

THE GREAT CANON OF SAINT ANDREW

TUESDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK



*Abridged and Adapted for use at
The 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

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

For the deliverance of those falsely imprisoned.

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.

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.

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!

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: (*Bowing 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.

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.

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.

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

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 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: 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

I have willfully incurred the guilt of Cain's murder, since by invigorating my flesh I am the murderer of my soul's awareness, and have warred against it by my evil deeds. (Genesis 4:8)

I have not resembled Abel's righteousness, O Jesus. I have never offered Thee acceptable gifts, nor divine actions, nor a pure sacrifice, nor an unblemished life. (Genesis 4:4)

Like Cain, we too, O wretched soul, have likewise offered to the Creator of All - foul deeds, defective sacrifice and a useless life. Therefore we too are condemned. (Genesis 4:5; Hebrews 11:4)

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 times of 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!

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.

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 art 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 times of 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!

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!

In molding my clay into life, O Potter, Thou didst put in me flesh and bones, breath and vitality. But, O my Creator, my Redeemer and Judge, accept me who repents. *(Genesis 2:7; Jeremiah 18:1-10; Rom. 9:21)*

I confess to Thee, O Saviour, the sins I have committed, and the wounds of my body and soul which murderous thoughts like robbers within have inflicted upon me. *(Luke 10:30)*

I have sinned, O Saviour, yet I know that Thou art the Lover of men. Thou strikest compassionately and pitiest warmly. Thou seest me weeping and runnest towards me, as the Father calling back the Prodigal Son. *(Luke 15:20)*

**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.

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 who comes as a penitent.

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!**

Sin which stripped me of my former God-woven clothing has also sewn on me coats of skin. I am wrapped in a garment of shame as with fig leaves, in reproof of my selfish passions. *(Genesis 3:21)*

I am clad in a coat that is spotted and shamefully blood-stained by the flow of my passionate and pleasure-loving life.

I fell under the burden of passions and corruption of matter, and from then until now, I am oppressed by the enemy.

Having preferred a possessive and pleasure-loving life to spiritual poverty, O Saviour, I am now harnessed with a heavy yoke. *(Matthew 5:3)*

I have adorned the idol of my flesh with the many colored clothing of shameful thoughts, and I am condemned. *(1 John 5:21)*

I have been anxiously concerned only about outward adornment, and have neglected the inner temple made in the image of God. *(1 Peter 3:3-4)*

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.

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.

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 delivered from adversity through you, for you are the salvation 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 glorious beyond compare than the seraphim; without corruption you gave birth to God the Word: True Theotokos, we magnify you!

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,

I have buried with passions the beauty of the original image, O Saviour. But seek and find it, like the lost coin. *(Luke 15:8)*

Like the harlot I cry to Thee: I have sinned, I alone have sinned against Thee. Accept my tears also, O Saviour, as perfume. *(Luke 7:37-50)*

Like the publican I cry to Thee: Be merciful, O Saviour, be merciful to me; for no child of Adam has sinned as I against Thee. *(Luke 18:13)*

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

One in three Persons I praise Thee, O God of all, the Father, 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

**Establish O Lord, on the rock of Thy commandments,
my unstable heart, for Thou only art Holy and Lord.**

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

In Thee the Conqueror of death, I have found the Source of Life, and from my heart I cry to Thee before my end: I have sinned, be merciful, save me.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against Thee. Be merciful to me. For there is no one who has sinned among men whom I have not surpassed by my sins.

I have imitated those who were licentious in Noah's time, and I have earned a share in their condemnation of drowning in the flood. *(Genesis 6)*

You have imitated Ham, that spurner of his father, my soul. You have not concealed your neighbor's shame by returning to him looking backwards. *(Genesis 9:20-27)*

Run, my soul, like Lot from the fire of sin; run from Sodom and Gomorrah; run from the flame of every irrational desire. *(Genesis 19)*

Have mercy, O Lord, have mercy on me, I implore Thee, when Thou comest with Thy Angels to requite us all as our actions deserve.

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

Simple, uncreated Unity, un-originate Nature praised in a Trinity of Persons, save us who with faith worship Thy power.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

Mother of God unwedded, thou gavest birth in time to the timeless Son of the Father. And, O strange wonder! – thou remainest a Virgin while nourishing Him.

plied! 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.

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 iniquities, but look down on us even now, since Thou art

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 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 multi-

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." (Habakkuk 3:2)

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

Watch, my soul! Be courageous like the great Patriarchs, that you may acquire activity and awareness, and be a mind that sees God, and may reach in contemplation the innermost darkness, and be a great trader. *(Genesis 32:28; Luke 19:13-15)*

The great Patriarch, by begetting the twelve Patriarchs, mystically set up for you, my soul, a ladder of active ascent, having wisely offered his children as rungs, and his steps as ascents.

You have emulated the hated Esau, my soul, and have given up your birthright of pristine beauty to your supplanter, and you have lost your father's blessing, and have been tripped up twice in action and knowledge. Therefore, O wretch, repent now.

Esau was called Edom for his extreme passion of madness for women. For ever burning with lust, and stained with pleasure, he was named Edom which means a red-hot sin-loving soul. *(Genesis 25:30)*

Have you heard of Job who was made holy on a dunghill, O my soul? You have not emulated his courage, nor had his firmness of purpose in all you have learned or known, or in your temptations, but you have proved un-persevering. *(Job 1)*

He who was formerly on a throne is now naked on a dunghill and covered with sores. He who had many children and was much admired is suddenly childless and homeless. Yet he regarded the dunghill as a palace and his sores as pearls. *(Job 2:7-8)*

**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.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I shall be saved, Theotokos, for in you I have the hope which frees from shame. I will not fear, for I have your intercession, All-pure one. I will pursue my enemies and put them to flight, with only your protection and all-powerful aid as armor. I cry out and fervently beseech you: Lady, save me by your prayers! Raise me up again from the gloom of sleep that I may glorify you in hymns, by the might of the Son of God, Who was made flesh through you.

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 contrition 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

Troparia

READER: Lord, my Creator, Thou knowest the unsleeping watchfulness of my invisible enemies, and the weakness of my poor flesh: Into Thine hands I commend my spirit! Cover me with the wings of Thy goodness, that I may not sleep in death. Enlighten the eyes of my spiritual understanding, that I may delight in Thy holy words. Grant at the acceptable time that I may give Thee praise, for Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind.

Verse: Look upon me, and hear me, O Lord my God!

How terrible is Thy Judgment, Lord, as men are led before Thee while the angels stand by. The books are opened, deeds are tried, and all thoughts are searched out. What judgment shall then be awarded to me, for I am conceived in sin? Who shall quench the flame for me? Who shall enlighten my darkness, if not Thou, O Lord, for Thou showest mercy to me as the Lover of mankind.

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

Grant me tears, O God, as Thou once did to the sinful woman of old, and graciously enable me to wash Thy feet which delivered me from the path of error, that I may offer Thee a pure life as a sweet-smelling incense, fashioned by my repentance. Then I shall hear Thy longed-for voice saying: "your faith has saved you; go in peace."

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!**

You have heard, my soul, of Moses' ark of old, borne on the waters and waves of the river as in a shrine, which escaped the bitter tragedy of Pharaoh's edict. (*Exodus 1:22-2:3*)

If you have heard of the midwives, wretched soul, who of old killed in infancy the manly issue and practice of chastity, then like the great Moses, suck wisdom. (*Exodus 1:16-2:9; Acts 7:22*)

You, wretched soul, have not struck and killed your Egyptian mind, like the great Moses. Say, then, how will you dwell in that desert solitude where the passions desert you through repentance? (*Exodus 2:12*)

Great Moses dwelt in the wilds, my soul. So go and imitate his life, that you too may attain by contemplation to the vision of God in the burning bush. (*Exodus 3:1*)

Imagine Moses' staff striking the sea and fixing the deep as a type of the divine Cross, by which you too, my soul, can accomplish great things. (*Exodus 14:16*)

Aaron offered to God the fire pure and undefiled; but Hophni and Phinehas, like you, my soul, offered to God a foul and rebellious life. *(Lv. 9:21-24; I Kings 2:12-34)*

**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!**

The waves of my sins, O Saviour, as in the Red Sea, recoil and cover me unawares, like the Egyptians of old and their charioteers. *(Exodus 14:7-31)*

Like Israel of old, my soul, you have had a foolish affection. For like a brute you have preferred to divine manna, the pleasure-loving gluttony of the passions. *(Numbers 21; 5: I Corinthians 10:9)*

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!

The wells of Canaanite thoughts, my soul, you have prized above the Rock with the cleft, from which the river of wisdom like a chalice pours forth streams of theology. *(Genesis 21:25; Exodus 17:6)*

Swine's flesh and hotpots and Egyptian food you, my soul, have preferred to heavenly manna, as of old the senseless people in the wilderness. *(Exodus 16:3; Numbers 11:4-7)*

When Thy servant Moses struck the rock with his staff, he mystically typified Thy life-giving side, O Saviour, from which we all draw the water of life. *(Numbers 20:11; II Corinthians 10:4)*

Explore and spy out the Land of Promise like Joshua the Son of Nun, my soul, and see what it is like, and settle in it by observing the laws. *(Joshua 2)*

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!**

When the Ark was being carried on a wagon, and when one of the oxen slipped, Uzzah only touched it and experienced the wrath of God. But avoid, my soul, his presumption and truly reverence divine things. (II Kings 6:6)

You have heard of Absalom, how he rose against nature. You know his accursed deeds and how he insulted the bed of his father David. But you have imitated his passionate and pleasure-loving cravings.

You have enslaved your free dignity to your body, my soul, for you have found in satan another Ahit-ophel and have consented to his counsels. But Christ Himself scattered them, that you may at all events be saved. (II Kings 16:20)

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.

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.

Wonderful Solomon, who was full of the grace of wisdom, at one time did evil in God's sight and fell away from Him. And you, my soul, have resembled him by your accursed life. *(III Kings 11)*

Carried away by the pleasure of his passions, Solomon defiled himself. Alas, the lover of wisdom is a lover of loose women and estranged from God! And you, my soul, have in mind imitated him by your shameful pleasures. *(III Kings 3:12; 11:4-12)*

You, my soul, have rivaled Rehoboam who would not listen to his father's advisors, and that vicious slave Jeroboam the apostate of old. But shun such mimicry and cry to God: I have sinned, have compassion on me. *(III Kings 12:13-20)*

**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!**

Having emulated Uzziah, my soul, you have his leprosy in double. For you think disgusting thoughts and do outrageous things. Let go of what you are holding and run to repentance. *(IV Kings 15:5; II Chronicles 26:19)*

Have you heard, my soul, of the Ninevites, who repented before God in sackcloth and ashes? You have not imitated them, but appear to be more crooked than all who have sinned before and after the law. *(Jonah 3:5)*

You have heard of Jeremiah in the mud pit, my soul, how he cried out with lamentations against the City of Zion, and was seeking tears. Imitate his life of lamentation and you will be saved. *(Jeremiah 38:6)*

Jonah fled to Tarshish, foreseeing the conversion of the Ninevites; for, being a Prophet, he was aware of God's compassion, and was anxious that his prophesy should not prove false. *(Jonah 1:3)*

You have heard, my soul, of Daniel in the lion's den and how he shut the beasts' mouths. You know how the Children who were with Azariah extinguished the flames of the burning furnace by faith. *(Dan. 6:16-22; 3:23)*

- 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!

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.

As the choir repeats the 9th Ode, the Priest returns to the Altar.

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.
- 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.

I have reviewed all the people of the Old Testament as examples for you, my soul. Imitate the God-loving deeds of the righteous and shun the sins of the wicked.

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 Unity, 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!**

Christ was tempted, the devil was tempting Him, showing Him stones to be turned into bread; and he led Him up a mountain to see all the kingdoms of the world in a flash. Dread, my soul, the scene; watch and pray at every hour to God. *(Matthew 4:3-9; 26:41)*

The desert-loving dove, the lamp of Christ, the Voice crying in the wilderness sounded, preaching repentance; while Herod sinned with Herodias. See, my soul, that you are not caught, in the toils of sin, but embrace repentance. *(Mark 1:3; Matthew 14:3)*

The Forerunner of grace dwelt in the desert and all Judea and Samaria ran to hear him; and they confessed their sins, and eagerly received baptism. But you, my soul, have not imitated them. *(Math. 3:5-6)*

Marriage is honorable and the bed undefiled, for Christ earlier blessed both, eating in His flesh at the marriage in Cana and changing water into wine, and showing His first miracle so that you, my soul, might be changed. *(Hebrew 13:4; John 2:1-11)*

Christ braced the paralytic and he carried his bed; He raised up the dead young man, the son of the widow, and the Centurion's servant; and by revealing Himself to the Samaritan woman, He traced in advance for you, my soul, how to worship in spirit. *(Matt. 9:2-7; Luke 7:14; Matt. 8:6-13; Jn. 4:26; Joshua 4:24)*

The Lord healed the woman with the hemorrhage by the touch of His hem, cleansed lepers, gave sight to the blind, and cured cripples; the deaf and the dumb and the woman bent earthward He healed with His word, that you, wretched soul, might be saved. *(Matthew 9:20-22; 10:8; 11:5; Luke 13:11-13)*

**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!

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:

**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.**