

REVISED February 2018

# THE GREAT CANON OF SAINT ANDREW

WEDNESDAY OF THE FIRST WEEK



*Abridged and Adapted for use at  
The Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania*



**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 au-  
thorities and for our armed forces serving every-  
where.

For those who love us and those who hate us.

For those who have asked us to pray for them in our un-  
worthiness.

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.

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

For our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and friends de-  
parted 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 Je-  
sus Christ our God, have mercy on us!

**CHOIR: Amen.**

## 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

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.

**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!**

**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)*

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.

**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*

*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:** 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.

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.

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*

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!

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!

*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

From my youth, O Christ, I have rejected Thy commandments. I have passed my whole life without caring or thinking as a slave of my passions. Therefore, O Saviour, I cry to Thee: At least in the end save me.

In old age even, O Saviour, do not cast me out empty to hell as I lie prostrate before Thy gates. But before my end, in Thy love for men, grant me release from my falls.



I have squandered in extravagance my substance, O Saviour, and I am barren of virtues and piety; but famished I cry: O Father of mercies, forestall and have compassion on me. (Luke 15:13,17)

I am the one by my thoughts who fell among robbers, and now I am all wounded by them, full of sores. But stand by me, O Christ my Saviour, and heal me. *(Luke 10:30)* ✠

The priest saw me first and passed by on the other side. Then the Levite took a look at my sufferings and disdained my nakedness. But stand by me, O Jesus Who didst dawn out of Mary, and have compassion on me. *(Luke 10:31-33)*

**O Venerable Mother Mary, pray unto God for us!**

Grant me that illuminating grace from on high, given thee by Divine Providence, that I may escape the darkening of the passions and fervently sing of the thrilling achievements of thy life, O Mary.

**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.

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!

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

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

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 sitest 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

### 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!**

I have slipped and fallen like David through lack of discipline, and I am covered with filth; but wash me too, O Saviour, with my tears. *(II Kings 11:1-4)*

No tears, no repentance have I, no compunction. But as God, O Saviour, grant me these. 

I have lost my first-created beauty and comeliness; and now I lie naked, and I am ashamed.

Close not Thy door to me then, Lord; but open it to me who repent to Thee. *(Matthew 25:11)* 

Give ear to the sighs and groans of my soul, and accept the drops of my eyes, O Saviour and save me.

O Lover of Men, Who wishes all to be saved, in Thy goodness recall me and receive me who repent. *(1 Tim. 2:4)*

**O Venerable Mother Mary, pray unto God for us!**

With all eagerness and love thou didst run to Christ, abandoning thy former way of sin. And being nourished in the un-trodden wilderness, thou didst chastely fulfill His divine commandments.

**CHOIR: Behold, and see now, see that I am God, Who rained down manna, and make water flow from the rock, in the days of old, for My people in the desert, by My right hand, and by My strength alone.**

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

O come and see that I am God: Listen, my soul, the Lord is calling you, and walk away from your sins and approach your Judge and God with fear.

Whom do you resemble, O most sinful soul? Surely you are like Cain and the wicked Lamech. For you have stoned your body with evil deeds, and you have murdered your mind with irrational desires.

Thinking of all who have lived in the law, I see that my soul has not been like Seth, nor imitated Enos, nor Enoch, nor Noah. My soul is completely bereft of the lives of the righteous.

You alone have opened the gates of the wrath of God, O my soul, and have drowned your flesh through your actions in life. Therefore, you have remained outside the Ark of Salvation.

**O Venerable Mother Mary, pray unto God for us!**

You ran to Christ with eagerness and love and abandoned your former life of sin. By living in the wilderness, you chastely fulfilled His Divine Commandments.

**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 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.

**READER:** 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!

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 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.

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

Unoriginate, uncreated Trinity, indivisible Unity, accept me who repent, save me who have sinned. I am Thy creation, despise me not, but spare me and deliver me from the fire of condemnation.

**Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen**

Spotless Lady, Mother of God, hope of those who run to thee, and haven of those in distress, obtain grace for me from the merciful One, Thy Son and Creator, by thy prayers.

**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!**

You have not inherited Shem's blessing, wretched soul, nor have you received that vast possession like Japheth in the land of forgiveness. (*Genesis 9:26-27*)

Come out, my soul, from sin, from land of Haran! Come into the land of eternal life flowing with incorruption which Abraham inherited. (*Genesis 12:4*) 

You have heard, my soul, how Abraham of old left the land of his fathers and became a nomad. Imitate his resolution. (*Genesis 12:1*)

At the Oak of Mamre the Patriarch entertained angels, and inherited in his old age the spoils of the promise.

*(Genesis 18:1)* ✠

Knowing, my wretched soul, how Isaac was mystically offered to the Lord as a new sacrifice and holocaust, imitate his resolution. *(Genesis 22;2)*

You have heard of Ishmael (be watchful, my soul!) who was driven out as the son of a slave-girl. Beware lest you suffer something similar by your lusting. *(Genesis 21:10)*

**O Venerable Mother Mary, pray unto God for us!**

I am hard pressed by the waves and billows of my sins, mother. But now bring me safely through, and lead me to the haven of divine repentance.

**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, 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

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

**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 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!**

My body is defiled, my spirit is sullied, and I am all covered with sores. But as the Physician, O Christ, heal, wash, and cleanse both body and spirit with repentance, and make me, my Saviour, purer than snow.

Thou didst lay down Thy body and blood for all, O crucified Word: Thy body in order to renew me, Thy blood in order to wash me, and Thou didst surrender Thy spirit, O Christ, in order to bring me to the Father. 

Thou has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth, O merciful Creator, that we may be saved. Thou wast voluntarily crucified on the Tree: Eden that was closed is open; things on high and below, creation and all peoples are saved and worship Thee. *(Psalm 73:12)*

May the blood and water that wells from Thy side be a font for me and a draught of forgiveness, that I may be cleansed, anointed and refreshed by both as with drink and unction by Thy living words, O Word. *(John 19:34; Acts 7:38)* 

The Church has acquired Thy life-giving side as a chalice, from which gushes forth for us a twofold torrent of forgiveness and knowledge as a type of the two covenants, Old and New, O our Saviour.

I am bereft of the bridal hall, I am bereft of the marriage and supper. My lamp has gone out for want of oil, the door has been locked while I was asleep the supper is eaten; and I, bound hand and foot, am cast outside.

*(Matt. 25; Luke 14:7-35; Matthew 22:1-14)*

**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.

**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.**

**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.

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 All-Holy Exclamations

All-holy and Sovereign Lady Theotokos, pray for us sinners. (2 times)

All the heavenly host of angels and archangels, pray for us sinners. (2 times)

Holy John, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist of our Lord Jesus Christ, pray for us sinners. (2 times)

Holy, glorious apostles, prophets and martyrs, and all saints, pray for us sinners. (2 times)

All our reverend and God-fearing fathers, pastors, and teachers of the universal Church, pray for us sinners. (2 times: )

Invincible, ineffable, and divine power of the honorable and life-giving Cross, do not forsake us sinners. (2 times)

O God, cleanse us sinners. (2 times)

O God, cleanse us sinners, and have mercy on us.

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

How heavy in character I have become, in soul and body, like Jannes and Jambres in Pharaoh's bitter service, and my mind has sunk low. But help me, O Lord. *(Exodus 7:11; 2 Tim. 3:8)*

I, wretch that I am, have rolled my mind in mud. But wash me, O Lord, in the bath of my tears, I pray Thee, and make the robe of my flesh as white as snow. 

When I examine my actions, O Saviour, I see that I have gone beyond all men in sins; for I have sinned with knowledge consciously, and not in ignorance.

Spare, spare, O Lord, Thy works. I have sinned; forgive me, for Thou alone art pure by nature, and apart from Thee there is none without defilement. *(1 Peter 3:21)* 

Being God, for my sake Thou didst take my form, and didst work miracles, healing lepers and bracing paralytics; and Thou didst stop the flow of blood of the woman with hemorrhage, O Saviour, through the touch of Thy hem. *(Phil. 2:6; Matthew 4:24; Luke 8:43-48)*

**O Venerable Mother Mary, pray unto God for us!**

Having crossed Jordan's stream, thou didst find rest by giving a wide berth to the deadening pleasure of the flesh, from which deliver us also by thy prayers, O saint.

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

Thee, O Trinity, we glorify, 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!**

Rise and make war against the passions of the flesh, as Joshua did against Amalek, and ever conquer the Gibeonites – illusive thoughts. (*Exodus 17:8; Josh. 8:21*)

Pass through the flowing nature of time, like the Ark of old, and take possession of the Land of Promise, my soul: It is God's command. (*Josh. 3:17; Deuteronomy 1:8*) 

As Thou didst save Peter when he cried, "Save me!", forestall and deliver me from the beast, O Saviour; stretch out Thy hand and raise me from the depths of sin. (*Matthew 14:25-31*)

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.

**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

- 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.

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.

I know Thee as a calm haven, O Lord, Lord Christ; but forestall and deliver me from the innermost depths of sin and despair.

**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!**

You have piled up sins like Manasseh by deliberate choice, my soul, setting up your passions as idols and multiplying abominations. But now fervently emulate his repentance and acquire compunction. *(IV Kings 21; II Chronicles 33)*

You have rivaled Ahab in defilements, my soul. Alas, you have been a lodging-place of fleshly pollutions and a shameful vessel of passions. But groan from your depths and tell God your sins. *(III Kings 16:30)* 

Heaven is closed to you, my soul, and the famine of God has reached you, for you have been disobedient as was Ahab of old to the words of Elijah the Tishbite. But be like the woman of Sarep-ta, and feed the Prophet's soul. *(III Kings 17)*

Elijah once burned a hundred of Jezebel's minions when he had destroyed her shameful prophets as a proof and rebuke for Ahab. But avoid imitating these two, my soul, and master yourself. *(IV Kings 1:10-15; III Kings 18:40)*

**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.

**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.
- 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.

**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.**

*As the choir repeats the 9th Ode, the Priest returns to the  
Altar, closes the Royal Doors and removes the phelon,  
and the reader continues the Great Compline*

**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!**

Just Judge and Saviour, have mercy on me and deliver me from the fire and the threat which I shall justly incur at the Judgement. Forgive me before my end, by virtue and repentance.

Like the robber I cry "Remember me!" Like Peter I weep bitterly, "Release me, O Saviour!" I croak like the publican; I weep like the harlot. Accept my lamentation as once you did the Canaanite woman's. (Lk. 23:42; Matt. 26:75; Lk. 18:13; Lk. 7:37-38; Matt. 15:22-28) 

Heal, O Saviour, the corruption of my debased soul, O only Physician. Apply the compress to me, and the oil and wine - works of repentance, compunction, and tears. (Lk. 10:34)

Imitating the woman of Canaan, I also cry, "Have mercy on me, O Son of David!" I touch Thy hem like the woman with hemorrhage. I weep like Martha and Mary over Lazarus.

**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 the Word healed diseases, preached the Gospel to the poor, cured cripples, ate with publicans, conversed with sinners, and He brought back the departed soul of Jairus' daughter by the touch of His hand. *(Matthew 9:11; Mark 5:41-42)*

The publican was saved, the harlot was made chaste, but the Pharisee through boasting was condemned. For the first said, "Be merciful," the second, "Have mercy on me," but the last boasted and cried, "O God, I thank Thee," and other foolish words. *(Luke 7:36-50; 18:9-14)* 

Zaccheus was a publican, but yet was healed, and Simon the Pharisee was disappointed; but the harlot received the release of full forgiveness from Him Who has power to forgive sins. Obtain His forgiveness yourself, my soul. *(Luke 19:1-10; 7:36-50)*

You, my wretched soul, have not emulated the harlot who took the alabaster jar of perfumed oil and anointed with tears and wiped with her hair the feet of the Saviour, Who tore up for her the handwriting of her old accusation. *(Luke 7:37-38; Colossians 2:14)* 

You know how the towns to which Christ offered the Gospel were cursed. Fear this example, my soul, do not be like them; for the Lord compared them to the Sodomites and condemned them to hell. *(Luke 10:13-15)*

Do not let despair make you worse than the Canaanite woman, my soul, for you have heard of her faith through which her daughter was healed by the Word of God. Call to Christ like her from the depth of your heart, "Son of David, save me." *(Matthew 15:22)*