

DAILY ORTHROS ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 05, 2019
SATURDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST, WHICH FALLS ON
PARAMON (EVE) OF THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

MARTYRS THEOPEMPTOS, BISHOP OF NICOMEDIA AND THEONAS; VENERABLE SYNCLETICA OF
ALEXANDRIA; VENERABLE-MARTYR ROMANOS OF ATHOS

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

Choir: Amen.

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. (Choir continues.)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

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

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

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

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

LITANY

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan N., (for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.), and for all our Brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Bless, Master, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

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

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. (TWICE)

PSALM 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

PSALM 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mocking, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftiness all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)
Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

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

PSALM 87

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

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

PSALM 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered; neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

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.

O Lord, give ear unto my supplication and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. (TWICE)
Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

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

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)
O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!*

THE GREAT LITANY

- Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For our father and Metropolitan N., (for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.), for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.**
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.**
- Deacon: (In the United States) For the President of the United States, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.
- (In Canada) For Her Majesty, the Queen, for the Prime Minister of Canada, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For healthful seasons, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

“GOD IS THE LORD” IN TONE FOUR

Choir: God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Verse 1. O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Holy Name. (*Refrain*)

Verse 2. All nations compassed me about: but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them. (*Refrain*)

Verse 3. This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (*Refrain*)

APOLYTIKION FOR THE PARAMON (EVE) OF THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR

*(**Joseph was amazed**)*

River Jordan was turned back by Elisseus’ mantle once, * when the fiery man of zeal Elias had been taken up; * then were its waters divided hither and thither. * The running streams became dry passage unto him, * truly as a sign and type of Baptism, * whereby we pass to the other side of * the shifting stream of this fleeting life. * Christ hath appeared in the Jordan River, to sanctify the waters. (THRICE)

POETIC KATHISMATA FOR THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY (Plain Reading)

First Kathisma

Rejoice, O River Jordan, be glad; for within thee the Maker of all things now is here, moved by mercy to seek at a servant’s hand saving Baptism for our sakes. Dance, be glad, O Adam, and, O Eve, our foremother; God supremely good, Who is redemption for all men, is come down to dwell with us.

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

The Torrent of Delight, Who is Master of all things, doth come unto the river’s swift streams to be baptized; for He willed to give me drink of waters that purify. And when John beheld Him, he cried out to Him, saying: How shall I stretch out my hand upon Thy divine head, whereat all things quake with fear?

Second Kathisma

He Whom no mind can grasp was made poor in the flesh, and came to Baptism, that He might bring to pass our restoration and complete refashioning in its waters. Let us sing His praise as God, great in mercy and tender love; let us magnify His kind condescension unto our race, while crying from the heart with thanksgiving: O Christ, glory be to Thine appearing.

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

O Master, being clad with Adam's nakedness as with a garment of glory, Thou soon shalt be stripped naked in the flesh in River Jordan: O wondrous marvel! Thou, O Lord, supportest Thy chambers firm in the waters' heights as is written: how, then, shall waters take Thee within themselves? O Jesus, our Divine Benefactor, we all offer praise to Thine appearing.

PSALM 50

Reader: 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.

KONTAKION & OIKOS OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY (Plain Reading)

In the running waters of the Jordan River, on this day the Lord of all crieth to John: Be not afraid and hesitate not to baptize Me, for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

I do not require thee to overstep the bounds, O Baptist; I tell thee not: Say to Me what thou tellest the lawless, and what thou dost counsel sinners. Only baptize Me in silence, looking for those things which are to come because of the Baptism; for on this account thou shalt have a dignity which the Angels have never had, and I shall make thee greater than all the Prophets. For none of them saw Me openly, but in figures, and in shadows and dreams. But thou seest Me willingly standing before thee; for I am come to save Adam, the first to be created.

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church is the Saturday before the Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, which falls on Paramon (Eve) of the Theophany.

On January 5, we commemorate the holy Martyrs Theopemptos, bishop of Nicomedia, and Theonas the former magician.

Verses

That Theopemptos might die, let him say: Contesting, I die, my head by the sword severed.

Martyr Theonas cried out with the Psalter: They laid me in the lowest pit, as saith David.

On the fifth, Theopemptos left life with a sword's help.

Theopemptos was among the first to suffer martyrdom under Emperor Diocletian, who threatened Theopemptos with death if he did not deny Christ. The courageous bishop responded to the emperor: "It stands written, 'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body' (Luke 12:4), 'but cannot kill the soul' (Matthew 10:28)." Theopemptos suffered from hunger and was tortured in various ways. Finally, the emperor summoned the magician Theonas to outwit this Godly man through magic. Theonas dissolved the most potent poison in water and gave it to Theopemptos to drink. Theopemptos traced the sign of the cross over the glass and drank the poison. Theonas, upon seeing that the poison had no effect on Theopemptos, turned to the emperor and shouted, "I, too, am a Christian and bow down before the Crucified One." Theopemptos died by the sword, and Theonoas was buried alive. Both entered the Kingdom in 298.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Mother Syncletica. She was of Macedonian descent, and educated in Alexandria. As a wealthy and distinguished maiden she had many suitors, but she rejected them all and fled from her parents' home to a convent. Undergoing the greatest of self-restraints, vigils and prayer, Syncletica lived to her eightieth year. Her counsels to the nuns have always been considered a true spiritual pearl, for this righteous one did not attain the heights of wisdom through books but through sufferings, pains, daily and nightly contemplation, and spiritual communication with the higher world of the Divine. With her soul, she took up habitation in that higher world in 350. Among other things, Syncletica was known to say, "As when uncovered treasure is quickly seized, so it is with virtue; when it is made public it becomes eclipsed and lost."

On January 5, we also commemorate the Venerable-martyr Romanos of Athos. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

HEIRMOI FROM THE MENAION CANON OF THE DAY IN TONE SEVEN

We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.

Ode 8. The only beginningless King of Glory, Whom the powers of Heaven bless, and before Whom the orders of Angels tremble: Praise Him, O ye priests, and supremely exalt Him, O ye people, unto all the ages.

Deacon: The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honor and magnify in song.

MAGNIFICATIONS IN TONE SEVEN

Choir: My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

Refrain: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee. *(Repeat after each Verse.)*

+ For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. *(Refrain)*

+ For He that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His Name; and His mercy is on them that fear Him, throughout all generations. *(Refrain)*

+ He hath showed strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. *(Refrain)*

+ He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the empty with good things, and the rich hath He sent empty away. *(Refrain)*

+ He remembering His mercy hath helped His servant Israel, as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever. *(Refrain)*

Ode 9. As is meet, O ye faithful, let us magnify with songs her that is a Mother surpassing nature and a virgin according to nature, the only blessed among women.

MAGNIFICATION IN TONE SEVEN

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 LITTLE LITANY

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For all the powers of Heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee do they ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE EXAPOSTELARIA FROM THE MENAION IN TONE THREE

*(**Thou Who as God adornest**)*

Much strength amidst thy torments * was sent down unto thee from God, * O Hierarchy, wise Theopemptos; * thereby thou drewest Theonas, * thy fellow athlete, to right faith. * Wherefore, we praise him with thee now.

Bodily Thou didst shine from * a Virgin Maid in Bethlehem; * now Thou dost haste to the Jordan * to wash from stain those born of earth, * enlight'ning those in the darkness * with divine Baptism's splendor.

AINOI (PRAISES) IN TONE SIX

Choir: Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

Choir: Praise ye Him, all His angels: praise ye Him, all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

For the Forefeast in Tone Six (**Ye angelic hosts**)

Verse 1. Praise the Lord in His sanctuary. Praise ye Him in the firmament of His power. Praise ye Him for His mighty acts. Praise ye Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

Why, O Baptist John, dost thou doubt the dispensation * which I now perform for humanity's salvation? * Leave off, therefore, the old things and consider that which is new; * come, believe in God Who condescendeth; draw thou nigh unto Me and serve Me, * for I, God, am come * that in My mercy I might purge * and cleanse Adam of his fall.

Verse 2. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet. Praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

Taking up our sins on Thy shoulders, Thou, O Jesus, * verily art come to the streams of River Jordan; * yet dreadful is Thy coming, and it maketh me sore afraid. * How dost Thou command me then to baptize Thee, Who Thyself art come to cleanse me? * And how dost Thou ask * Baptism at my hand, Who art * the cleansing of all mankind?

Verse 3. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and organs.

Past all understanding is Mine unfathomed nature; * yet clothed in the form of a servant, I am come forth * to River Jordan. Wherefore, do not doubt Me in any wise. * Come thou hither and be not afraid; draw nigh to Me and stretch out thy right hand * on My head and cry: * Blessed art Thou Who hast appeared, * our God, glory be to Thee.

Verse 4. Praise Him upon the loud cymbals: praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

Word of God, Thy poverty passeth thought and measure! * For I know that Thou, in behalf of me, the fallen, * because of Thy compassion hast with Adam thus clothed Thyself, * making new again all sprung from Adam; and I, obeying Thy commandment, * with faith cry to Thee: * Blessed art Thou Who hast appeared, * our God, glory be to Thee.

DOXASTICA OF THE FOREFEAST IN TONE SIX (Ye angelic hosts**)**

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

Minist'ring with trembling and fear unto his Master, * John rejoiced in soul, and cried out with mighty gladness: * Rejoice with me, O all ye generations of Adam's stock, * for our Expectation is come unto us and hath drawn nigh to the Jordan, * as Christ cometh forth * to cleanse all men of Adam's sin, * since He is compassionate.

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

Let us sing, ye people, to Him born of a Virgin * and Who now is baptized in blessed River Jordan, * and cry to Him, O King of all creation, grant unto us * that we, uncondemned and with clear conscience, may all attain in faith undoubting * to Thy ven'erable * and holy Resurrection from * the dead on the third day.

+ To Thee belongeth glory, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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 day 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 day 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; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

- Deacon: Let us complete our morning prayer unto the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.
- Choir: Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon: 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.
- Deacon: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.
- Choir: Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon: All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.
- Choir: Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon: 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.
- Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.
- Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each another, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE PEACE

Bishop: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

- *All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer:*

Priest: O holy Lord, Who dwellest on high and regardest the humble of heart and with Thine all-seeing eye dost behold all creation, unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat Thee: O Holy of holies, stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling-place, and bless us all. And if in aught we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, inasmuch as Thou art a good God, and lovest mankind, vouchsafing unto us Thy earthly and heavenly good things.

For Thine it is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE APOSTICHA OF THE PRAISES FOR THE FOREFEAST IN TONE TWO

*(**O house of Ephratha**)*

Lo, now the King is come; * behold, the Expectation * of Israel is present. * Ye peoples, be ye glad, for the Light hath been made manifest.

Verse 1. Therefore will I remember Thee from the land of Jordan and Hermoniem.

God hath appeared with flesh * to them that dwell upon earth; * and unto those in darkness, * the Light hath now shone plainly and Grace is risen on all men.

Verse 2. The waters saw Thee, O God, the waters saw Thee and were afraid.

Prophet, now minister * as daylight to the Daystar, * as friend unto the Bridegroom, * as lamp unto the Light, and Forerunner unto God the Word.

DOXASTICON FOR THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY IN TONE EIGHT

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

O John the Baptizer, who didst know Me, the Lamb, in the womb, serve Me in the river with the angels. Stretch forth thy hand and touch My pure head. And when thou seest the mountains tremble

and the Jordan turn back, then shout with them, saying, O Thou Who wast incarnate of the Virgin for our salvation, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest: It is a good thing to confess unto the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High, to declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

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.

APOLYTIKION FOR THE PARAMON (EVE) OF THEOPHANY IN TONE FOUR

*(**Joseph was amazed**)*

River Jordan was turned back by Elisseus' mantle once, * when the fiery man of zeal Elias had been taken up; * then were its waters divided hither and thither. * The running streams became dry passage unto him, * truly as a sign and type of Baptism, * whereby we pass to the other side of * the shifting stream of this fleeting life. * Christ hath appeared in the Jordan River, to sanctify the waters.

- *NOTE: If the clergy have offered the Litany of Fervent Supplication and Dismissal quietly, they then can begin Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. If not, they offer both aloud and then begin the Liturgy.*

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan N., (and for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.).

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hieromonks, deacons, hierodeacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for (the servants of God, [Names], and) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church and (for the departed servants of God, [Names], and) all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those who sing, and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Wisdom!

Choir: Father, bless!

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Most holy Theotokos, save us.

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.

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.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; at the supplications of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs, especially Eugenia and her companions Basilla, Philip her father, Protas and Hyacinthus, whose memory we celebrate today; 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, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

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

Choir: Amen.

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