

Saturday Midnight Service before the Resurrection

Maui Orthodox Christian Mission

Metropolis of San Francisco

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

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Holy Week text and music by Father Seraphim Dedes

eMatins+

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Saturday Midnight Service before the Resurrection

PRIEST

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

(Amen.)

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth: You are everywhere filling all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

TRISAGION

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 of the Father and the Son and the Holy spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen. (spoken)

Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship and bow down before God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Him, Christ our King and God.

PSALM 50 (51)

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 OF GREAT SATURDAY**ODE I**

Mode pl. 2.

The Heirmos

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!

Troparion 1

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 and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion 2

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 and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion 3

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

Mode pl. 2.

The Heirmos

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!

Troparion 1

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 and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion 2

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 and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion 3

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.”

Kathisma I

Mode 1. Automelon.

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

Mode pl. 2.

The Heirmos

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.”

Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Troparion 1

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.

Troparion 2

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.

Troparion 3

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*Mode pl. 2.***The Heirmos**

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.”

Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Troparion 1

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.

Troparion 2

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.

Troparion 3

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

Mode pl. 2.

The Heirmos

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.”

Troparia

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Troparion 1

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.

Troparion 2

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.

Troparion 3

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.

Katavasia

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.”

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 bitterly, 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-fearing, 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

From the Menaion.

On April 12, we commemorate our devout father Basil the Confessor, Bishop of Parium.

On this day in the year 942, the precious Belt (also called sash, garment and cincture) of our most-holy Lady Theotokos was transferred from the Diocese of Zela to Constantinople, during the reign of Constantine and Romanos Porphyrogenitoi. Afterwards, on August 31, it was moved to the holy shrine of Chalcostrateia.

On this day we also commemorate our devout mother Anthousa, daughter of Emperor Constantine V.

On this day we also commemorate the holy martyrs Demes and Proteon.

On this day we also commemorate the holy hieromartyr Artemon.

On this day we also commemorate the three holy martyrs, Menas, David and John.

Devout Akakios the new, who lived as an ascetic in the Skete of Kafsokalivia on Mt. Athos in the 18th century, died in peace.

From the Pentecostarion.

On the holy and great Sunday of Pascha we celebrate the very life-bearing Resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Verses

Christ went down alone to battle Hades,
He came up taking with Him many spoils of vict'ry.

To Him be the glory and the dominion to the ages of ages. Amen.

Having seen the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. Your Cross do we worship, O Christ, and Your holy Resurrection do we hymn and glorify. For You are our God, we know no other but You, we call upon Your name. Come all the faithful, let us worship the holy Resurrection of Christ; for behold through the Cross, joy has come in all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, we extol His Resurrection. For enduring the Cross for us, He destroyed death by death. (3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us eternal life and great mercy. (3)

By their holy intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

ODE VII

Mode pl. 2.

The Heirmos

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!

Troparion 1

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!

Troparion 2

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 and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion 3

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 and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion 4

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

Mode pl. 2.

The Heirmos

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!

Troparion 1

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.

We bless the Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; we sing a hymn to Him and exalt Him beyond measure unto the ages.

Troparion 2

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 and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion 3

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.

ODE IX

Mode pl. 2.

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!

Troparion 1

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 and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion 2

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 and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion 3

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.

TRISAGION

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 of the Father and the Son and the Holy spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

APOLYTIKION

Mode 2.

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!"

LITANY

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.)

Let us again pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness 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.

READER

Amen.

DISMISSAL

PRIEST

Glory to You, O God, glory to You.

READER

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Father, bless.

PRIEST

May He who rose from the dead, 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, (local patron saint); the holy, and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; 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.

PEOPLE

Amen.