

**Holy Week 2015**  
**Matins of Holy Saturday**  
**The Service of the Lamentations on Friday Evening**

Maui Orthodox Christian Mission

(Dated: April 10, 2015)

Holy Week text and music by Father Seraphim Dedes

*eMatins+*

---

## Contents

### Friday Evening Service of the Graveside Lamentations

<b>The Six Psalms</b>	3
Psalm 3	3
Psalm 37	4
Psalm 62	4
Psalm 87	5
Psalm 102	6
Psalm 142	6
<b>Litany</b>	7
<b>Theos Kyrios (God is Lord)</b>	8
<b>The Little Litany</b>	9
<b>Kathismata</b>	9
<b>Psalm 50</b>	10
<b>The Canon</b>	10
<b>The Little Litany</b>	12
<b>Kontakion</b>	14
<b>Oikos</b>	15
<b>Synaxarion</b>	15
<b>The Graveside Lamentations</b>	17
<b>The Little Litany</b>	23
<b>Evlogetaria</b>	24
<b>Exaposteilarion</b>	25
<b>Lauds</b>	25
<b>Great Doxology</b>	26
<b>Apolytikia</b>	30
<b>The Prophecy Reading</b>	31
<b>The Epistle Reading</b>	32

# Friday Evening Service of the Graveside Lamentations

PRIEST

Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

PRIEST

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, present in all places and filling all things, treasury of good things and giver of life: come; take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O Good one.

READER

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever 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 Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen. (spoken)

Save, O Lord, Your people, and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

You who were lifted on the Cross voluntarily, O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassion upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. Make our faithful governors to be glad in Your power, granting them the victories against their adversaries. May they have that alliance which is Yours, the shield of peace, the trophy invincible.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion.

O awesome and unshamable Protection, O good and praiseworthy Theotokos, do not despise our petitions; make firm the community of the Orthodox; save those whom you have called to rule; grant them victory from heaven, for you gave birth to God and are truly blessed.

PRIEST / DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Let us pray for our Archbishop (Name).

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen. In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

Glory to the holy and consubstantial, and life-giving, and undivided Trinity, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

### THE SIX PSALMS

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men! (3)

O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. (2)

### Psalm 3

O Lord, why do those who afflict me multiply? Many are those who rise up against me. Many are those who say to my soul, "There is no salvation for him

in his God.” But You, O Lord, are my protector, my glory and the One who lifts up my head. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and he heard me from His holy hill. I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who set themselves against me all around. Arise, O Lord, and save me, O my God, for You struck all those who were foolishly at enmity with me; You broke the teeth of sinners. Salvation is of the Lord, and Your blessing is upon Your people.

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

### Psalm 37

O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, nor chasten me in Your anger. For Your arrows are fixed in me, and Your hand rests on me; There is no healing in my flesh because of Your wrath; there is no peace in my bones because of my sins. For my transgressions rise up over my head; like a heavy burden they are heavy on me. My wounds grow foul and fester because of my folly. I suffer misery, and I am utterly bowed down; I go all the day long with a sad face. For my loins are filled with mockeries, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and greatly humbled; I roar because of the groaning of my heart. O Lord, all my desire is before You, and my groaning is not hidden from You. My heart is troubled; my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and neighbors draw near and stand against me, and my near of kin stand far off; And those who seek my soul use violence, and those who seek evil for me speak folly; and they meditate on deceit all the day long. But I like a deaf man do not hear, and I am like a mute who does not open his mouth. I am like a man who does not hear, and who has no reproofs in his mouth. For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God. For I said, “Let not my enemies rejoice over me, for when my foot was shaken, they boasted against me.” For I am ready for wounds, and my pain is continually with me. For I will declare my transgression, and I will be anxious about my sin. But my enemies live, and are become stronger than I; and those who hate me unjustly are multiplied; Those who repaid my evil for good slandered me, because I pursue righteousness; and they threw away my love as though it were a stinking corpse. Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, do not depart from me; Give heed to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, do not depart from me; Give heed to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

### Psalm 62

O God, my God, I rise early to be with You; my soul thirsts for You. How often my flesh thirsts for You in a desolate, impassable, and waterless land. So in the holy place I appear before You, to see Your power and Your glory. Because

Your mercy is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You in my life; I will lift up my hands in Your name. May my soul be filled, as if with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall sing praise to You with lips filled with rejoicing. If I remembered You on my bed, I meditated on You at daybreak; For You are my helper, and in the shelter of Your wings I will greatly rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand takes hold of me. But they seek for my soul in vain; they shall go into the lowest parts of the earth. They shall be given over to the edge of the sword; they shall be a portion for foxes. But the king shall be glad in God; all who swear by Him shall be praised, for the mouth that speaks unrighteous things is stopped.

I meditated on You at daybreak; For You are my helper, and in the shelter of Your wings I will greatly rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand takes hold of me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God.

Lord have mercy. (3)

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

### Psalm 87

O Lord God of my salvation, I cry day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my supplication, O Lord. For my soul is filled with sorrows, and my soul draws near to Hades; I am counted among those who go down into the pit; I am like a helpless man, free among the dead, Like slain men thrown down and sleeping in a grave, whom You remember no more, but they are removed from Your hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in dark places and in the shadow of death. Your wrath rested upon me, and You brought all Your billows over me. You removed my acquaintances far from me; they made me an abomination among themselves; I was betrayed, and did not go forth. My eyes weakened from poverty; O Lord, I cry to You the whole day long; I spread out my hands to You. Will You work wonders for the dead? Or will physicians raise them up, and acknowledge You? Shall anyone in the grave describe Your mercy and Your truth in destruction? Shall Your wonders be known in darkness, and Your righteousness in a forgotten land? But I cry to You, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer shall come near to You. Why, O Lord, do You reject my soul, and turn away Your face from me? I am poor and in troubles from my youth; but having been exalted, I was humbled and brought into despair. Your fierce anger passed over me, and Your terrors greatly troubled me; They compassed me like water all the day long; they surrounded me at once.

You removed far from me neighbor and friend, and my acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, I cry day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my supplication, O Lord.

### Psalm 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards: Who is merciful to all your transgressions, who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from corruption, who crowns you with mercy and compassion, Who satisfies your desire with good things; and your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord shows mercies and judgment to all who are wronged. He made known His ways to Moses, the things He willed to the sons of Israel. The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not become angry to the end, nor will He be wrathful forever; He did not deal with us according to our sins, nor reward us according to our transgressions; For according to the height of heaven from earth, so the Lord reigns in mercy over those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, so He removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him, For He knows how He formed us; He remembers we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass, as a flower of the field, so he flourishes; For the wind passes through it, and it shall not remain; and it shall no longer know its place. But the mercy of the Lord is from age to age upon those who fear Him, and His righteousness upon children's children, To such as keep His covenant and remember His commandments, to do them. The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, all you His angels, mighty in strength, who do His word, so as to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, His ministers who do His will; Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion; Bless the Lord, O my soul. In all places of His dominion; bless the Lord, O my soul.

### Psalm 142

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your righteousness; Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul: he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, And my spirit was in anguish within me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go

down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge, Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

Answer me in Your righteousness; do not enter into judgment with Your servant.  
(2)

Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God.

*(intoned)* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God. Our hope, O Lord, glory to You.

## LITANY

PRIEST / DEACON

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For the peace of God and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

For our Archbishop (Name), the honorable presbyters, the deacons in the service of Christ, and all the clergy and laity, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For our country, the president, and all those in civil authority and public service, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For this parish and city, for every city and town, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For favorable weather, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and temperate seasons, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For travelers by land, sea and air, for the sick, the suffering, for captives, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR

To You, O Lord.

PRIEST

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

### THEOS KYRIOS (GOD IS LORD)

Mode 2. Di=G.

God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His holy name.

God is the Lord...

Verse: All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I defended myself against them.

God is the Lord...

Verse: This came about from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes.

God is the Lord...

Apolytikia.

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb.

Glory.

When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out, "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

Both now.

The Angel standing at the sepulcher cried out and said to the ointment-bearing women, "The ointments are appropriate for mortal men, but Christ has been shown to be a stranger to decay."

### THE LITTLE LITANY

PRIEST / DEACON

In peace let us again pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

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

(Amen.)

### KATHISMATA

CHOIR

Mode 1. The soldiers keeping watch.

From Pilate Joseph asked for Your worshipful Body. He wraps it in a clean linen shroud and with spices anoints it for burial and he lays it in his new tomb. Then at early dawn the women came with their ointments, and they cried, "Show us the Resurrection, O Savior, as You had foretold, O Christ."

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

And they cried, “Show us the Resurrection, O Savior, as You had foretold, O Christ.”

Both now.

Astounded were the hosts of the Angels, beholding how He, who sits above in the bosom of the Father, is laid in a sepulcher, the Immortal One, as a corpse. He is surrounded by angelic armies, who praise Him and, together with the dead in Hades, give glory to Him, their Creator and Lord.

## PSALM 50

READER

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. For behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then You will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar.

## THE CANON

CHOIR

Ode i. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

He, who with a sea-wave had buried the tyrant pursuer long ago, was buried beneath the earth by sons of those then delivered. Now, as once the maidens did, let us sing to the Lord, “For He is greatly glorified.”

## Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

I will sing an anthem of exodus and a funeral hymn to You, O Lord my God, who by Your burial opened the entrances of life to me. By Your death You put Hades and death to death.

Glory to the Father...

Those who are above earth and those in the netherworld saw You on the throne on high and down below within the grave, O my Savior. They were agitated by Your death, for they saw You dead, incomprehensibly, O Source of Life.

Both now and ever...

Lord, You have descended into the nethermost regions of the earth, to fill all things with Your glory. My person in Adam was not hidden from You who love mankind. You are buried and You renew me, the corrupted one.

## Katavasia

He, who with a sea-wave had buried the tyrant pursuer long ago, was buried beneath the earth by sons of those then delivered. Now, as once the maidens did, let us sing to the Lord, "For He is greatly glorified."

Ode iii. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

When creation beheld You, who without restraint suspended all the earth on the waters, now suspended on a cross on Golgotha, it was constrained by great astonishment, and cried aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."

## Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Of old by many visions, You revealed the symbols of Your burial. But what You once kept secret, O Master, now, as God and man, You clearly showed to those in Hades, who cried aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."

Glory to the Father...

Savior, when You extended Your hands, You united things that had been divided. By Your confinement in the shroud and the sepulcher, You set free those who were fettered. To You they cry aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."

Both now and ever...

You, uncontainable Master, were confined by the tomb and seals, of Your own will. By Your actions as God, O Friend of man, You made Your power known to all, who cry aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."

## Katavasia

When creation beheld You, who without restraint suspended all the earth on the waters, now suspended on a cross on Golgotha, it was constrained by great astonishment, and cried aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."

THE LITTLE LITANY

PRIEST / DEACON

In peace let us again pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For You are our God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Kathisma I. Mode 1. Original Melody.

The soldiers keeping watch at Your tomb, O my Savior, \* became as dead for fear of the radiant Angel. \* And he proclaimed that You arose to the women who came at dawn. \* We extol You, Lord, for You abolished corruption, \* and we worship You, our only God, who was buried \* and rose from the sepulcher.

Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Kathisma I. Mode 1. Original Melody.

The soldiers keeping watch at Your tomb, O my Savior, \* became as dead for fear of the radiant Angel. \* And he proclaimed that You arose to the women who came at dawn. \* We extol You, Lord, for You abolished corruption, \* and we worship You, our only God, who was buried \* and rose from the sepulcher.

Ode iv. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

When he foresaw Your divine emptying on the Cross, Prophet Habakkuk cried out astonished, "You went to those in Hades and there cut off the heads of the rulers, O Good One, as the almighty God."

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You!

Today, You sanctified the seventh day, which You had blessed of old, when You rested from Your works. For You, O Savior, generate and renew all things; and, while keeping the Sabbath, You are reclaiming them.

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

When You, O Logos, were victorious through superior strength, Your soul was separated from Your body; and it shattered the bonds of both Death and Hades by the power of Your divinity.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Hades was embittered in meeting You, O Logos, seeing a deified mortal, who bore the marks of bruises and yet was all-powerful. At the fearful sight, it was speechless and horrified.

Katavasia

When he foresaw Your divine emptying on the Cross, Prophet Habakkuk cried out astonished, “You went to those in Hades and there cut off the heads of the rulers, O Good One, as the almighty God.”

Ode v. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

Prophet Isaiah once beheld the never-setting light of Your Theophany, that is when You, O Christ our God, sympathetically appeared to us. Rising early in the morning, he cried aloud, “The dead shall rise up, and those in the tombs shall arise, and all those in the earth shall be glad and greatly rejoice.”

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You!

Since You, the Fashioner, became a human being, You remake the earthborn; and the shroud and sepulcher, O Word of God, indicate the mystery borne in You. For Joseph, the respected member of the council, now performs the counsel of Your Father, who magnificently in You makes me new again.

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

You change mortality through death; by means of burial You change corruption; for properly, as God, You make incorruptible and immortal that which You had assumed. For Your body saw no corruption; likewise, Your soul was not abandoned in Hades, O Master, extraordinarily.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Born of a woman spared travail, You were yet speared in the side, O my Maker. From this side You wrought Eve’s refashioning; for becoming Adam, You fell asleep supernaturally in a life-producing sleep, and then You raised up Life herself from slumber and from corruption, as almighty God.

Katavasia

Prophet Isaiah once beheld the never-setting light of Your Theophany, that is when You, O Christ our God, sympathetically appeared to us. Rising early in the morning, he cried aloud, “The dead shall rise up, and those in the tombs shall arise, and all those in the earth shall be glad and greatly rejoice.”

Ode vi. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

Prophet Jonah was in the belly of the whale detained, but not retained. For, in that he prefigured You, the One who suffered and was buried, he sprang forth from the beast as from a bridal room, and he cried out to the guard of soldiers, “You, who are keeping watch and follow vanity and lies, have forsaken the mercy that was meant for you.”

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You!

You were murdered, O Word, but not sundered from the flesh in which You shared. For even if Your temple was destroyed at the time of Your Passion, nevertheless, one was the hypostasis of Your human flesh and of Your Godhead.

For in both natures, You are one Son, the Word of God, as You are truly God and man.

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

Adam's failure resulted in death for humanity but not for God. For though the human nature of Your flesh had suffered at the Passion, yet Your divinity remained impassible. By Your resurrection, You transformed Your corruptible body to incorruption, and made it a source of life incorruptible.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Hades reigned over the human race, but would not do so forever. For after You were buried, You broke the bolts and bars of death asunder, O mighty Master, with Your hand that causes life. You proclaimed the sure and true redemption to those who lay asleep there from all ages, O Savior, and You became the firstborn of the dead.

Prophet Jonah was in the belly of the whale detained, but not retained. For, in that he prefigured You, the One who suffered and was buried, he sprang forth from the beast as from a bridal room, and he cried out to the guard of soldiers, "You, who are keeping watch and follow vanity and lies, have forsaken the mercy that was meant for you."

PRIEST / DEACON

In peace let us again pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For You are the King of peace and the savior of our souls, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

## KONTAKION

READER

He who closed the abyss is seen as dead; as a mortal the Deathless one, wrapped in spice and linen, is laid within a grave. Women came to anoint Him, wailing bitter, crying out, "Exceeding blessed is this Sabbath, on which the Christ has slumbered, to rise on the third day."

## OIKOS

## READER

He who holds all things together is raised upon a Cross, and all creation mourns beholding this One hung Naked on a Tree. The sun hid its beams, and The stars withheld their shine. The earth, full-feared, was shaken, and the sea has fled away. the rocks were split asunder, and the graves of scores were opened, and the forms of holy men arose. Hades groans below, yet Judeans plan to slander the resurrection of Christ. And the women cry aloud, “Exceeding blessed is this Sabbath, On which the Christ has slumbered, To rise on the third day.”

## SYNTAXARION

On April 11, we commemorate the holy hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum.

On this day we also commemorate the devout woman Tryphaina of Cyzicus.

On this day we also commemorate our devout father Farmuthios.

On great and holy Saturday, we celebrate the burial of the divine Body and the descent into Hades of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through which He recalled our human race from corruption and passed it over into life eternal.

## Verses

In vain you guard the grave, O guards.  
No tomb can hold Him who is life itself.

By Your ineffable condescension, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

## CHOIRS

Ode vii. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

Ineffable wonder! He who delivered the pious youths in the furnace from the raging fire is laid out today, dead and breathless, in a tomb, for the salvation of us who sing, “O our God and Redeemer, You are blessed.”

## Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Hades is wounded at its heart by receiving Him, whom a lance had wounded in the side. And it groans, consumed by the fire of divinity, for the salvation of us who sing, “O our God and Redeemer, You are blessed.”

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

The sepulcher is precious. When it received within itself the Creator as though He were asleep, it became a divine treasure house of Life, for the salvation of us who sing, “O our God and Redeemer, You are blessed.”

Glory to the Father...

The Life of all things accepts interment and burial, which is the law for those who have died. His tomb thus becomes the source of resurrection for the salvation of us who sing, “O our God and Redeemer, You are blessed.”

Both now and ever...

One was the Godhead of Christ with the Father and the Spirit, and there was no separation in Hades, in the tomb, and in Paradise, for the salvation of us who sing, “O our God and Redeemer, You are blessed.”

Katavasia

Ineffable wonder! He who delivered the pious youths in the furnace from the raging fire is laid out today, dead and breathless, in a tomb, for the salvation of us who sing, “O our God and Redeemer, You are blessed.”

Ode viii. The Heirmos. Mode pl. 2. Vu=E.

Heaven, be astonished and amazed, and let the foundations of the earth be shaken! Behold, He who ever dwells in the heights is numbered among the dead; a small tomb receives Him as a stranger. Bless the Lord, O you Servants; sing a hymn, Priests; and People, exalt Him beyond measure unto all the ages.

Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

The undefiled temple was destroyed; then, with itself it raised up the fallen tabernacle. The second Adam, who dwells in the heights, went down to the chambers of Hades, in order to save the first one. Bless the Lord, O you Servants; sing a hymn, Priests; and People, exalt Him beyond measure unto all the ages.

Glory to the Father...

Though the Disciples' courage failed, yet that of Joseph of Arimathea has excelled. For when he sees that the God over all is hanging dead and naked, he asks for Him and buries Him, crying, “Bless the Lord, O you Servants; sing a hymn, Priests; and People, exalt Him beyond measure unto all the ages.”

Both now and ever...

Oh, novel marvels that were wrought! Oh, the benevolence! Oh, the patience passing speech! For, of His own will, He who dwells in the heights is sealed beneath the earth, and God is defamed as a deceiver. Bless the Lord, O you Servants; sing a hymn, Priests; and People, exalt Him beyond measure unto all the ages.

Katavasia

We praise and we bless and we worship the Lord.

Heaven, be astonished and amazed, and let the foundations of the earth be shaken! Behold, He who ever dwells in the heights is numbered among the dead; a small tomb receives Him as a stranger. Bless the Lord, O you Servants; sing a hymn, Priests; and People, exalt Him beyond measure unto all the ages.

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us honor and magnify in song the Theotokos and the Mother of light.

CHOIR

Ode ix. The Heirmos.

Weep not for Me, O Mother, as you see your Son, whom you conceived in your womb without seed, lying in a tomb. For I will rise from the dead and will be glorified; and as God, I will unceasingly exalt in glory those who magnify you with faith and love.

Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

I was blest in escaping labor, in a manner past nature, at Your unusual birth, O unoriginate Son. But now as I see You, my God, not breathing and dead, I am painfully torn by the sword of my sorrow. So arise, so that I may be magnified.

Glory to the Father...

Earth covers Me by My own will. But the doorkeepers of Hades shudder and quake, as they behold that I am clothed in the bloodstained garment of vengeance. After I smite My enemies with the Cross, as God, O Mother, I will rise again and magnify you.

Both now and ever...

Greatly rejoice, O creation! And everyone who was born on earth, be glad! Hades, the enemy, has been despoiled. Let the women with their ointments come to meet Me. I am rescuing Adam and Eve and all mankind. And on the third day I will rise again.

Katavasia

Weep not for Me, O Mother, as you see your Son, whom you conceived in your womb without seed, lying in a tomb. For I will rise from the dead and will be glorified; and as God, I will unceasingly exalt in glory those who magnify you with faith and love.

The Clergy come out and stand before the canopied Epitaphion, to sing the Lamentations.

**THE GRAVESIDE LAMENTATIONS**

Translated by Fr. Ephrem Lash

(Numbers indicate the associated verses of Psalm 118.)

CHOIR

First Stanza

1st Stanza. Mode pl. 1. Pa=D.

8 In the tomb they laid you, you, O Christ, who are

8 Life; in amazement angel armies lift up their song, as they

8 glo - ri - fy your self - a - base - ment, Lord.

1. In the tomb they laid you, you, O Christ, who are Life; in amazement angel armies lift up their song, as they glorify your self-abasement, Lord.
2. Life, how can you perish, or how dwell in a tomb? Yet the royal hall of Death you now bring to naught, and from Hades' realm you raise the dead again.
3. Now we magnify you, O Lord Jesus our King; we pay honor to your Passion and burial, for from foul corruption you saved us through them.
4. King of all, O Jesus, who established earth's bounds, on this day you make your home in a little tomb, raising up the dead of ages from their graves.
5. O my Christ, my Jesus, king and monarch of all, seeking what have you descended to those in Hell? Was it not to liberate the mortal race?
6. He who governs all things here is seen as a corpse. New the grave in which the body is laid to rest, of the one who empties graves of all their dead.
7. In the tomb they laid you, you, O Christ who are Life. Death itself you brought to nothing by your own death, and became the fount of life for all the world.
8. Guilty with the guilty, you were judged, O my Christ, at the moment you wrought justice for all of us from the ancient trickster's foul and evil deeds.
9. Fairer he in beauty than are all mortal kind, now a corpse we see unsightly, bereft of form, he who beautified the nature of all things.
10. How could Hell endure it when in splendor you came, and how not be swiftly shattered and plunged in dark, blinded by the blazing glory of your light?
11. Light that saves, O Jesus, you are sweetness to me. In the darkness of the grave how can you lie hid, O forbearance that no language can express?
12. Angels are bewildered, and the bodiless host at a loss, O Christ, before that great mystery: your ineffable entombment beyond speech.

13. O most strange of wonders! What new deeds we now see! He who gave me my life's breath lies unbreathing now, borne to burial at noble Joseph's hands.

14. Like the sun when setting, to the tomb you descend; yet, O Christ, your Father's bosom you do not leave. What strange paradox, what wondrous thing this is!

15. As the sky's true monarch, as true king of the earth, though enclosed within the narrowest sepulcher, you were known by all creation, Jesus Lord.

**1st Stanza. Mode pl. 1. Pa=D.**

Diatonic D  
8 In the tomb they laid you, you, O Christ, who are

A  
8 Life; in a - maze-ment an-gel ar - mies lift up their song, as they

8 glo - ri - fy your self - a - base - ment, Lord.

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us again in peace pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For blessed is Your name, and glorified is Your kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Second Stanza

2nd Stanza. Mode pl. 1. Pa=D.

Diatonic

8 It is right in - deed we should mag-ni-  
 8- fy the one who grants life. You that stretched your hands wide up-  
 8- on the Cross broke and smashed the might and pow-er of the foe.

It is right indeed we should magnify the one who grants life. You that stretched your hands wide upon the Cross broke and smashed the might and power of the foe.

73. It is right indeed you to magnify who fashion all things. Your pains from corruption deliver us, and your Passion grants dispassion to our souls.

74. All Earth quaked in fear, and the sun concealed itself, O Savior, when, O Christ our light, you set bodily, as the light that knows no evening was entombed.

75. Sleeping in the tomb with the sleep that breathes forth life, Anointed, from sin's heavy sleep you, as God, aroused all the human race that sin had held enthralled.

76. "Of all womankind, I alone bore you, my child, without pain. Cruel pangs now wrack me as I behold your great suffering," the Holy Virgin cries.

77. Seeing you on high never separated from the Father, yet below on Earth laid out as a corpse, the dread Seraphim, my Savior, shake with fear.

78. See the Temple Veil rent asunder at your crucifixion. Heaven's beacons hide, O my Christ, their light to see you, the Sun, now hid beneath the earth.

79. He, who at the start, by His will alone, set Earth revolving, lifeless as a mortal sets under earth. Let the sky now shake and tremble at the sight.

80. Humankind you formed; with your hand you fashioned us, O Savior. Now, O Sun, you set underneath the earth, raising companies of mortals from the fall.

81. Come now, let us sing; let our sacred hymn lament the dead Christ, singing as the Myrrh-bearing women did, that with them we, too, may hear the word, "Rejoice."

82. Truly you are Myrrh, truly, Word of God, the Myrrh Unfailing. So it was myrrh-bearers brought myrrh to you, to the Living God brought myrrh as to the dead.

83. Buried, O my Christ, the great palaces of Hell you shattered. Death you put to death by your death, O Lord, from corruption you set free those born of earth.

84. To the grave descends he, the Wisdom of our God that pours out streams of life, descending into a tomb, giving life to those in Hades' deepest depths.

85. "Willingly by death I was wounded in the flesh, dear Mother, thus the broken nature of mortal kind to renew; so do not beat your breast in grief."

86. When beneath the Earth you had set, the Morning Star of justice, you aroused the dead as if they but slept, as you put to flight the murk and gloom of Hell.

**2nd Stanza. Mode pl. 1. Pa=D.**

Diatonic

G

D

8 It is right in - deed we should mag-ni-

A

8 - fy the one who grants life. You that stretched your hands wide up-

D

8 - on the Cross broke and smashed the might and pow-er of the foe.

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us again in peace pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For You, our God, are holy, seated on the throne of glory of the Cherubim, and to You we send up glory; together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Third Stanza

3rd Stanza. Mode 3. *Ga=F*.

Each generation offers, my Christ, for your entombment, in hymns and songs its praises.

132. The Noble Joseph takes you down from the Tree, my Savior, and in the tomb he lays you.

133. Myrrh-bearing Women came then, providently bringing to you, O Christ, the sweet myrrh.

134. Let all Creation join us, as to the Creator our farewell hymns we now sing.

135. With ointment-bearing women, let us with understanding anoint, as dead, the Living.

136. O thrice-blessed Joseph, entomb Messiah's body, the corpse of Him who grants life.

137. Those he fed with manna raised their heels against him, against the Benefactor.

138. Those he fed with manna bring vinegar and gall now to offer to the Savior.

139. O the boundless folly of those who slew the prophets and now slay God's Anointed!

140. Initiate, yet traitor, he the senseless servant sold the Abyss of Wisdom.

141. Judas, the deceiver, for silver sold the Savior and thus became a captive.

142. Solomon declared it: The mouth of Law-transgressing Hebrews is like a deep pit.

143. Law-transgressing Hebrews, for treading on paths crooked, face pits and traps and sharp snares.

144. With Nicodemus, Joseph buries the Creator, as for the dead is fitting.

145. O Life-giving Savior, the conqueror of Hades, to your great might be glory.

Myrrh-bearers came and sprinkled sweet myrrh upon your tomb, Lord; at early dawn they come now. (repeat)

Peace unto your Church, Lord, salvation to your people grant by your Resurrection.

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

Father, Son, and Spirit, O Trinity, my One God, have mercy on the whole world.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Count all your servants worthy to see, Most Holy Virgin, your Son's bright Resurrection.

**3rd Stanza. Mode 3. *Ga=F*.**

**THE LITTLE LITANY**

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us again in peace pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For You are the King of peace and the Savior of our souls, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory; together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

**EVLOGETARIA**

CHOIR

Mode pl. 1. Pa=D.

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

When the hosts of the Angels saw how You were accounted among the dead, they all marveled. You, O Savior, are the One who destroyed the might of death; and when You arose You raised Adam with yourself and from Hades liberated everyone.

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

“Why do you mingle the ointments with your tears full of pity, O women disciples?” Thus the Angel who was shining in the tomb cried to the myrrh-bearing women. See for yourselves the empty tomb and understand, that the Savior has risen from the sepulcher.

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

Very early in the morning, the myrrh-bearing women were hastening to Your tomb lamenting. But the Angel appeared to them and uttered, “The time for lamentation has ended; weep no more. Go announce the Resurrection to the Apostles.”

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

When the myrrh-bearing women had come with their spices to Your sepulcher, O Savior, they heard the voice of an Angel clearly speaking to them, “Why do you account among the dead the One who lives? For as God, He has risen from the sepulcher.”

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

We bow down in worship to the Father and His Son and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in essence; and we cry aloud with the Seraphim: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O Lord.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Giving birth to the Giver of life, O Virgin, you delivered Adam from sin, and to Eve you have rendered joy in place of sorrow. He who from you became incarnate, God and man, has directed to life him who fell from it.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God! (3x)

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us again in peace pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For all the powers of heaven praise You and give You glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIRS

Amen.

### EXAPOSTEILARION

Holy is the Lord. Mode. 2. Di=G.

Holy is the Lord our God.

Holy is the Lord our God.

Holy is the Lord our God.

### LAUDS

Mode 2. Di=G.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God.

Praise Him, all you His angels; praise Him, all you His hosts. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God.

Idiomela. Mode 2. Di=G.

Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness.

Today, the sepulcher holds Him who holds creation in the palm of His hand, and a stone covers Him who covers the heavens with virtue. Life sleeps, and Hades trembles, and Adam is released from his bonds. Glory to Your dispensation, through which, when You had accomplished all, You gave us the eternal Sabbath rest, Your all-holy Resurrection from the dead.

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, praise Him with the harp and lyre.

What is this wonder we see now? What is the present rest? The King of the ages has completed the dispensation with His Passion, and now He takes His Sabbath rest in the tomb, granting us a new Sabbath. Let us cry out to Him, "Arise, O God; judge the earth, for You reign forever, You who have immeasurable great mercy."

Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise Him with strings and flute.

Come, let us see our Life, lying in the tomb. He is there so that He may give life to those who lie in the graves. Come, as we see Him, from the seed of Judah, sleeping today, and let us say to Him the words of the Prophet, “You bowed down, and slept as a lion; and who shall rouse You, O King? So, arise by Your own power, You who willingly gave yourself for us! Glory to You, O Lord!”

Idiomelon. Mode pl. 2. Pa=D.

Praise Him with resounding cymbals, praise Him with triumphant cymbals. Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Joseph asked for the Body of Jesus and he laid it in his own new tomb; for Jesus had to emerge from the grave as from His bridal chamber. “You who shattered the dominion of death and opened the gates of Paradise for all mankind, glory to You!”

Glory. Mode pl. 2. Pa=D.

Moses, the great Prophet, mystically prefigured this day saying, “Then God blessed the seventh day.” For this is the blessed Sabbath; this is the day of rest, in which the only-begotten Son of God rested from all His works, observing the Sabbath rest in the flesh, through the dispensation involving death. And returning once again to what He was, through the Resurrection, He granted to us eternal life, for He alone is good and He loves humanity.

Both now. Theotokion. Mode 2. Pa=D.

You are supremely blessed, O Virgin Theotokos. For thru Him who from you became incarnate, was Hades taken prisoner, and Adam has been summoned back, and the curse has been neutralized, and Eve has been liberated; death has been put to death, and we have been brought to life. Therefore extolling we cry out, “O Christ our God, You are blessed, for so was Your good pleasure. Glory to You!”

## GREAT DOXOLOGY

Glory be to You who showed the light. Glory in the highest to God. His peace is on earth, His good pleasure in mankind.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

Lord King, heavenly God, Father, Ruler over all; Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and You, O Holy Spirit.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, You who take away the sins of the world.

Accept our supplication, You who sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

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

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

Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day, that we be kept without sin.

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

Let Your mercy be on us, O Lord, as we have set our hope on You.

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

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

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

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.

Lord, I have fled to You. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.

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

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

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

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

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

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

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Asmatikon (Slow Melody)

Holy, Holy God,

Holy Mighty,

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Procession.

The procession of the canopied Epitaphion around the Sanctuary takes place.

CHOIRS

R-19

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

PRIEST / DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Again we pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Again we pray for our Archbishop (Name).

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Again we pray for our country, the President, and all those in civil authority and public service.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIRS

R-19

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly Might - y,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

PRIEST / DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all the pious and Orthodox Christians who live or happen to be in this city and parish, the parishioners, the Parish Council, Philoptochos, and every Ministry of this Parish, and the donors and benefactors of this holy Sanctuary.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIRS

**R-19**

8 Ho - ly God, Ho - ly Might - y,  
8 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

PRIEST / DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Again we pray for the blessed memory and eternal rest of the souls of your departed servants: Kings, Patriarchs, Bishops, Priests, Hieromonks, Deacons, Monks, Nuns, and all departed pious Orthodox Christians, from on end of the earth to the other, our fathers, forefathers, grandparents, great-grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, spouses and relatives, and for the forgiveness of all their errors, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are the resurrection, the life and the repose of your departed servants, all the pious and Orthodox Christians, O Christ our God, and to You we give glory, together with Your beginningless Father and Your all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)  
CHOIRS

**R-19**

8 Ho - ly God, Ho - ly Might - y,

8 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

PRIEST / DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

Again we pray for the preservation of this holy Church, and city and parish, and every city and country, from the wrath of God, pestilence, famine, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, invasion by enemies, civil war and sudden death, and that our God, who loves mankind, will be merciful, gracious and favorable toward us, and will fend off and turn away all the wrath and every illness that threatens us, and will deliver us from his righteous chastisement, impending against us, and will have mercy on us.

(Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.) As the Clergy with the canopied Epitaphion enter the Sanctuary:

PRIEST

Let us be attentive!

Peace be with you all!

Wisdom!

**APOLYTIKIA**

CHOIRS

Mode 2. Di=G.

When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out, “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You!”

The Angel standing at the sepulcher cried out and said to the ointment-bearing women, “The ointments are appropriate for mortal men, but Christ has been shown to be a stranger to decay.”

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb.

Troparion before the Prophecy.

Mode 2. Di=G.

O Christ, who hold the whole world in Your hand, You accepted to be held in the sepulcher, so that You might rescue humanity, which was swallowed by Hades; and, as immortal God, give us life and immortality.

## THE PROPHECY READING

READER

Prokeimenon. Mode 4. Psalm 43 (44).

Arise, O Lord; help us, and redeem us for Your name’s glory.

Verse: *O God, we heard with our ears; our fathers proclaimed it to us, the work You performed in their days, in days of old.*

The reading is from the Prophecy of Ezekiel.

PRIEST / DEACON

Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

Ez. 37:1-14

Again the hand of the Lord came upon me, and brought me by the Spirit of the Lord, and set me in the midst of the plain, which was full of human bones. So He led me round about them, and behold, there was a great multitude of bones on the face of the plain. They were very dry. Then He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” So I answered, “O Lord, You know this.” Then He said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the of the Lord. Thus says the Lord to these bones: “Behold, I will bring the Spirit of life upon you. I will put muscles on you and bring flesh upon you. I will cover you with skin and put my Spirit into you. Then you shall live and know that I am the Lord.””’”

So I prophesied as He commanded me, and it came to pass while I prophesied that, behold, there was a shaking, and the bones Came together, each one to

its joint. So I looked, and behold, muscle and flesh grew upon them, and skin covered them over; but no breath was in them. Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, 'Thus says the Lord: "Come from the four winds and breath upon these dead men; and let them live.'"" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the Spirit entered into them; and they lived and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great assembly.

Again the Lord spoke to me, saying, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope has perished, and we are lost.' Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord; "Behold, I will open your tombs, bring you up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your tombs to lead you, My people, up from their graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you will live; and I will place you in your own land. Then you will know that I am the Lord, I have spoken, and I will do it," says the Lord.'"

### THE EPISTLE READING

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us be attentive!

READER

Prokeimenon. Mode pl. 2. Psalm 9 (9, 10).

Arise, O Lord God, let Your hand be lifted high, and do not forget Your poor.

Verse: *I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your wondrous things.*

PRIEST / DEACON

Wisdom!

READER

The reading is from Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians.

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us be attentive!

READER

1 Cor. 5:6-8; Gal. 3:13-14

Brethren, a little leaven leavens the whole lump. Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us, therefore, celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us - for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree" - that in Christ Jesus

the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

PRIEST

Peace be with you, the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Mode pl. 2. Psalm 64 (65). Psalm 101 (102).

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 1: *Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those Who hate Him flee from before His face.*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire.*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRIEST (*in a low voice*)

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## THE GOSPEL READING

PRIEST / DEACON

Wisdom! Arise! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Peace be with you all.

(And with your spirit.)

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Let us be attentive!

(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

PRIEST

Mt. 27:62-66

On the next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore order the sepulcher to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers;

go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went and made the sepulcher secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

PRIEST / DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy; we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for our brethren, priests, hieromonks, deacons, and monastics, and all our brotherhood in Christ.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of all pious and Orthodox Christians living and visiting in this city, the parishioners, the members of the Parish Council and every Ministry of this Parish, and the donors and benefactors of this holy church.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us again pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters who are asleep here in the Lord and for the Orthodox everywhere.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us again pray for those who do charitable work, for those who serve in this holy house, for those who labor, teach, and sing, and for all the people here present who await your great and rich mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

For you are a merciful and loving God, and to you we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For a perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless day, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For all that is good and beneficial to our souls, and for peace in the world, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For the completion of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For a Christian end to our lives, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good account of ourselves before the awesome judgment seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For You are the God of mercy and compassion and love for mankind, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST / DEACON

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST:

(inaudibly)

Holy Lord, You dwell on high and behold the things below, and with Your all-seeing eye You look upon all creation. To You we bow both body and soul, and pray to You, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Your unseen hand from Your dwelling place and bless all of us. If we have sinned voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive us as a good and loving God, granting us Your earthly and heavenly gifts.

For Yours it is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages. (Amen.)

DEACON

Wisdom!

(Father, bless!)

PRIEST

Blessed are You, Christ our God, always now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Make firm, Lord our God, the holy and pure faith of the pious Orthodox Christians, together with the Holy Church and this city forever.

READER:

Amen.

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim, you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

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

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless!

PRIEST

May He who for us men and for our salvation voluntarily endured the awful Passion, the Cross, and Burial, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his most pure and holy Mother; the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven; the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist; the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles; the holy, glorious, and triumphant Martyrs; our holy God-bearing Fathers; the holy, and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; of our Father among the Saints, Nektarios of Pentapolis the Wonderworker and Patron Saint of this parish, and all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, as a good, loving and merciful God.

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

(Amen.)