

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON OCTOBER 28 FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

REFRAINS OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

O God, with our ears have we heard, for our fathers have told us the work which Thou hadst wrought in their days, in the days of old. Thou Thyself art my King, and my God; Thou that commandest the salvation of Jacob.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

For Thou hast saved us from them that afflict us, and them that hate us hast Thou put to shame. In God we will boast all the day long, and in Thy name will we give praise in the age to come. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

REFRAINS OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. There are daughters of kings in Thine honor; at Thy right hand stood the queen, arrayed in a vesture of interwoven gold.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

I shall commemorate thy name from generation to generation. (*Refrain*)

Therefore peoples shall give praise unto thee forever, and unto the ages of ages. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

REFRAINS OF THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Our God is refuge and strength, a helper in afflictions which mightily befall us. The rushings of the river make glad the city of God; the Most High hath hallowed His tabernacle. The Lord of hosts is with us; our helper is the God of Jacob. (*Now sing the Apolytikion of the Protection below.*)

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY WEEKDAYS

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- *Now sing these apolytikia in the following order.*

APOLYTKION OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE ONE

(***While Gabriel was saying***)

O Virgin, we extol the great grace of thy Protection, which thou didst spread out like a bright cloud beyond all understanding; for thou dost invisibly protect thy people from the foe's every assault. Since we have thee as our shelter and certain help, we cry to thee with our whole soul: Glory to thy great deeds, O most pure Maid. Glory to thy shelter most divine. Glory to thy care and providence for us, O spotless one.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE EIGHT

*(**To thee, the Champion Leader**)*

Let us the faithful hasten to the Theotokos now and venerate her sacred veil, as we chant unto her, singing hymns to praise and honor her, as is fitting; for she sheltereth with her shelter all her faithful flock and preserveth them unharmed from all calamities, as they cry to her: Rejoice, Protection most radiant.

THE EPISTLE

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
He hath regarded the lowliness of His servant.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)

Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

MEGALYNARION OF THE PROTECTION IN TONE FOUR

The Angels praise the Protection of the Theotokos and magnify it with their hymns, for it everywhere protecteth the choirs of the faithful.

Let all the earth-born mortals rejoice in the Spirit, bearing their lamps. And let the nature of bodiless Minds celebrate with honor the holy *Protection* of the Mother of God, and cry out: Rejoice! All-blessed, pure, and ever-virgin Theotokos!

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) IN TONE EIGHT

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

- *Post-Communion Hymn: "We have seen the true light."*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother—and by the Protection of her Veil (Skepi) which we now celebrate—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 our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; 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 the Martyrs Terence and Neonilla and their children; Athanasios the First, patriarch of Constantinople; New-martyrs Angelis, Manuel, George and Nicholas of Crete; Venerable Stephen of Mar Sabbas monastery in Palestine; Arsenios of Srem, archbishop of Serbia; Great-martyr Paraskeva of Iconium; and Venerable Job of Pochaev, whose memory we celebrate today, 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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