

GREAT VESPERS ON NOVEMBER 07
THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGELS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL
AND ALL THE BODILESS POWERS OF HEAVEN

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 Archangel Michael 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.

With a dazzling bright radiance, * thou, O Michael, dost stand before * the Three-Sun Divinity with the Hosts on high, * O Chief Commander, in joy exclaiming: Holy art Thou, O Lord, * God the Father in the heights; * Holy art Thou, the Word of God * co-beginningless; * Holy art Thou, Divine and Holy Spirit: one Divinity, one Power, * one Glory, Nature, and Sovereignty.

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.

Both thy visage is fiery, * and thy beauty, astonishing; * and since thou by nature art immaterial, * thou dost traverse all the farthest parts, fulfilling the sovereign will * of the Maker of all things, * Michael, Chief of the Angels' Hosts, * mighty in thy strength; * and thou makest the temple honored with thy holy name to be a well-spring * of help and healings for maladies.

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

Thou Who makest Thy ministers * flames of fire, as the Scripture saith, * and Thine Angels spirits, O Lord, Thou hast shown forth * as first among arch angelic ranks great Michael, the Chief of Hosts, * who fulfilleth Thy commands * with devoted obedience * and who crieth out * with a great voice the awesome and thrice-holy hymn of praise unto Thy glory * with fear and trembling, O Word of God.

For Archangel Gabriel in Tone Four (**Unto them that fear Thee**)

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

God, the Mind before the ages, made thee shine as a second light * that enlighteneth all the world, * O Archangel Gabriel, * by divine co-working; * and thou hast revealed to us that divine and truly great * and hidden myst'ry that was before all time, * that in a virgin's womb would be

embodied He that was bodiless, * having willed, in His love for man, * to save man by becoming man.

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

Seeing thou dost stand at the Throne of the Three-Sun Divinity, * shining richly with that divine * effulgence of dazzling beams * sent from thence without cease, * free us from the gloom of the passions shrouding us about, * and with enlightenment make us all to shine, * who joyously have formed a chorus on the earth, loudly praising thee, * Chief Commander, great Gabriel, * thou ambassador for our souls.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Smite the wanton insolence of Hagar's sons, who unceasingly * make assault on thy faithful flock; * subdue and alleviate * the Church's divisions; * calm the restless sea of temptations surging without end; * and rescue us out of danger and distress, * who honor thee with love and flee unto thy shelter with ardent faith, * Chief Commander, great Gabriel, * thou ambassador for our souls.

DOXASTICON OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL IN TONE SIX

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

Rejoice with us, all ye Commanders of the Angelic Hosts, for your leader and our protector, the great Marshal, halloweth this day as he is wondrously seen in his august temple; wherefore, as is due, let us praise him, crying out: Shelter us under the shelter of thy wings, O Michael, thou great Archangel.

THEOTOKION OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE SIX

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

Rejoice with us, all ye choirs of virgins, for our protection, our mediatrix and shelter, our great refuge, halloweth this day as she is wondrously seen in her august temple; wherefore, as is due, let us praise her, crying out: Shelter us under the shelter of thy wings, O immaculate Lady Theotokos.

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 soleia, the first part of the great censing begins. After the first part of the great censing 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. If this commemoration 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 PASSAGES

The First Reading

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Book of Joshua (5:13-15).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: It came to pass, when Jesus the son of Navi (Joshua) was in Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and saw a man standing over against him with his sword drawn in his hand; and Jesus went up to him and said unto him: Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said: I, who am supreme commander of the Lord's host, am now come. And Jesus fell on his face to the earth, and said unto him: Master, what commandest thou thy servant? And the supreme commander of the Lord's hosts said unto Jesus: Loose thy sandal from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Jesus did so.

The Second Reading

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Book of Judges (6:2, 7, 11-24).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: It came to pass in that day that the hand of Madiam prevailed against the sons of Israel, and they cried unto God. And behold, there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ephratha, that pertained unto Joash; and Gideon his son threshed wheat by the wine-press, and was diligent that he might hide it from the face of Madiam. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him: The Lord mighty in strength is with thee. And Gideon said unto him: Be gracious with me, my Lord. If indeed the Lord be with us, why then are all these evils befallen us? And where be all His miracles which our fathers told us of, saying: Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? But now the Lord hath forsaken us, and hath delivered us into the hand of Madiam. And the angel of the Lord looked upon him and said: Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of Madiam. Behold, I have sent thee. And Gideon said unto him: Be gracious with me, my Lord. Wherewith shall I save Israel? Behold, my company of men is the least in Manasses, and I am the youngest in my father's house. And the angel of the Lord said unto him: The Lord will be with thee, and thou shalt smite Madiam as one man. And Gideon said unto him: If I have found grace in thy sight, and thou wilt do for me this day all that thou hast spoken of with me, depart not hence, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my offering and offer it before thee. And the angel of the Lord said unto him: Here am I, and I will tarry until thou come again. And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour; the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and drew nigh. And the angel of the Lord said unto

him: Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes and lay them upon that rock and pour out the broth. And he did so. Then the angel of the Lord put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the Lord departed out of his sight. And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said: Alas, O Lord, Lord! For I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face. And the Lord said unto him: Peace be unto thee, fear not; thou shalt not die. Then Gideon built an altar there unto the Lord and called it "The peace of the Lord," even unto this day.

The Third Reading

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Prophecy of Daniel (10:1-21).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: In the third year of Cyrus, the king of the Persians, an oracle was revealed to Daniel whose name was called Balthazar; and the oracle was true, and great power and understanding in the vision was given to him. In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, and no flesh or wine entered into my mouth, neither did I anoint myself with oil, until three whole weeks were accomplished. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month in the third year, I was near the great river, which is Tigris. And I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a man clothed in fine linen, and his loins were girt with gold of Ophaz; and his body was as Tharsis, and his face was as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his legs as the appearance of glittering brass, and the voice of his words as the voice of a multitude. And I Daniel only saw the vision; and the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great astonishment fell upon them, and they fled in fear. So I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there was no strength left in me, and my glory was turned into corruption, and I retained no strength. And I heard the voice of his words; and when I heard the sound of his words I was pricked in the heart, and I fell with my face to the earth. And, behold, a hand touched me, and it raised me on my knees and the palms of my hands. And he said to me: O Daniel, man of desires, understand the words which I speak to thee, and stand upright; for I am now sent to thee. And when he had spoken to me this word, I stood trembling. And he said to me: Fear not, Daniel; for from the first day that thou didst set thy heart to understand, and to afflict thyself before the Lord thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come because of thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of the Persians withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the foremost princes, came to help me; and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of the Persians; and I am come to inform thee of all that shall befall thy people in the last days; for the vision is yet for many days. And when he had spoken with me according to these words, I turned my face to the ground and was pricked in the heart. And, behold, as it were the likeness of a son of man touched my lips; and I opened my mouth, and spake, and said to him that stood before me: Lord, at the sight of thee my bowels were turned within me, and I had not strength. And how shall thy servant be able, lord, to speak with this my lord? And as for me, from henceforth strength will not remain in me, and there is no breath left in me. And there touched me again as it were the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, and said to me: Fear not, man of desires; peace be to thee, quit thyself like a man, and be strong. And as he spake with me, I received strength, and said: Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. And he said: Knowest thou, wherefore I am come to thee? And now I will return to fight with the prince

of the Persians; and I was going forth and the prince of the Greeks came. But I will tell that which is ordained in the scripture of truth; and there is no one that holdeth with me in these matters, save Michael your prince.

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 Lita and Artoklasia”, it is performed here.*

THE APOSTICHA FOR THE ARCHANGELS IN TONE ONE (**Thou art the joy**)

Let us on earth now keep festival like the Angels’ hosts, * and let us cry out their hymn unto God, Who is seated * on the Throne of Majesty: Holy art Thou, * God the Father in Heaven’s heights; * Holy art Thou, co-eternal and timeless Word, * and All-holy Spirit, Holy art Thou.

Verse 1. *He maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.*

As thou dost stand at the Throne terrible in glory on high, * having abundant boldness as the Chief in the Heavens, * Michael, thou eyewitness of things beyond speech, * by thy prayers, ever save us all * from straits, temptations, and perils, and every need, * O Supreme Commander great in strength.

Verse 2. *Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.*

First of the bodiless Angels art thou in very truth, * O Chief Commander Michael, thou eyewitness and servant * of the Light Divine and initiate thereof; * hence, we pray thee to save us all. * For every year we all honor thee piously, * and with faith we praise the Trinity.

DOXASTICON OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL 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.

As the Marshal and champion, and the leader of the Angels, O Chief Commander, deliver from every necessity and affliction, from disease and grave sin, them that sincerely praise thee and make request of thee. Being immaterial, O glorious Michael, thou distinctly beholdest Him Who is immaterial, and thou shinest with the unapproachable light of the Master's glory; for He, in His love for man, received flesh from a Virgin for our sake, having willed to save mankind.

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 THE ARCHANGELS IN TONE FOUR

(***Thou Who wast raised up***)

O ye foremost of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy, beseech you that by your petitions ye encompass us with the shadow of your immaterial glory, preserving us who kneel and cry ceaselessly: Deliver us from oppressions, since ye art the princes of the ranks of dominions on high.

THEOTOKION IN TONE FOUR

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

The Mystery which was hidden from everlasting and was unknown of the angels, O Theotokos, wast revealed through thee, to those who dwell upon earth. In that God, having become incarnate—in unconfused union—of His own good will accepted the Cross for our sake. Whereby He raised again the first created, and hath saved our souls from Death.

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 archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and all the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven, whose memory we now celebrate; 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; 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.

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