

GREAT VESPERS ON NOVEMBER 12
JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE
VENERABLE MARTYRS DAMASKINOS AND DAMIAN OF THE GREAT LAVRA ON ATHOS

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

Choir: Amen.

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

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

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

THE PSALM OF INTRODUCTION—PSALM 103

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back forever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, to bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad; young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. Man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

The earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled.

Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.

May my words be sweet unto Him; I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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.

“O LORD, I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE FOUR

Choir: O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Choir: Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.

- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

For St. John Chrysostom in Tone Four (**As one valiant**)

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Let us praise with sweet melodies * John, the trumpet of shining gold; * that celestial mind, that support of all the Church; * the depth of wisdom, the boundless sea of doctrines, the God-inspired * and fair-sounding instrument; * and the wine-bowl wrought all of gold, * which doth pour abroad * mighty rivers of honey-flowing teachings that have watered all creation * with inexhaustible eloquence.

Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Let us praise with sweet melodies John ... (repeat above)

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

Let us honor befittingly * that bright star which doth never set * and with rays of doctrines enlighteneth the earth; * the man of God and the preacher of repentance; the golden sponge * which doth wholly wipe away * all the moisture of bleak despair * and which doth bedew * and refresh hearts become dried up and withered by much sinning and transgression; * come, let us praise John of golden speech.

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Let us honor befittingly * that bright star ... (repeat above)

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Let that Angel which dwelt on earth * and the man of celestial life * worthily be honored and magnified in hymns; * the rock unbroken, the treasury of virtues, the many-toned * swallow

singing tunefully; * the example to faithful men, * all the Martyrs' peer, * and the equal of Heaven's holy Angels, who was one with the Apostles * in way of life, even Chrysostom.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.
Let that Angel which dwelt on earth ... (*repeat above*)

DOXASTICON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN TONE SIX

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

O righteous, thrice-blessed, most holy Father, good shepherd and disciple of Christ the Chief Shepherd, who didst lay down thy life for the sheep, do thou thyself, O all-famed John Chrysostom, pray even now that by thine intercessions we be granted Great Mercy.

THEOTOKION IN TONE SIX

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

Who shall not beatify thee, most holy Virgin? Who shall not praise thy birth-giving, free of travailing and pain? For the only Son rising timelessly from the Father, Himself did become incarnate from thee in an inexplicable way. He, Who while God by nature, became for our sakes Man by nature, not divided into two persons, but known by two natures without mixture or confusion. To Him, O noble and most blessed one, plead for the salvation of our souls.

THE HOLY ENTRANCE

(While the Doxasticon is chanted, the following dialogue occurs QUIETLY as the clergy make the entrance.)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: In the evening and in the morning and at noonday we praise Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks unto Thee, and we pray unto Thee, O Master of all, Lord Who lovest mankind: Direct our prayer as incense before Thee, and incline not our hearts unto words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all who seek after our souls. For unto Thee, O Lord, Lord, are our eyes, and in Thee have we hoped. Put us not to shame, O our God. 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.

Deacon: Amen.

(When the clergy reach the center of the solea, the first part of the great censuring begins. After the first part of the great censuring is completed, this next dialogue occurs QUIETLY.)

Deacon: Bless, father, the Holy Entrance.

Priest: Blessed is the entrance to Thy Holy Place, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(After the choir has finished, the following is said ALOUD.)

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend!

O GLADSOME LIGHT

Choir: O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Lo now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we hymn Thee: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of life. Wherefore the whole world doth glorify Thee.

Deacon: The Evening Prokeimenon!

- *Now sing the Prokeimenon of the day. However, if this Feast falls on a Sunday, visit <http://www.antiochian.org/online-liturgical-guide>.*

SUNDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE EIGHT

Choir: Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. (TWICE)

Verse. *Ye who stand in the temple of the Lord, in the courts of the House of our God!*

Choir: Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

MONDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR

Choir: The Lord will hear me, when I cry unto Him. (TWICE)

Verse. *When I called upon Thee, O God of my righteousness, Thou didst hearken unto me!*

Choir: The Lord will hear me, when I cry unto Him.

TUESDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE ONE

Choir: Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life. (TWICE)

Verse. *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me to lie down in green pastures!*

Choir: Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

WEDNESDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE FIVE

Choir: Save me, O God, by Thy Name, and judge me by Thy strength. (TWICE)

Verse. *Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth!*

Choir: Save me, O God, by Thy Name, and judge me by Thy strength.

THURSDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SIX

Choir: My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and earth. (TWICE)

Verse. *I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where my help will come!*

Choir: My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and earth.

FRIDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SEVEN

Choir: Thou, O God, art my helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me. (TWICE)

Verse. *Deliver me from my enemies, O God, and deliver me from those who rise up against me!*

Choir: Thou, O God, art my helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The First Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Proverbs. (10:7, 6; 3:13-16; 8:6, 34-35, 4, 12, 14, 17, 5-9; 1:23; 15:4)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The memory of the righteous man calleth forth for praises, and the blessing of the Lord is upon his head. Blessed is the man that findeth wisdom, and the mortal that knoweth prudence. For it is better to traffic for her than for treasures of gold and silver. She is more precious than costly stones; everything that is honored cannot be compared unto her. For out of her mouth righteousness proceedeth, and law and mercy she carrieth on her tongue. Hear me, then, O children, for I will speak of honorable things; and blessed is the man that will keep unto my ways, for my paths are the paths of life, and the desire is fashioned of the Lord. Wherefore I entreat you and put forth my voice before the sons of men, for I, Wisdom, established counsel; and I have called forth knowledge and understanding. Counsel and certainty are mine, mine is understanding and strength is mine. I love them that love me; and those that seek me shall find grace. Understand cunning, then, O ye simple, and ye uninstructed, lay this up in your heart. Harken unto me yet again, for I will speak of honorable things, and the opening of my lips shall be of right things, for my mouth shall meditate truth, and lying lips are an abomination before me. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge. For, I will teach you the truth, that your hope may be in the Lord and ye may be filled with the Spirit.

The Second Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Wisdom of Solomon. (Prov. 10:31-32; 11:4, 7, 19; 13:2, 9; 8:17; 15:2; 14:33; 22:11; Eccl. 8:1; Wis. 6:13, 12, 14-16; 7:30; 8:2-4, 7-9, 17-18, 21; 9:1-5, 10-11, 14)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The mouth of the righteous distilleth wisdom, and the lips of men know graces. The mouth of the wise meditateth wisdom, and righteousness delivereth them from death. If a righteous man happeneth to die, hope is not lost, for a righteous son is born unto life, and in his good things shall he reap the fruit of righteousness. There is ever light unto the righteous, and of the Lord they obtain both grace and glory; the tongue of the wise acknowledgeth the good, and in their hearts shall wisdom find rest. The Lord loveth righteous hearts, and acceptable unto Him are all undefiled in the way. The wisdom of the Lord doth illumine the countenance of the wise man. For, she goeth before them that desire her, in making herself first known unto them. She is easily seen of them that love her. Whoso seeketh her early shall have no great travail; and whoso watcheth for her shall quickly be without care. For she goeth about seeking such as are worthy of her, showing herself favorably unto them in the ways. Wickedness shall never prevail against wisdom. Wherefore I was a lover of her beauty; and I loved her, and sought her out from my youth. I desired to make her my bride, for the Lord of all things Himself loved her. For, she is privy to the mysteries of the knowledge of God and a lover of His works. Her labors are virtues, for she teacheth temperance and prudence, justice and fortitude; which are such things, as men can have nothing more profitable in their life. If a man desire much experience, she knoweth things of old, and conjectureth aright what is to come. She knoweth the subtleties of speeches and can expound dark sentences; she foreseeeth signs and wonders, and the events of seasons and times; unto all she is a good counselor, since there is immortality in her, and good fame in communing with her counsels. Wherefore I prayed unto the Lord, and besought Him, and with my whole heart I said: O God of my fathers, and Lord of mercy, Who hast made all things with

Thy word, and fashioned man in Thy wisdom that he should have dominion over the creatures which Thou hast made, and order the world in holiness and righteousness: Give me wisdom that sitteth by Thy throne, and reject me not from among Thy children, for I am Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaid. O send her out of Thy holy habitations, and from the throne of Thy glory, that being present with me she may teach me what is pleasing unto Thee. And she shall lead me in knowledge and preserve me in her glory. For all the thoughts of mortal men are miserable, and their devices are but uncertain.

The Third Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Wisdom of Solomon. (Prov. 29:2; Wis. 4:1, 14; 6:11, 17-18, 21-23; 7:15-16, 21-22, 26-27, 29; 10:9-10, 12; 7:30; 1:8; 2:1, 10-17, 19-22; 15:1; 16:13; Prov. 3:34)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: When the righteous man is praised the people rejoice, for his memory is undying, since he is acknowledged both of God and man, and his soul pleased the Lord. Desire wisdom, therefore, O ye men, and long for her, and ye shall be instructed; for the beginning of her is love and the keeping of the law. Honor wisdom, so that ye may reign forevermore. I will tell you and will not hide God's mysteries from you, for He it is that leadeth unto wisdom and correcteth the wise; in His hand is all understanding and knowledge of workmanship; wisdom, which is the artificer of all things, taught me, for in her is a spirit understanding and holy, the effulgence of everlasting light, and the image of the goodness of God. She maketh men friends of God and prophets, she is more magnificent than the sun, and above all order of stars; being compared with the light, she is found before it. She hath freed from toils those that served her, and hath set them in the right paths; she hath given unto them a holy knowledge, and preserved them from those lying in wait, and granted them a mighty contest, that all may understand that the most powerful of all is piety, and that wickedness shall never prevail against wisdom, nor judgment pass away without convicting the evil. But they, reasoning with themselves not aright, said: Let us oppress the righteous man, let us not spare his holiness, neither need we be ashamed of the ancient gray hairs of the aged. Let our strength be the law, and let us lie in wait for the righteous, because he is not of our turn, and he is clean contrary to our doings; he forebodeth evil to us for the transgressions of our education; he professeth to have the knowledge of God, and he calleth himself the child of the Lord. He was made to reprove our thoughts; he is grievous unto us even to behold, for his life is not like other men's, his ways are of another fashion; we are esteemed of him as counterfeits, he abstaineth from our ways as from filthiness, he pronounceth the end of the just to be blessed. Let us see if his words be true, let us prove what shall happen in the end of him. Let us examine him with despitefulness and torture, that we may know his meekness and prove his forbearance; let us condemn him unto a shameful death, for by his own saying he shall prevail. Such things did they imagine and were deceived, for their own wickedness hath blinded them. As for the mysteries of God, they knew them not, neither did they discern that Thou art the only God, that hast the power of life and death, that savest in the time of tribulation and deliverest from every evil, that Thou art compassionate and merciful, granting grace unto Thy Saints, and setting Thine arm against the, haughty.

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us say with our whole soul, and with our whole mind, let us say.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord Almighty, the God of our Fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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 EVENING PRAYER

People: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy statutes.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our evening 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 evening 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

Priest: 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 Lord our God, Who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon Thy servants and Thine inheritance; for unto Thee, the fearful Judge Who yet lovest mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help from men but entreating Thy mercy and looking confidently for Thy salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

- *If your parish will offer “The Service of the Litia and Artoklasia”, it is performed here.*

THE APOSTICHA FOR ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN TONE FIVE (**Rejoice**)

Rejoice, gold-bright, divinely-inspired, * and tuneful instrument delighting the Church of Christ, * O tongue making known the sundry ways of repentance for us * in a gracious manner full of love for man; * rejoice, mind of golden form, fairest swallow of golden voice; * O psalmic dove that hast thy pinions of sparkling gold, * glittering like gold with the virtues' clear radiance; * rejoice, fairest river bright as gold, whence issue most mighty floods, * O mouth of God and assurance and pledge of God's certain love for man. * Implore Christ, O Father, * to send down abundant peace and great mercy on our souls.

Verse 1. My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. Rejoice, most speedy help of the wronged, * father of orphans and provider of needy folk; * uprighting of fallen sinners, food of the hungered and poor; * most revered and skilful healer of men's souls; * exactness and faithful rule of exalted theology, * elucidation that distinctly doth clarify * all the Holy Writ of the Spirit, O Chrysostom; * law of God-pleasing diligence and standard of rectitude, * O contemplation and action, the height of wisdom and end thereof. * Implore Christ, O Father, * to send down abundant peace and Great Mercy on our souls.

Verse 2. The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom; and the lips of righteous men know graces.

Thou didst build up thyself as a house * devoted to the sacred virtues; and for this cause, * the virtues took up their dwelling in thee, O all-blessed John, * as though in a temple holy and most pure. * For wisely directing all of thy bodily senses, thou * didst keep thy mind pure of the passions as if it were * in a treasure-house bolted fast and impregnable. * Wherefore, since thou becamest wholly Godlike, O Chrysostom, * adorned with grace as a hierarch, thou didst preside

o'er the holy Church, * with fervor entreating * Christ our Savior, Who bestoweth Great Mercy on the world.

DOXASTICON OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN TONE SIX

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

Thou hast proved to be a trumpet of golden voice, O Chrysostom of golden speech, making the hearts of the faithful golden with thy gold-wrought teachings; for according to the prophecy, O righteous Father, the sound of thy doctrines hath gone forth and enlightened the ends of the whole world.

THEOTOKION IN TONE SIX

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

O most pure one, when Christ the Lord, my Creator and Savior, came forth from thy womb, putting me on, He did free Adam from the ancient curse. Wherefore, O most pure one, since thou art the Theotokos and a Virgin in truth, we shout to thee untiringly with the angels, saying, Rejoice, Lady, O thou who art the helper, the cover, and the salvation of our souls.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER

Choir: Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

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 OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN TONE EIGHT

Grace shining forth from thy mouth like fire hath enlightened the universe, and disclosed to the world treasures of uncovetousness, and shown us the heights of humility. But as thou dost instruct us by thy words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede with the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

THEOTOKION 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.

Thou Who for our sake wast born of a Virgin, and didst suffer crucifixion, O good One, and didst despoil death through death, and as God didst reveal Resurrection. Despise not those Whom Thou hast created with Thine own hand, show forth Thy love for mankind, O merciful One. Accept the intercessions of Thy mother, the Theotokos for us, and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior.

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; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of our father among the saints John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople; and Venerable martyrs Damaskinos and Damian of the Great Lavra on Athos, whose memory we celebrate, and of all the saints: have mercy on 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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