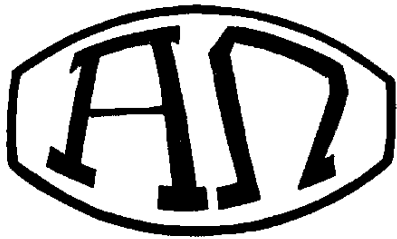


THE GREAT CANON OF SAINT ANDREW

MONDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK



*Abridged and Adapted for use at
Diocese of Eastern PA*

ST. ANDREW ARCHBISHOP OF CRETE

Born in Damascus of Christian parents, he was unable to speak until the age of seven. When his parents took him to church for Communion, the power of speech was given to him. Such is the divine power of Communion.

He went to Jerusalem at the age of fourteen and was tonsured in the monastery of St. Sava the Sanctified. In his understanding and askesis, he surpassed many of the older monks and was an example to all. The Patriarch took him as his secretary.

When the Monothelite heresy, which taught that the Lord had no human will, but only a divine one began to rage, the 6th Ecumenical Council met in Constantinople in 681, in the reign of Constantine IV. Theodore, Patriarch of Jerusalem, was not able to be present at the Council, and sent Andrew, then a deacon, as his representative. At the Council, Andrew showed his great gifts: his articulateness, his zeal for the Faith and his rare prudence. Being instrumental in confirming the Orthodox faith, Andrew returned to his work in Jerusalem.

He was later chosen and enthroned as archbishop of the island of Crete. As archbishop, he was greatly beloved by the people. He was filled with zeal for Orthodoxy and strongly withstood all heresy. He

Let us pray for our government, Orthodox hierarchs, and the founders of this holy house.

For our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and friends departed this life before us, and for all the Orthodox Christians here and everywhere laid to rest.

PRIEST: And, let us also say for ourselves!

CHOIR: **Lord, have mercy.** (3)

PRIEST: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us!

CHOIR: **Amen.**

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His Most pure Mother. Of saint(s) _____ who we commemorate today, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us for as much as He is good and loves mankind!

CHOIR: Amen.

PRIEST: *(Bowling to the faithful)* Forgive me a sinner, if I have offended any of you.

PEOPLE: May God forgive and have mercy on you.
(And they make a bow, asking his forgiveness)

PRIEST: Let us pray for his Beatitude , the Most Blessed Metropolitan _____, and for His Grace *(Eminence)*, our Bishop *(Archbishop)* _____ and all our brethren in Christ.

CHOIR: Lord, have mercy. *Repeated after each petition*

For the president of our country, our civil authorities and for our armed forces serving everywhere.

For those who love us and those who hate us.

For those who have asked us to pray for them in our unworthiness.

For the deliverance of those held captive.

For those traveling, by land, sea, and through the air.

For the sick and the suffering.

Let us pray for the abundance of the fruits of the earth.

Let us pray for every Orthodox Christian soul.

worked miracles through his prayers, driving the Saracens from the island of Crete by means of them. He wrote many learned books, poems and canons, of which the best-known is the Great Canon of Repentance which is read in full on the Thursday of the Fifth Week of the Great Fast.

Such was his outward appearance that, 'looking at his face and listening to the words that flowed like honey from his lips, each man was touched and renewed'. Returning from Constantinople on one occasion, he foretold his death before reaching Crete. And so it happened. As the ship approached the island of Mitylene, this light of the Church finished his earthly course and his soul went to the Kingdom of Christ, in about the year 740.

The priest, vested in a epitrahilion, opens the curtain, and begins:

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

READER: Amen. Glory to Thee, O God, Glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere and fillest all things, Treasury of blessings, and Giver of Life, come and abide in us, cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord cleanse us from our sins. Master pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake Lord have mercy. (3)

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

PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

PRIEST: O Lord, and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. *Prostration*

But give rather a spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant! *Prostration*

Yes, O Lord and King, grant that I may see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. *Prostration*

ALL: O God cleanse me a sinner, and have mercy upon me! (12) *w. bow at the waist*

PRIEST: O Lord, and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather a spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant! Yes, O Lord and King, grant that I may see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. *Prostration*

PRIEST: Glory to Thee O Christ Our God and our only sure hope, glory to Thee!

CHOIR: **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy (3) Father bless!**

unapproachable glory for Thou art blessed unto the ages of ages. Amen

Lord have mercy. (3)

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

The priest exits the Altar and takes his place before the closed Royal Doors

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Without defilement thou gavest birth to God the word, true Theotokos, we magnify thee!

In the name of the Lord, Father bless!

PRIEST: God be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us and have mercy on us.

READER: Amen. Most glorious, Ever-Virgin, Mother of Christ God, present our prayer to thy Son and our God, that through thee, He may save our souls.

My hope is the Father, my refuge is the Son, my protection is the Holy Spirit: O Holy Trinity, glory to Thee.

All my hope I place in thee, O Mother of God: keep me under thy protection.

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.

READER: Amen. Lord have mercy. (12)

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

Come let us worship 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!

PSALM 69

O God, be attentive unto helping me; O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be shamed and confounded that seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and brought to shame that desire evils against me. Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me: Well done! Well done! Let them be glad and rejoice in Thee all that seek after Thee, O God, and let them that love Thy salvation say continually: The Lord be magnified. But as for me, I am poor and needy; O God, come unto mine aid. My helper and my deliverer art Thou, O Lord; make no long tarrying.

The priest exits the Altar now vested in a phelon, and takes his place before an analogian in the middle of the church as the choir sings "My Helper and a Protector..." and the Great Canon of St. Andrew is sung

GREAT CANON OF ST. ANDREW OF CRETE

ODE 1

CHOIR: My Helper and My Protector has become my salvation. He is my God, I will glorify Him: the God of my fathers, and I will exalt Him: for in glory was He glorified. (*Exodus 15:2, 1; Psalm 117:14*)

REFRAIN: Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me! ✠

Each time this refrain is sung throughout the Canon, the faithful should make a full prostration (if they are able) or a bow from the waist

TROPARIA

PRIEST: Where shall I begin to lament the deeds of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer Thee, O Christ, for my present lamentation? But in Thy compassion grant me release from my falls.

Come, wretched soul, with your flesh, confess to the Creator of all. In the future refrain from your former brutishness, and offer to God tears in repentance. ✠

Having rivaled the first-created Adam by my transgression, I realize that I am stripped naked of God and of the everlasting kingdom and bliss through my sins.
(*Genesis 3*)

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokos, the number of my transgressions is very great. I flee to you, pure one, entreating salvation. Visit my weakened soul, and pray to your Son and our God that He will grant me remission of the terrible acts I have done, only-blessed one!

All-holy Theotokos, do not forsake me all the days of my life. Do not give me over to the protection of men, but be my defender and have mercy on me.

I have put my whole trust in you, Mother of God: Keep me under your protection.

READER: Lord have mercy. (40 times)

O Thou who at every season and every hour in heaven and on earth art worshipped and glorified, O Christ our God. Who art merciful and compassionate longsuffering and of great goodness; Who lovest the just and shows mercy on the sinner. Who callest all to salvation to the promise of blessings to come. O Lord, in this hour receive our supplication and direct our lives according to Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds deliver us from all tribulation evil and distress. Encompass us about with Thy holy angels that guided and guarded by them we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Thine

CHOIR: O Lord of hosts... *(repeat after each verse)*

Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness!

Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

CHOIR: O Lord of hosts, be with us, for we have no other helper in adversity but Thee. O Lord of hosts have mercy on us!

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

How should we dare to hymn Thee, O Savior, Whom the angels unceasingly glorify in song? Yet we have Thy saints as intercessors, and Thy mercy and loving kindness towards us. Thou knowest our hearts: spare our souls!

Alas, wretched soul! Why are you like the first Eve? For you have wickedly looked and been bitterly wounded, and you have touched the tree and rashly tasted the forbidden food. ✠

The place of bodily Eve has been taken by me, the Eve of my mind in the shape of a passionate thought in the flesh, showing me sweet things, yet ever making me taste and swallow bitter things.

Adam was rightly exiled from Eden for not keeping Thy one commandment, O Savior. But what shall I suffer who am always rejecting Thy living words? *(Hebrews 12:25, Genesis 3:23)*

CHOIR: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

O Trinity beyond all being, adored in Unity, take from me the heavy yoke of sin and in Thy compassion grant me tears of compunction.

CHOIR: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Mother of God, hope and intercessor of those who sing of thee, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and as thou art our pure Lady, accept me in repentance.

ODE 2


Attend, O Heaven, and I will proclaim and will sing of Christ, who came in the flesh, from the Virgin.

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

Attend, O heaven, and I will speak; O earth, give ear to a voice repenting to God and singing praises to Him.


Attend to me, O God my Saviour, with Thy merciful eye, and accept my fervent confessions.

(Proverbs 15:3; Psalm 33:15)

I have sinned above all men, I alone have sinned against Thee. But as God have compassion, O Saviour, on Thy creature. *(1 Tim. 1:15)* 

Having formed, by my pleasure-loving desires, the deformity of my passions, I have marred the beauty of my mind.

A storm of passions besets me, O compassionate Lord. But stretch out Thy hand to me too, as to Peter. *(Matthew 14:31)*

I have stained the coat of my flesh, and soiled what is in Thy image and likeness, O Saviour. 

I have darkened the beauty of my soul with passionate pleasures, and with my whole mind I have been reduced wholly to mud.

Every night will I give thanks to Thee and praise Thy name for ever and ever. Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, be merciful to me. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. Lord, I flee to Thee. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For with Thee is the fountain of Life and in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy mercy to those who know Thee. Enable us, Lord, to pass this night without sin. Blessed are Thou, Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, Master, make me to understand Thy commandments. Blessed are Thou, Holy One, enlighten me with Thy precepts. Thy mercy, O Lord, endures forever. Do not despise the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongs worship! To Thee belongs praise! To Thee belongs glory! To the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord Of Hosts (Psalm 149)

CHOIR: O Lord of hosts, be with us, for we have no other helper in adversity but Thee. O Lord of hosts have mercy on us!

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament!

In the name of the Lord, bless Father!

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

READER: Amen. O Lord God, Father Almighty; O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit; One God, One Power, have mercy on me a sinner, and by the judgments Thou hast established, save me, Thy unworthy servant, for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Small Doxology

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men! We praise Thee! We bless Thee! We worship Thee! We glorify Thee! We give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty! O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world: receive our prayer. Thou who sittest at the right hand of God the Father: have mercy on us. For Thou alone art Holy, Thou alone art Lord. Thou alone, Jesus Christ, art Most High in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

I have torn my first garment which the Creator wove for me in the beginning, and therefore I am lying naked. *(Genesis 3:21)*

I have put on a torn coat, which the serpent wove for me by argument, and I am ashamed. *(Genesis 3:4-5)*

The tears of the harlot, O merciful Lord, I too offer to Thee. Be merciful to me, O Saviour, in Thy compassion. *(Luke 7:38; 18:13)*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit!**

I sing of Thee as one in Three Persons, O God of all, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Spotless Mother of God, only all-hymned Virgin, pray intensely that we may be saved.

ODE 3

On the immovable rock of Thy commandments, establish my thoughts O Christ.

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

The Lord rained down fire from the Heaven, my soul, and burnt up the former land of Sodom. *(Genesis 19:24)*

Escape to the mountain like Lot, my soul, and make
 Zoar your refuge in time. *(Genesis 19:22)* ✠

Run from the burning, my soul! Run from the heat of
 Sodom! Run from the destruction of the divine flame.
(Deuteronomy 4:24; Hebrews 12:29)

I alone have sinned against Thee, I have sinned above
 all men. O Christ my Saviour, spurn me not. ✠

Thou art the Good Shepherd; seek me, Thy lamb, and
 neglect me not, who have gone astray. *(Jn 10:11-14)*

Thou art my sweet Jesus, Thou art my Creator; in
 Thee, O Saviour, I shall be justified. I confess to Thee,
 O Saviour, I have sinned, I have sinned against Thee,
 but absolve and forgive me in Thy compassion.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Spirit!**

O God, Trinity in Unity, save us from delusion and
 temptations and distressing circumstances.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Rejoice, God-receiving womb! Rejoice, throne of the
 Lord! Rejoice, Mother of our Life!

Penitential Troparia Tone 6

CHOIR: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us,
 for laying aside all excuse, we sinners offer to Thee, as
 to our Master, this supplication: Have mercy on us.

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

Lord, have mercy on us, for in Thee have we put our
 trust. Do not be angry with us, nor remember our in-
 iquities, but look down on us even now, since Thou art
 compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies, For
 Thou art our God, and we are Thy people. We are all
 the work of Thy hands, and we call on Thy name.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Blessed Theotokos, open the doors of compassion to
 us who hope in you. May we not perish but be deliv-
 ered from adversity through you, for you are the sal-
 vation of the Christian people.

Lord have mercy. (40 times)

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

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glori-
 ous beyond compare than the seraphim; without cor-
 ruption you gave birth to God the Word: True The-
 otokos, we magnify you!


mercies Thou hast appointed repentance for sinners, that they may be saved. Therefore, O Lord God of the righteous, Thou hast not appointed repentance for the righteous, for Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who did not sin against Thee; but Thou hast appointed repentance for me, a sinner. For the sins I have committed are more in number than the sands of the sea; my transgressions are multiplied, Lord, they are multiplied! I am unworthy to look up and see the height of heaven because of the multitude of my iniquities. I am weighed down with many an iron fetter, so that I am rejected because of my sins, and I have no relief; for I have provoked Thy wrath and have done what is evil in Thy sight, setting up abominations and multiplying offenses. And now I bend the knee of my heart, beseeching Thee for Thy kindness. I have sinned, Lord, I have sinned, and I know my transgressions. I earnestly beseech Thee, forgive me, Lord, forgive me! Do not destroy me with my transgressions! Do not be angry with me forever or lay up evil for me; do not condemn me to the depths of the earth. For Thou, Lord, art the God of those who repent, and in me Thou will manifest Thy goodness; for, unworthy as I am, Thou will save me in Thy great mercy, and I will praise Thee continually all the days of my life. For all the host of heaven sings Thee praise and Thy is the glory for ever. Amen.

ODE 4


The Prophet heard of Thy coming, O Lord, and was afraid, how wast Thou to be born of the Virgin, and to appear unto men, and he cried aloud: "I have heard Thy tidings, and I am afraid, glory to Thy power, O Lord." (*Habbakuk 3:2*)

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

Despise not Thy works and forsake not Thy creation, O just Judge and Lover of men, though I alone have sinned as a man more than any other. But being Lord of all, Thou hast power to pardon sins. (*Mark 2:10*)

The end is drawing near, my soul, the end is drawing near! But you neither care nor prepare. The time is growing short. Rise! The Judge is near at the very doors. Like a dream, like a flower, the time of this life passes. Why do we bustle about in vain? (*Matthew 24:33; Psalm 38:7*) 

Come to your senses, my soul! Consider the deeds you have done, and bring them before your eyes, and pour out the drops of your tears. Boldly tell your thoughts and deeds to Christ, and be acquitted.

There has never been a sin or act or vice in life that I have not committed, O Saviour. I have sinned in mind, word and choice, in purpose, will and action, as no one else has ever done. 

Because of his crying need the Patriarch endured the scorching heat of the day, and he bore the frost of the night, daily making gains, shepherding, struggling, slaving, in order to win two wives.

By the two wives understand action and direct knowledge in contemplation: Leah as action, for she had many children, and Rachel as knowledge, which is obtained by much labor. For without labors, my soul, neither action nor contemplation will achieve success.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit!**

I confess Thee to be undivided in essence, unconfused in persons, One Triune Divinity, co-enthroned and co-reigning. I sing to Thee the great song, thrice sung on high!

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Thou givest birth and livest a virgin life, and in both remainest a virgin by nature. He Who is born of thee renews the laws of nature, and a womb gives birth without travail. Where God wills, the order of nature is overruled; for He does whatever He wishes.

tion to our souls; make our minds alert to search out the thoughts which will come before us on the dread day of Judgment. Nail our flesh to the fear of Thee, and mortify our earthly members, that in the quietness of sleep, we may be enlightened by the vision of Your judgments. Take from us also every evil imagination and harmful carnal passion. Raise us up again at the hour of prayer, strengthened in the Faith, and holding steadfastly to Thy commandments; through the favor and goodness of Thy Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed together with Thine all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Prayer of Manasseh

Lord Almighty, God of our fathers, of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and of their righteous posterity: Thou hast made heaven and earth with all their order; Thou hast shackled the sea by Thy word of command, Thou hast confined the deep and sealed it with Thy terrible and glorious name. All things shudder at Thee and tremble before Thy power, for Thy glorious splendor cannot be borne and the wrath of Thy threat to sinners is irresistible; yet immeasurable and unsearchable is Thy promised mercy, for Thou art the Lord Most High, of great compassion, long-suffering, very merciful, and Thou repentest over the evils of mankind. Thou, O Lord, according to Thy great goodness, have promised repentance and forgiveness to those who have sinned against Thee, and in the multitude of Thy

Troparia

READER: Lighten my eyes, O Christ God, that I may not sleep in death; lest my enemy say: I have prevailed against him.

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

Be the Defender of my soul, O God, for I walk in the midst of many snares. Deliver me and save me, Good One, for You are the Lover of mankind!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

As there is no boldness in us because of the multitude of our sins, Virgin Theotokos, intercede with the Son Whom you have borne, for the entreaty of a mother has great power to win the favor of the Master. Do not despise the prayers of sinners, all-venerable Lady, for He Who took upon Himself to suffer for our sake is merciful and strong to save.

Prayer of St. Basil the Great:


READER: Lord, our Lord, who deliverest us from all the arrows that fly by day: deliver us also from all evil inhabiting the darkness. Accept the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice. Grant that we may pass this night without sin, untempted by evil; deliver us from every anxiety and fear of the devil. Grant contri-

ODE 5


I seek Thee early in the night, I implore and pray Thee, Who lovest mankind; do enlighten me and guide me by in Thy commandments, and teach me, O Saviour, to do Thy will.

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

I have passed my life ever in night, for the night of sin has been to me a thick fog and darkness; but make me, O Saviour, a son of the day. (*Ephesians 5:8*)

Like Reuben, wretch that I am, I have planned an unprincipled and lawless act against God Most High, having defiled my bed as he defiled that of his father. (*Genesis 35:21; 49:3-4*) 

I confess to Thee, O Christ my King: I have sinned, I have sinned, like Joseph's brothers of old, who sold the fruit of purity and chastity. (*Genesis 37*)

Righteous Joseph was given up by his brothers, that sweet soul was sold into slavery, as a type of the Lord; and you, my soul, have sold yourself completely to your vices. (*Genesis 37:27-28*) 

Imitate, wretched and worthless soul, righteous Joseph and his pure mind, and do not be reckless with irrational desires, ever transgressing. (*Gn. 39:7-23*)

If Joseph of old also occupied a pit, O Sovereign Lord, yet it was as a type of Thy burial and rising. But will I ever offer Thee anything like it? (*Genesis 37*)

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit!**

We glorify Thee, O Trinity, the one God: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, Father, Son and Spirit, simple Being, Unity ever adored.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen


From thee, O pure maiden Mother and Virgin, God Who created the worlds and ages was clad in my clay and united to Himself human nature.

ODE 6

**I cried with my whole heart, unto the merciful God,
and He heard me, from the lowest Hades, and He
raised my life, out of corruption.**

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

I sincerely offer Thee with a pure intention, O Saviour, the tears of my eyes and groans from the depths of my heart, crying: O God, I have sinned against Thee; be merciful to me. *(Luke 18:13)*

You, my soul, have revolted from the Lord like Dathan and Abiram. But with all your heart cry "Spare me!" that a yawning gulf of the earth may not swallow you up. *(Numbers 16)* 

Like a stampeding heifer strung to madness, my soul, you have resembled Ephraim. Winged with action, resolve and contemplation, save your life like a gazelle from the noose. *(Hosea 4:16)*

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord cleanse us from our sins. Master pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. *(3)*

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

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.

The All-Holy Exclamations

O ALL-HOLY AND SOVEREIGN LADY THEOTOKOS, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O ALL THE HEAVENLY HOSTS OF ANGELS AND ARCHANGELS, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY JOHN, PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY GLORIOUS APOSTLES, MARTYRS AND ALL SAINTS, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O ALL OUR REVEREND AND GOD-BEARING FATHERS, PASTORS AND ECUMENICAL TEACHERS, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY ARCHANGEL MICHAEL, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY HIERARCHS INNOCENT, TIKHON, NICHOLAI AND JOHN, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O BLESSED FATHERS OF AMERICA, HERMAN, ALEXIS AND JACOB, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY MARTYRS PETER AND JUVENALY, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY NEW MARTYRS JOHN, ALEXANDER AND MAXIM, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O HOLY HEIROMARTYR BASIL OF ALASKA, NORTH AMERICA, OLD FORGE AND NEW MARTYR OF POLAND, PRAY FOR US SINNERS!

O INVINCIBLE, INEFFABLE AND DIVINE POWER OF THE HON'RABLE AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS, FORSAKE NOT US SINNERS!

O GOD, CLEANSE US SINNERS!

O GOD, CLEANSE US SINNERS!

O GOD, CLEANSE US SINNERS, AND HAVE MERCY ON US!

Let Moses' hand assure us, O my soul, how God can whiten and cleanse a leprous life. So do not despair of yourself, even though you are leprous.
(Exodus 4:6-8)

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

I am the Trinity, simple and undivided, divided Personally, and I am the Unity, united in nature, says the Father, the Son, and the Divine Spirit.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Thy womb bore God for us Who took our form. Implore Him, as the Creator of all, O Mother of God, that through thy intercessions we may be justified!

KONTAKION, TONE 6

*During the singing of the Kontakion,
all present (if they are able) should kneel*


My soul, O my soul, arise, why are you sleeping? The end is drawing near, and you will be confounded. Awake then and be watchful, that Christ our God may spare you, who is everywhere and fillest all things.

ODE 7


We have sinned, we have done iniquity and evil before Thee: we have neither observed nor we have ever followed what Thou hast commanded us: but cast us not away at the last, O God of our fathers.

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

I have sinned, offended and rejected Thy commandment, for I have advanced in sins and added wounds to my sores. But in Thy compassion have mercy on me, O God of our Fathers.

I have confessed to Thee, my Judge, the Secrets of my heart. See my humility, see also my distress, and attend to my judgment now. And in Thy compassion have mercy on me. O God of our Fathers. 

When Saul of old lost his father's beasts, besides getting news of them he incidentally found a kingdom. But watch, my soul, lest without noticing it, you prefer your animal cravings to the Kingdom of Christ. *(I Kings 10:2)*

If David, the father of our Divine Lord, doubly sinned of old, my soul, when he was pierced with the arrow of adultery and struck with the spear of remorse for murder, yet you have a sickness graver than these, in your will and appetites. *(II Kings 11;12: 1-23)* 

The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. In one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

READER: The day is past; I thank Thee, O Lord! Grant, I pray, that this evening and this night I may not fall into sin, and save me, O Savior!

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

The day is past; I sing praises to Thee, O Master. Grant, I pray, that this evening and this night I may be without guile, and save me, O Savior!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The day is past; I hymn Thee, O Holy One. Grant, I pray, that this evening and this night I may not be assailed by temptation, and save me, O Savior!

The bodiless powers of cherubim glorify Thee with never-ending hymns, and the six-winged seraphim greatly magnify Thee. All the host of angels praise Thee with thrice-holy hymns. For Thou art the Father before all worlds, with Thy Son, who is also from everlasting and the Spirit of Life, co-equal in honor, manifesting the undivided Trinity.

Most holy Virgin Theotokos and eye-witness apostles and servants of the Word, with the whole company of martyrs and prophets who have attained eternal life: Pray fervently for us all, for we are in great distress, that being delivered from the snares of the evil one, we may proclaim the Angelic Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, Thrice-Holy Lord, have mercy on us and save us! Amen.

David once joined sin to sin, for he mixed adultery with murder, yet he immediately offered double repentance. But you my soul, have done things more wicked without repenting to God.

David of old composed a song, painting it as in a picture, by which he exposed the deed he had done, crying: Have mercy on me, for against Thee only have I sinned, Who art God of all. Cleanse me. *(Psalm 50)*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit!**

Trinity simple and undivided, of one essence and one nature, Lights and Light, three Holies and one Holy, God the Trinity is hymned. But sing, my soul, and glorify the Life and Lives, the God of all.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

We sing of thee, we bless thee, we praise thee, O Mother of God, for thou gavest birth to one of the inseparable Trinity, the one Son and God, and to us on earth thou hast opened the heavenly realms.


ODE 8

The Hosts of Heaven glorify Him, and the Cherubim and Seraphim tremble before Him, let every breath and all creation praise Him and bless Him, and exalt Him throughout all the ages.

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**


I have sinned, O Saviour, have mercy! Awaken my mind to conversion, accept me who repent, have compassion on me as I cry: Against Thee only have I sinned and acted lawlessly; have mercy on me.

Elijah the charioteer once ascended by the chariot of the virtues as to heaven and was carried above earthly things. Consider then, my soul, this ascent.

(IV Kings 2:11) 

Elisha received double grace from the Lord when he took up Elijah's sheepskin. But you, my soul, have not shared this grace owing to your lust. *(IV Kings 2:9)*

Jordan's stream of old was made to stand still on either side by Elisha by Elijah's sheepskin. But you, my soul, have not shared this grace owing to your lust.

(IV Kings 2:14) 

The Shunammite woman of old with right good will entertained the righteous man. But you, my soul, have taken into your house neither stranger nor traveler. Therefore you will be cast out of the bridal hall wailing. *(IV Kings 2:14)*

You have always imitated the vile mind of Gehazi, O wretched soul. Rid yourself of his love of money, at least in old age; escape from the fire of Gehenna by leaving your evil ways.

- If I trust in Him, He will be my sanctification.
- I will wait for Him. He will save me.
- Behold, I, and the children whom God has given me.
- The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- To those who dwell in the land of the shadow of death, a light is risen.
- For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given.
- And the government shall be upon His shoulder.
- And of His peace there shall be no end.
- And His Name shall be called the Angel of Great Counsel.
- Wonderful Counselor.
- Mighty God. Eternal Ruler.
- Prince of Peace.
- The Father of the World to Come.
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

PRIEST: God is with us! Understand all ye nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

CHOIR: God is with us! Understand all ye nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

**Ineffable is the Nativity of conception without seed:
Incorruptible is the fruit of the Mother unwedded; for
the birth of God reneweth all nature: Wherefore all
generations right gloriously magnify you, as Bride and
Mother of our God.**

*As the choir repeats the 9th Ode, the Priest returns to the
Altar and closes the Royal Doors.*

GOD IS WITH US

The following verses from Isaiah 8:8-10, 12-14, 17-18, 9:2,6 are sung

PRIEST: God is with us! Understand all ye nations,
and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

CHOIR: God is with us! Understand all ye nations,
and submit yourselves, for God is with us!

PRIEST: Hear ye this even to the ends of the earth!

CHOIR: For God is with us! *Repeat as the Priest
reads the following verses*

- Submit yourselves, you mighty ones!
- Even if again you strengthen yourself, again you shall be overthrown.
- Take counsel, if you wish, but it will come to nothing.
- Make your plans, if you wish, but they will not stand among you.
- We do not fear your threats, nor are we troubled.
- For we will hollow the Lord our God, and Him we will fear.

Let us bless Father and Son, and Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Eternal Father, co-eternal Son, gracious Comforter,
Spirit of Truth; Father of the Divine Word, Word of the
Eternal Father, living and creative Spirit, Trinity in Uni-
ty, have mercy on us.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen


As from scarlet silk, O spotless Virgin, within thy
womb the spiritual purple was woven, the flesh of
Emmanuel. Therefore we honor thee in truth, as the
Mother of God.

ODE 9

**Ineffable is the Nativity of conception without seed:
Incorruptible is the fruit of the Mother unwedded; for
the birth of God reneweth all nature: Wherefore all
generations right gloriously magnify you, as Bride and
Mother of our God.**

 **Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!**

The mind is wounded, the body is feeble, the spirit is
sick, the word has lost its power, life is ebbing, the
end is at the doors. What then will you do, wretched
soul, when the Judge comes to try your case?

I have reviewed Moses' account of the creation of the
world, my soul, and then all canonical Scripture which
tells you the story of the righteous and the unrighteous.
But you, my soul, have copied the latter and not the
former, and have sinned against God. 

The Law has grown weak, the Gospel is unpracticed, the whole of the Scripture is ignored by you; the Prophets and every word of the Just have lost their power. Your wounds, my soul, have multiplied, and there is no physician to heal you.

I am bringing before you examples from the New Scripture, my soul, to lead you to compunction. So emulate the righteous and avoid following the sinners, and regain Christ's grace by prayers, fast, purity and reverence. ✝

Christ became man and called to repentance robbers and harlots. Repent, my soul! The door of the Kingdom is already open, and the transformed Pharisees, publicans and adulterers are seizing it ahead of you. *(Matthew 21:31; 11:12)*

Christ became a babe and conversed in the flesh with me, and He voluntarily experienced all that pertains to our nature, apart from sin; and He showed you, my soul, an example and image of His own condescension. *(Matthew 1:25)* ✝

Christ saved wise men, called shepherds, made crowds of infants martyrs, glorified old men and aged widows, whose deeds and life, my soul, you have not emulated. But woe unto you when you are judged! *(Matthew 2:12; Luke 2:9-12; Matthew 2:16; Luke 2:25-38)*

When the Lord had fasted for forty days in the wilderness, He at last became hungry, showing His human nature. Do not be despondent, my soul, if the enemy attacks you, but let him be beaten off by prayer and fasting. *(Matthew 4:1-11; 17:21; Mark 9:29)*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit!**

Let us glorify the Father, exalt the Son, and faithfully worship the Divine Spirit, inseparable Trinity, Unity in essence, as the Light and Lights, the Life and Lives, giving life and light to the ends of the earth.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Protect this city, spotless Mother of God, for in thee it faithfully reigns, and in thee it is made strong, and through thee it conquers and routs every trial and temptation, and spoils its foes and rules its subjects

O Venerable Father Andrew, pray unto God for us!

O Venerable Andrew, thrice-blessed father, shepherd of Crete, cease not to pray to God for those who sing of thee, that He may deliver from anger, oppression, corruption and our countless sins, all of us who faithfully honor thy memory.

And again the 9th Ode: