in power, Hell groaned bitterly and cried aloud: Woe is me! What and whence is this voice that brings the dead to life?

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

Rise up, obedient to the voice of thy Friend outside, calling thee. This is He Who raised the dead of old: for when Elijah and Elisha brought the dead to life, He it was that spoke and acted through them.

Glory to Thee, our God; glory to Thee.

O Word and Savior, we sing the praises of Thy surpassing power; for, by Thy word, as Creator of all things, Thou hast raised from the depths dead Lazarus with his bones and sinews, as Thou hast raised the widow's son from the bier.

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

Most Holy Trinity, O God the Eternal Father, O Coeternal Son and Word of God, O Holy Spirit of God, Loving Comforter; one Light of the Threefold Sun, Consubstantial Essence, one God and Lord, take pity on the world.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Jesus, Who hast made all things in wisdom, Thou hast clothed Thyself in my whole nature, taken from the Virgin, yet forever Thou remainest wholly in the bosom of the Father; and Thou hast, as God, sent down Thy Holy Spirit on Thy flock: cover us with Thy shadow.

THEOTOKION (Plain Reading)

It is truly meet to bless thee O Theotokos, who art ever-blessed and all-blameless, and the mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Thou who without corruption bearest God the Word; and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

- *The Priest stands before the Holy Doors, facing east.*

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (THRICE)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 Thine is 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 ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

KONTAKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY (Plain Reading)

To those on the earth, the Joy of all, Christ God, the Truth, the Light and the Life, the Resurrection of the world, in His goodness hath now appeared and is become the true archetype of the Resurrection of all, bestowing divine forgiveness on all men.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (40 times)

Reader: O Christ our God, Who art worshipped and glorified at all times at every hour both in heaven and on earth; Who art long-suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; Who lovest the just man and showest mercy upon the sinner; and Who callest all men to repentance through the promise of blessings to come; receive, O Lord, at this very hour our supplications, and direct our lives in the way of Thy commandments: sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, set our minds aright, cleanse our thoughts; deliver us from all affliction, trouble, and distress; compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guided and guarded by them, we may attain unto the unity of the Faith, and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory; for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

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

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Thou who without corruption bearest God the Word; and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

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

Priest: May God have compassion upon us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, and be merciful unto us.

Choir: Amen.
Lord, have mercy. (*twelve times*)
Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

PRAYER OF PAUL THE CENOBSITE TO THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS

• *This can be read by the Priest or Reader in front of the icon of the Virgin on the Iconostasis.*
O Lady, Bride of God, spotless, blameless, pure and immaculate Virgin, thou who without corruption, by thy glorious birth-giving, has united God the Word to man and joined the fallen nature of our race to heavenly things; who alone art the hope of the hopeless, the help of those who are under attack; the ready help of those who flee unto thee and the refuge of all Christians: Despise me not, an accursed sinner, though I have rendered myself unworthy by my shameful thoughts, words and deeds, and through indolence have become a slave to the pleasures of life; but as the Mother of God, who lovest mankind, mercifully have compassion upon me, a sinner and a prodigal, and receive my prayer, though it be offered unto thee by unworthy lips; and using Thy boldness as a mother, importune Thy Son, our Lord and Master, that He may open to me also the tender compassions of His goodness so as to overlook my numberless transgressions and turn me to repentance and show me forth as a zealous doer of His commandments. And because thou art merciful, compassionate and benevolent, be thou ever near me in this present life as an ardent help and protection, defending me from the assaults of adversaries and leading me to salvation. And at the time of my departure from this life, care for my miserable soul, and drive far from it the dark visions of evil demons; and in the awesome Day of Judgment, deliver me from eternal punishment, and present me as an inheritor of the ineffable glory of Thy Son, our God. May this be my lot, O Lady, most holy Theotokos, through thy mediation and help, through the grace and love toward mankind of thine only-begotten Son, our Lord, and God, and Savior, Jesus Christ, to Whom are due all glory, honor and worship, with his unoriginate Father, and His All-Holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE MONK ANTIOCHUS TO OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

• *This can be read by the Priest or Reader in front of the icon of Christ on the Iconostasis.*
And grant unto us, O Master, when we depart to sleep, repose of body and soul; and protect us from the murky sleep of sin and from all the dark pleasures of the night. Calm the impulses of passions, and quench the fiery darts of evil which are craftily thrown against us; check the turbulence of our flesh, and still all earthly and material thoughts. And grant us, O God, a watchful mind, a prudent reason, a vigilant heart, a tranquil sleep free from all the fantasies of Satan. Raise us up again at the time of prayer strengthened in Thy commandments, holding steadfastly within us the remembrance of Thy judgments. Grant us grace to glorify Thee all through the night that

we may praise, and bless, and glorify Thine all-honorable and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

- *The first person then says:*

O most glorious, ever-virgin and blessed Theotokos, present our prayer to thy Son our God, and intercede with Him that through thee He may save our souls.

- *The second person then says:*

The Father is my Hope; the Son is my Refuge; the Holy Spirit is my Protection. O Holy Trinity: Glory to Thee.

- *The first person then says:*

In thee, O Mother of God, I place all my hope; keep me under thy protection.

PRAYER TO OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL

Priest: O holy Angel who accompanieth my wretched soul and lowly life, forsake me not, and depart not from me because of my extravagance and wickedness. Give not access to the evil demon to rule with his might this mortal body of mine, but hold me by my wretched, feeble hand; lead me in the path of salvation. Yea, O holy Angel of God, guardian and protector of my wretched soul and body, forgive me all wherewith I have heretofore saddened thee all the days of my life. And though this day I have sinned, be thou my shelter this night. Keep me from all the wiles of the enemy, that I may not anger God with any sin. Intercede with the Lord for me, that He may confirm me in His fear and show me forth as a worthy servant of His goodness.

Reader: Amen.

- *Standing on the solea, and facing the icon of Christ on the iconostasis, the Priest says:*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

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

- *Facing the congregation, the Priest says:*

Priest: May He Who by raising Lazarus from the dead confirmed the Universal Resurrection for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the holy and righteous Lazarus of four-days, the friend of Christ, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Choir: Amen.

- *Standing before the Holy Doors, facing east, the priest makes three metanoias, saying each time.*
Priest: O God, be gracious unto me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.

- *The priest turns west and bows to the people, saying:*

Priest: Forgive me, a sinner.

People: God forgive thee, holy father.

Priest: Let us pray for the peace of the world.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*after each petition until noted*)

Priest: And for pious and Orthodox Christians.

Priest: And for our Father and Metropolitan N., (for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.), and for all our Brotherhood in Christ.

Priest: And for the civil authorities of this land.

Priest: And for the welfare of our armed forces.

Priest: And for our fathers and brethren absent from among us.

Priest: And for those who hate us, and those who love us.

Priest: And for those who are kind to us and minister unto us.

Priest: And for those who have requested our prayers, unworthy though we be.

Priest: And for the deliverance of captives.

Priest: And for travelers by land, sea and air.

Priest: And for those who lie in sickness.

Priest: And let us pray also for the abundance of the fruits of the earth.

Priest: And for the soul of every Orthodox Christian.

Priest: Let us bless God-fearing leaders, Orthodox bishops, the founders of this holy church and our parents and teachers, and all our fathers and brethren gone before us, the Orthodox who here and everywhere lie asleep in the Lord.

Priest: And let us say also for ourselves.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

- *The faithful now come forward to venerate the icon of the “Raising of Lazarus the Righteous” and receive a blessing from the priest, as the choir sings the following hymns.*

THEOTOKION IN TONE THREE (METERED) (UNMETERED)

Awed by the beauty of thy virginity and the exceeding radiance of thy purity, Gabriel stood amazed and cried to thee, O Mother of God: What praise may I offer thee, that is worthy of thy beauty? By what name shall I call thee? I am lost and bewildered. But I shall greet thee, as I was commanded: Hail! Thou that art full of grace.

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE ONE (CHANT) (CHORAL)

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

KONTAKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE TWO

(***Thou soughtest the heights***)

To those on the earth, * the Joy of all, Christ God, the Truth, * the Light and the Life, * the Resurrection of the world, * in His goodness hath now appeared and is become the true archetype * of the Resurrection of all, * bestowing divine forgiveness on all men.

- *After all have passed, the Priest faces the icon of Christ and says:*

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

Portions of the Archdiocesan Service Texts include texts from *The Menaion*, *The Great Horologion*, *The Pentecostarion*, *The Octoechos*, and *The Psalter of the Seventy*, which are Copyright © Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, Massachusetts, and are used with permission. All rights reserved. These works may not be further reproduced, beyond printing out a single copy for personal non-commercial use, without the prior written authorization of Holy Transfiguration Monastery.