MATINS OF THE BRIDEGROOM SERVED ON HOLY MONDAY EVENING

After the Dismissal of the Midnight Office the Priest, having made the customary metania to the Superior, or to his stall, enters the sanctuary and makes three bows before the holy Table. He puts on the <u>Epitrachelion</u> and, standing in front of the holy Table, intones:

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Priest: Glory to you....Heavenly King...

The Priest blesses the incense and begins to <u>cense with the katzion</u> the sanctuary and the whole church as usual.

Reader: Holy God. Holy Mighty. Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us. (x3)

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

All-Holy Trinity: Have mercy on us. Lord: Cleanse our sins. Master: Pardon our transgressions. Holy One: watch over and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy (x12). Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Come let us worship, and fall down before the king, our God. Come let us worship, and fall down before Christ the king, our God. Come let us worship, and fall down before Christ himself, the king and our God.

Psalm 19

To completion, a psalm to David.

The Lord hear you in the day of affliction, the name of the God of Jacob shield you. ² May he send you help from the holy place, and from Sion take hold of you.

³May he remember your every sacrifice, and your whole burnt offering let him fatten.

⁴ The Lord give you according to your heart, and fulfill your every counsel.

⁵We will rejoice upon your salvation, and in the name of the Lord our God we will be magnified.

⁶ The Lord fulfill all your requests, now I know that the Lord has saved his christ.

⁷ He will hear him from his holy heaven, in powerful deeds the salvation of his right hand. ⁸ These on chariots, and these on horses, but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God.

⁹They were shackled and fell, but we have risen and have been set upright.

¹⁰ Lord, save the king and hear us, on whichever day we call upon you.

Psalm 20

A psalm to David.

O Lord, in your power the king will be gladdened, and in your salvation will rejoice greatly.

² His heart's desire you gave him, and of the will of his lips you did not deprive him. ³ For you came before him with blessings of kindness, you set upon his head a crown of precious stone.

⁴Life he asked of you, and you gave him length of days to age of age.

⁵Great is his glory in your salvation, glory and majesty you will place upon him.

⁶ For you will give him blessing to age of age, and will gladden him in delight with your Face.

⁷ For the king hopes in the Lord, and in the mercy of the Most High he will not, will not be moved.

⁸ May your hand be found by all your enemies, and may your right hand find all who hate you.

⁹ For you will set them like a fiery kiln, at the time of your Face.

¹⁰ The Lord in his wrath will confound them, and fire will devour them.

¹¹ Their offspring you will destroy from the earth, and their seed from the sons of men.

¹² For they inclined toward you bad things, and plotted counsels by which they are not, are not able to stand.

¹³ For you will put them to turn their back, in your remnants you will prepare their face. ¹⁴ Be lifted up, O Lord, in your power, we will sing and praise your powerful deeds.

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

Holy God. Holy Mighty. Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us. (x3)

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

All-Holy Trinity: Have mercy on us. Lord: Cleanse our sins. Master: Pardon our transgressions. Holy One: watch over and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the 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 Yours 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 to the ages of ages. **Reader:** Amen.

The priest must take care that he is standing beneath the Polyeleos to say this conclusion. He then enters the sanctuary, puts away the censer and takes his stand in front of the Holy Table.

And the following Troparia:

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance, bestowing victories to your people against barbarians and guarding by your cross your citizenry.

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

Lifted up on the Cross willingly, Christ God, give your pities to the new citizenry of your name, gladden our rulers by your power, granting them victories against the adversaries; may they have your alliance, a weapon of peace, an invincible trophy.

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion*.

Champion fearful and unashamed, do not overlook our supplications, O good one, allhymned Birthgiver of God; establish the citizenry of the right-glorifying, save the ones whom you have called to rule, and from heaven grant them the victory, for you gave birth to God, only blessed one. **Deacon/Priest:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord have mercy (x3).

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for the civil authorities of this country and for those serving in its armed forces.

Reader: Lord have mercy (x3).

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. In the Name of the Lord, Father, bless!

Priest (making the sign of the cross over the altar with the censer): Glory to the holy and consubstantial and life-creating and undivided Trinity, always now and ever and to the ages of ages. **Reader:** Amen.

THE SIX PSALMS

During the first three psalms the priest takes the SKOUFIA OFF and reads the first six prayers of the light from before the holy table. And we begin the Six Psalms, listening with complete silence and compunction. The designated reader, with devotion and fear of God says:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, Good Will among men. (3x) Lord, you will open my lips and my mouth will proclaim your praise. (2x)

Psalm 3

A psalm to David, when he escaped from the face of Abesalom his son.

Lord, why did the one who afflict me multiply? Many rise up upon me.

²Many tell my soul, There is not salvation for him in his God.

³ But you, O Lord, are the one who takes hold of me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.

⁴With my voice I cried to the Lord, and he heard me from his holy mountain.

⁵ And I lay down and fell asleep, I was awakened, that the Lord will take hold of me.

⁶I will not be frightened by tens of thousands of people who round about set up together upon me.

⁷Rise, O God, save me, my God, for you struck all those who are at enmity with me for nothing, the teeth of sinners you shattered.

⁸Salvation is the Lord's, and your blessing upon your people.

Psalm 37

A psalm to David, for remembrance concerning the Sabbath.

Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger, nor chastise me in your wrath.

² For your arrows stuck fast in me, and you laid your hand hard upon me.

³ There is not healing in my flesh from the Face of your wrath, there is not peace in my bones from the face of my sins.

⁴ For my iniquities rose over my head, like a heavy burden they weighed upon me.

⁵ My bruises stank and rotted, from the face of my mindlessness.

⁶I was wretched and was bent down utterly, all the day I walked about glooming.

⁷For my loins were filled with mockings, and there is not healing in my flesh.

⁸I was distressed and was humbled greatly, I howled from the groaning of my heart.

⁹Lord, in front of you – all my desire, and my groaning from you was not hidden.

¹⁰ My heart was troubled, my strength forsook me, and the light of my eyes, it too is not with me.

¹¹ My friends and my neighbors drew near in front of me and stood, and those nearest me stood from afar off.

¹² The ones who seek my soul used force, and the ones who seek bad things for me spoke vanities, and were thoughtful of deceits all the day.

¹³ But as for me I, like someone deaf, did not hear, and, like someone mute who does not open his mouth.

¹⁴ And I became like the one who does not hear, and who does not have reproofs in his mouth.

¹⁵ For in you, O Lord, I have hoped; you will hear, O Lord my God.

¹⁶ For I said, Only let not my enemies be joyful over me. And when my feet faltered, they spoke boastfully over me.

¹⁷ For I am prepared for whippings, and my pain is always before me.

¹⁸ For I will proclaim my iniquity, and will worry about my sin.

¹⁹ But my enemies live and prevailed over me, and the ones who hate me unjustly multiplied.

²⁰ The ones who repay me bad things for good accused me, since I closely pursued goodness.

²¹ Do not forsake me, O Lord. My God, do not keep away from me. Attend to my help, Lord of my salvation.

Psalm 62

A psalm to David, when he was in the wilderness of Judea.

O God, my God, at dawn I keep vigil for you. My soul has thirsted for you, how often my flesh – for you in a desert land, untrodden, and waterless.

² Thus I appeared to you in the holy place, to see your Power and your Glory.

³For your mercy – better than lives, my lips will praise you.

⁴Thus I will bless you in my life, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

⁵ That my soul be filled with marrow and fatness, my mouth will praise you with lips of rejoicing.

⁶ If I remembered you upon my bed, at dawn I was thoughtful of you.

⁷ For you became my helper, and in the shelter of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸ My soul cleaved to you, and your right hand took hold of me.

⁹But in vain they sought my soul, they will go into the deepest parts of the earth, will be delivered into the hands of the sword, and will be portions for foxes.

¹⁰ But the king will be gladdened in God, everyone who swears in him will be praised, for the mouth of those who speak unrighteous things has been muzzled.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (x3)

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

When the people finish the third psalm and say "Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. . ." *the priest exits the sanctuary and reads the remaining prayers of the light from before the icon of Christ.*

Psalm 87

An ode of psalm to the sons of Kore, to completion, over Maeleth, that a word be answered. Of understanding to Aitham the Israelite.

Lord God of my salvation, I have cried by day and at night in front of you.

²Let my prayer come in front of you, incline your ear to my supplication.

³For my soul was filled with bad things, and my life drew near to hell.

⁴ I was counted with the ones who go down to the pit, I became like a helpless man, free within the dead.

⁵ Like ones slain who sleep in a tomb, whom you no longer remembered, and they were driven away from your hand.

⁶ They put me in the lowest pit, in dark places and in shadow of death.

⁷Your anger was laid hard upon me, and you brought all your risings upon me.

⁸You took the ones who know me far off from me, and they made me an abomination to themselves.

⁹I was handed over and I did not come out, my eyes weakened from poverty.

¹⁰ I cried to you, O Lord, all the day, I stretched out my hands toward you.

¹¹Surely you will not work wonders for the dead? Or will physicians raise up again, and will confess to you?

¹²Surely someone will not describe your mercy in the tomb, and your truth in destruction?

¹³ Surely your wonders will not be known in the dark, or your righteousness in a forgotten land?

¹⁴ But I, O Lord, I cried to you, and in the morning my prayer will be before you.

¹⁵ What for, O Lord, did you drive away my soul, what for do you turn your Face from me?

¹⁶ Poor am I and in toils from my youth; and lifted up, I was humbled and brought to despair.

¹⁷ Over me your wraths spread out, and your terrors troubled me.

¹⁸ They encircled me like water, all the day they surrounded me altogether.

¹⁹ You took far off from me friend and neighbor, and the ones who know me because of my misery.

Psalm 102

To David.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all which are within me – his holy name.

² Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his repayments.

³Who is much-forgiving to all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.

⁴Who redeems your life from rotting, who crowns you with mercy and pities.

⁵Who fills your desire with good things, your youth will be renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ The Lord who makes mercies, and judgment to all who are wronged.

⁷He made known his ways to Moses, to the sons of Israel his wills.

⁸ The Lord – pitying and merciful, long-suffering and full of mercy. He will not be wrathful utterly, nor will he be enraged to the age.

⁹Not according to our iniquities has he done to us, nor according to our sins has he repaid us.

¹⁰ For according to the height of heaven from the earth, has the Lord strengthened his mercy over the ones who fear him.

¹¹ As far as the east is from the west, so far off has he taken our iniquities from us.

¹² As a father pities his sons, has the Lord pitied the ones who fear him; for he knew our fashioning, has remembered that we are dust.

¹³ The human – his days like grass; like a flower of the field, so he will blossom.

¹⁴ For a wind has passed through it and it will not be, and it will no longer know its place.
¹⁵ But the mercy of the Lord – from the age, and until the age over the ones who fear him.
¹⁶ And his righteousness over sons of sons, over the ones who keep his testament, and remember his commandments to do them.

¹⁷ The Lord in heaven has prepared his throne and his kingdom has dominion over all.
¹⁸ Bless the Lord, all his angels, powerful in strength, who do his word, in order to hear the voice of his words.

¹⁹ Bless the Lord, all his powers, his liturgizers who do his will.

²⁰ Bless the Lord, all his works, in every place of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 142

A psalm to David, when Abesalom, his son, was pursuing him.

Lord, hear my prayer, give ear to my supplication in your truth, hear me in your righteousness.

² And do not enter into judgment with your servant, for everyone living will not be righteous before you.

³For the enemy closely pursued my soul, to the ground he humbled my life.

⁴He made me sit in dark places like the dead of the age, and my spirit became despondent in me, and my heart was troubled within me.

⁵ I have remembered days of old, I have been thoughtful of all your works, I was thoughtful of the makings of your hands.

⁶I stretched out my hands toward you, my soul–like waterless land, to you.

⁷Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit has vanished.

⁸ Do not turn your Face from me, and I will be like the ones who go down into the pit. ⁹ Make your mercy heard to me in the morning, for I have hoped in you.

¹⁰ Lord, make known to me the way in which I will walk, for I have lifted up my soul toward you.

¹¹ Take me away from my enemies, O Lord, for I have run to you for refuge. Teach me to do your will, for you, you are my God.

¹² Your good Spirit will guide me in a straight land; for your name's sake, O Lord, you will make me live.

¹³ In your righteousness you will lead my soul out of affliction, and in your mercy you will destroy my enemies.

¹⁴ And you will lay waste to all who afflict my soul, for I, I am your servant.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (3x).

When the psalms are finished, the priest puts the SKOUFIA ON and, if there is a deacon, enters the sanctuary while the deacon says the litany from before the holy doors. If there is no deacon, the priest himself says the great litany from before the holy doors.

LITANY OF PEACE

Deacon/Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (and after each petition)

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

For our archbishop and father _____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the civil authorities of this country and for those serving in its armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, for every monastery, city, and countryside, and for those who in faith dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For good temperance of the air, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful seasons, let us pray to the Lord.

For travelers by land, sea, and air, the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Reader: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Alleluia. Verses from Isaias 26.

Deacon/Priest: Alleluia! Alleluia! Out of night my spirit keeps vigil for you at dawn, O God, for your commands are light upon the earth.

Reader: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Deacon/Priest: Learn righteousness, you who dwell upon the earth.

Reader: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Deacon/Priest: Zeal will seize an unchastised people, and now fire will consume the adversaries.

Reader: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Deacon/Priest: Set bad things before them, O Lord, set bad things before them, the glorious ones of the earth.

Reader: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Then the following Troparion is sung solemnly 3 times as the priest stands at the icon of the Bridegroom censing it.

Tone 8 Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom he finds watching; but unworthy is the one whom he finds slothful. Take care then, my soul, not to be overcome with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out of the kingdom; but rouse yourself and cry: Holy, holy, holy are you, O God; through the prayers of the Forerunner, have mercy on us.

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

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom he finds watching; but unworthy is the one whom he finds slothful. Take care then, my soul, not to be overcome with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out of the kingdom; but rouse yourself and cry: Holy, holy, holy are you, O God; through the prayers of the Archbishop Nicholas, have mercy on us.

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom he finds watching; but unworthy is the one whom he finds slothful. Take care then, my soul, not to be overcome with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out of the kingdom; but rouse yourself and cry: Holy, holy, holy are you, O God; through the Mother of God, have mercy on us.

The priest enters the altar.

[According to the Russian Typikon the ending is the same each time: through the Mother of God have mercy on us. The modern Greek books place a small Litany here, with the ekphonesis, For yours is the might...]

[Then we recite Kathisma 9 [Psalms 64-69] of the Psalter. After the Psalter the following Kathisma:]

READ. Tone 4. Lifted up on the Cross.

Let us love the Bridegroom, brethren, let us, radiant with virtues and right faith, trim our lamps, that ready, like the Lord's prudent virgins, we may enter the marriage feast with him; for the Bridegroom, as God, grants a gift to all: the incorruptible crown.

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

Let us love the Bridegroom, brethren, let us, radiant with virtues and right faith, trim our lamps, that ready, like the Lord's prudent virgins, we may enter the marriage feast with him; for the Bridegroom, as God, grants a gift to all: the incorruptible crown.

[Then Kathisma 10 [Psalms 70-76] of the Psalter is read, and after it the following Kathisma to the same melody.]

READ. Tone 4. Joseph was amazed.

Priests and scribes with envy wickedly assembled a lawless council against you, O Saviour, and moved Judas to betrayal; therefore he went out shamelessly; spoke against you to the lawless peoples, 'What will you give me, he says, and I will betray him into your hands?' From his condemnation, Lord, deliver our souls.

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

Priests and scribes with envy wickedly assembled a lawless council against you, O Saviour, and moved Judas to betrayal; therefore he went out shamelessly; spoke against you to the lawless peoples, 'What will you give me, he says, and I will betray him into your hands?' From his condemnation, Lord, deliver our souls.

[Then Kathisma 11 [Psalms 77-84] of the Psalter is read, and after it the following Kathisma:] <u>The priest puts on the phelonion.</u>

READ. Tone 8. The Wisdom and Word.

Impious Judas with avaricious intent is moved against the Teacher, he plots, he meditates betrayal. He falls from light, receiving darkness; he agrees the sale; he sells the One beyond price. And so the wretch finds a noose as the reward for what he did and an agonising death. Rescue us from his fate, Christ our God, granting forgiveness of offences to us who celebrate with love your spotless passion.

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

Impious Judas with avaricious intent is moved against the Teacher, he plots, he meditates betrayal. He falls from light, receiving darkness; he agrees the sale; he sells the One beyond price. And so the wretch finds a noose as the reward for what he did and an agonising death. Rescue us from his fate, Christ our God, granting forgiveness of offences to us who celebrate with love your spotless passion.

The priest opens the holy doors.

[The Russian Typikon prescribes three readings, one after each Kathisma, from St John Chrysostom's commentary on St Matthew's Gospel, without specifying the references precisely. We give a hyperlink to the homilies on the Gospel which follows, Homilies <u>70</u>, <u>71</u>, <u>72</u>, <u>73</u>, and <u>74</u>]

Deacon/Priest: And that we be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us implore the Lord our God.

Reader: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your Spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. [22:15-23:39]

Reader: Glory to you, Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend.

Priest: At that time, the Pharisees took counsel against Jesus and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God in truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, 'Whose image is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'Caesar's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.' When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away. The same day some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him; and they asked him a question, saying, 'Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies childless, his brother shall marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.' Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died childless, leaving the widow to his brother. The second did the same, so also the

third, down to the seventh. Last of all, the woman herself died. In the resurrection, then, whose wife of the seven will she be? For all of them had married her.' Jesus answered them, 'You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not God of the dead, but of the living.' And when the crowd heard it, they were astounded at his teaching. When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question, 'What do you think of Christ? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'David's.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies as a footstool under your feet' '? If David then calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions. Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, whatever they teach you to observe, observe and do it; but do not do as they do, for they speak and do not do it. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their works to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, Christ, and you are all brothers. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father — the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, Christ. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour the houses of widows and, as a pretext, recite long prayers. Because of this you will receive a more severe condemnation. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you lock people out of the kingdom of heaven. For you do not go in yourselves, and when others are going in, you stop them. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cross sea and land to make a single convert, and you make the new convert twice as much a child of hell as yourselves. Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary is bound by the oath.' Blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold? 'Whoever swears by the altar is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is on the altar is bound by the oath.' Blind fools! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? So whoever swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it;

and whoever swears by the temple, swears by it and by the one who dwells in it; and whoever swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by the one who is seated upon it. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practised without neglecting the others. Blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel! Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and injustice. You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside appear righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the graves of the righteous, and you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors. You snakes, you brood of vipers! How can you escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zachary son of Barachias, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. Amen, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you, desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' '

Reader: Glory to you, Lord, glory to you!

And at once: **Psalm 50**

To completion, a psalm to David when Nathan the prophet came to him, at the time when he went in to Virsavee, the woman of Ourias.

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your great mercy, and according to the fullness of your compassions blot out my transgression.

²More thoroughly wash me from my lawlessness, and cleanse me from my sin. ³For I do know my lawlessness, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ Against you only I have sinned and have done the evil before you, so that you are righteous in your words and conquer in your judging.

⁵ For, behold, in iniquities I was conceived, and in sins my mother bore me.

⁶For, behold, you have loved truth, the unseen and hidden things of your wisdom you have shown me.

⁷You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be cleansed; you will wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow.

⁸You will make me hear joy and gladness; the humbled bones will rejoice.

⁹Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right Spirit in my inward parts.

¹¹ Do not cast me away from your Face, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Give me back the joy of your salvation, and make me steadfast with a governing Spirit. ¹³ I will teach the lawless your ways, and the impious will turn around to you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue will rejoice in your righteousness.

¹⁵Lord, you will open my lips, and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

¹⁶ For if you had willed a sacrifice, I would have given it; you will not well-will whole burnt offerings.

¹⁷ A sacrifice to God is a shattered spirit; a shattered and humbled heart God will not despise.

¹⁸ Do good, Lord, to Sion in your good pleasure and the walls of Jerusalem be rebuilt.
¹⁹ Then you will well-will sacrifice of righteousness, offering and whole burnt offerings.
²⁰ Then they will offer calves upon your altar.

The priest closes the holy doors.

LITTLE LITANY

Deacon/Priest: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Reader: To you, O Lord.

Priest: for you are the king of peace and the savior of our souls, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

After the small litany the Kontakion

Tone 2 Think, miserable soul, on the hour of the end, and made fearful by the cutting down of the fig tree, work with love of toil at the talent given you, as you watch and cry: May we not be left outside Christ's bridal chamber!

READ. The Ikos

Why are you slothful, my wretched soul? Why dwell unseasonably on senseless cares? Why busy yourself with what is passing? The last hour is at hand, and we shall soon be parted from what is here. While you still have time, come to your senses and cry out, 'I have sinned against you, my Saviour; do not cut me off like the unfruitful fig tree, but as you are compassionate, O Christ, take pity on a soul that cries out in fear: May we not be left outside Christ's bridal chamber!'

READ:

On holy and great Tuesday we commemorate the parable of the ten virgins from the sacred Gospel.

Verses Great Tuesday now bears with it virgins ten, Who bear the triumph of the Master just.

On Holy and Great Tuesday, we commemorate the parable of the ten virgins, because the Lord related this parable to His disciples as He was going toward Jerusalem to His Holy Passion.

He told the parable of the ten virgins to call attention to almsgiving, at the same time teaching that every man must be ready before the end comes. He had spoken many times to them about chastity. Virginity is held in great honor, because it is indeed a great thing. Yet, lest anyone, while practicing this one virtue, neglect the others, and particularly love, by which the lamp of virginity is given light, he will be put to shame by the Lord. The Holy Gospel introduces this parable, calling five of the virgins wise, because they represent readiness to practice both love and virginity, and five of them foolish because, though they had virginity, they did not have love commensurate with it. They are foolish, therefore, because they practiced a great virtue yet neglected one that is easier and were reckoned as being no better than harlots; the latter were defeated by bodily pleasures, whereas the former, by possessions.

As the night of the present life was going by, all the virgins fell asleep, that is, they died, for death is called a sleep. While they were sleeping, a cry rang out in the middle of the night, "Behold, the Bridegroom is coming; go out to meet Him!" (Matt. 25:6). Those who had their oil ready and lamps trimmed went inside to the Bridegroom when the doors were opened. Earlier, the others, who had insufficient oil after their sleep, had asked the first for oil. The wise virgins wished to give them some, but could not. Before

they went inside, they replied, "No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves" (Matt. 25:9). While they went to buy, the Bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with Him to the wedding, and the door was shut (See Matt. 25:10). The foolish virgins knocked on the doors and called out, "Lord, Lord, open to us" (Matt. 25:11). But the Lord Himself uttered the terrible reply: "Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you" (Matt. 25:12). For how can you see the Bridegroom if you lack the dowry of mercy? On account of this depiction, the parable of the ten virgins was given its place here by our God-bearing Fathers to teach us always to be watchful and ready to meet the true Bridegroom with good works, especially almsgiving, because the day and hour of the end are unknown to us. Therefore, it is made quite clear that after death, correction of mistakes and wicked acts shall be impossible, a teaching which is also found in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus the beggar. (See Luke 16:19-31)

In the same way, we are taught by the All-comely Joseph to practice chastity and by the fig tree to produce spiritual fruit at all times. He who practices one virtue - and a great one indeed - but neglects the others, especially love, does not enter into eternal life with Christ but is turned back and is put to shame. There is nothing sadder and more shameful than to see virginity set at naught by possessions.

But, O Bridegroom Christ, number us with the prudent virgins, range us with the chosen flock and have mercy on us. Amin

We begin the Canon by St Kosmas, of which the Acrostic is:

And On Tuesday

In each Ode the Irmos is sung twice and the troparia repeated to make 12. The Irmos is repeated as Katavasia.

READ. Ode 8. Tone 2. Irmos.

'The three holy Youths, did not obey the tyrant's decree and cast into the furnace confessed God, as they sang: You works of the Lord, bless the Lord!'

Glory to you, O God, glory to you.

Let us cast sloth far from us, and with shining lamps let us meet Christ the immortal Bridegroom with hymns, as we cry: Bless the Lord his works.

We praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: the Lord.

May the oil of fellowship in the vessels of our soul be sufficient, that not having spent the moment of the prize in commerce we may sing: You works of the Lord, bless the Lord!

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

You that have all received the talent, grace of equal power from God, increase it with the help of Christ who gave it, as you sing: You works of the Lord, bless the Lord!

Let us praise, bless, and worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him to all ages.

Katavasia The three holy Youths, did not obey the tyrant's decree and, cast into the furnace, they confessed God as they sang: You works of the Lord, bless the Lord!

The Magnificat is not sung, but instead the 9th Ode. The priest censes the icon of the Mother of God ninefold, and then the whole church.

Priest: The Birthgiver of God and the Mother of Light, let us magnify in song.

READ. Ode 9. The Irmos.

'All-holy Virgin, who contained in your womb the uncontainable God and bore joy for the world, we sing your praise.'

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

O Good One, you said to your disciples, 'Watch! For at the hour you do not know, the Lord will come to reward each one'.

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

At your fearful second coming, Master, range me with the sheep on your right hand, overlooking the multitude of my offences.

Katavasia

All-holy Virgin, who contained in your womb the uncontainable God and bore joy for the world, we sing your praise.

LITTLE LITANY

Deacon/Priest: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Reader: To you, O Lord.

Priest: for all the powers of heaven praise you and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

After the small litany, the Exapostilarion sung slowly and solemnly: Tone 3. Model Melody.

Your bridal chamber, O my Saviour, I see all adorned, but I have no garment so that I may enter it. Make bright the mantle of my soul, O Giver of light, and save me! (x3)

At Lauds we insert 4 Idiomel Stichera READ, doubling them. Tone 1

READ. Psalm 148 Reader 1 takes odd numbered verses, Reader 2 takes even.

Alliluia. Of Aggaios and Zacharias.

¹Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the highest.

² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his powers.

³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all the stars and the light.

⁴ Praise him, heavens of the heavens, and water above the heavens.

⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord, for himself spoke and they were made, he commanded and they were created.

⁶He made them stand to the age, and to the age of age; he set a precept, and it will not pass away.

⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth, dragons and all deeps.

⁸ Fire, hail, snow, ice, and wind of tempest, which do his word.

⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit-bearing trees and all cedars.

¹⁰ Beasts and all herds, creeping things and winged birds.

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, rulers and all judges of the earth.

¹² Young men and maidens, old with the young, let them praise the name of the Lord, for the name of him alone has been lifted up.

¹³ The confession of him is upon earth and heaven, and he will lift up the horn of his people.

¹⁴ A hymn to all his venerable ones, to the sons of Israel, to a people which draws near him.

Psalm 149

Alliluia.

¹Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in a church of the venerable ones.

²Let Israel be gladdened in him who made him, and the sons of Sion rejoice in their king.

³Let them praise his name in dance, let them chant his praise with timbrel and harp.

⁴ For the Lord is well-pleased in his people, he will lift up the meek in salvation.

⁵ Venerable ones will boast in glory, and will rejoice in their beds.

⁶ The liftings-up of God in their throat, and two-edged swords in their hands.

⁷To make vengeance within the nations, punishments within the peoples.

⁸ To bind their kings in shackles, and their nobles in wrist-chains of iron.

⁹To make in them a written judgment, this glory will be to all his venerable ones.

Psalm 150

Alliluia.

¹Praise God in his holies, praise him in the firmness of his power.

²Praise him for his powerful acts, praise him according to the magnitude of his majesty.

Tone 1

How shall I, the unworthy, enter among the splendours of your saints? For if with them I dare to enter the bridal chamber, my tunic accuses me, because it is not a wedding garment, and I shall be cast out bound by the angels. Lord, cleanse the filth of my soul, and save me as you love humankind.

³ Praise him in sound of trumpet, praise him with harp and lute.

How shall I, the unworthy, enter among the splendours of your saints? For if with them I dare to enter the bridal chamber, my tunic accuses me, because it is not a wedding garment, and I shall be cast out bound by the angels. Lord, cleanse the filth of my soul, and save me as you love humankind.

⁴ Praise him in timbrel and dance, praise him with strings and pipe. By the same. Tone 5

Tone 2.

Slumbering in sloth of soul, O Bridegroom Christ, I have not obtained a lamp burning with virtues, and I have become like the foolish maidens, wandering about at the moment for action. Do not shut your compassionate heart against me, Master, but shake off my dark sleep, rouse me, and bring me with the prudent virgins into your bridal chamber, where there is the sound of those who feast and who cry unceasingly, 'Lord, glory to you!'

⁵ Praise him with tuneful cymbals, praise him with cymbals of great shout. Let every breath praise the Lord.

Slumbering in sloth of soul, O Bridegroom Christ, I have not obtained a lamp burning with virtues, and I have become like the foolish maidens, wandering about at the moment for action. Do not shut your compassionate heart against me, Master, but shake off my dark sleep, rouse me, and bring me with the prudent virgins into your bridal chamber, where there is the sound of those who feast and who cry unceasingly, 'Lord, glory to you!'

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. *By the same. Tone* 4

Soul, having heard the condemnation of the one who hid his talent, do not hide God's word. Proclaim his wonders, that multiplying the gift of grace you may enter the joy of your Lord.

Then the Reader says:

To you is due glory, Lord our God, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, Good Will among men.

We hymn you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great Glory.

Lord King, heavenly God, Father all-ruling; Lord Son only-begotten, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

Lord God, the lamb of God, the Son of the Father, who take up the sin of the world, have mercy on us, you who take up the sins of the world.

Receive our supplication, you who sit at the right of the Father, and have mercy on us.

For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amin.

Every day I will bless you, and I will praise your name to the age, and to the age of age.

Count us worthy, Lord, to be kept in this day without sin.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified your name to the ages. Amin.

Lord, your mercy be upon us, as we have hoped in you.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your precepts.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your precepts.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your precepts.

Lord, you have become a refuge to us in generation and generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned to you.

Lord, I fled to you, teach me that I do your will, for you are my God.

For from you is the spring of life, in your Light we will see light.

Stretch out your mercy to the ones who know you.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon/Priest: Let us complete our morning supplication to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon/Priest: The whole day perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Reader: Grant it, O Lord. (and after the next petitions)

An angel of peace, faithful guide, guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

The things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

To complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

The completions of our life to be Christian, painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Reader: To you, O Lord

Priest: For you are a God of mercy, compassions, and love for mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

BOWING OF HEADS

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon/Priest: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

Reader: To You, O Lord.

Priest: Holy Lord, who dwell on high and regard the lowly and with your all-seeing eye watch over all creation, to you we have bent the neck of our soul and body, and we implore you, Holy of holies: stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling place and bless us all, and, whether we have sinned voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive as a good God who loves mankind, granting us your earthly and heavenly good things, for yours it is to have mercy and to save us, our God, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

After the Litany and the Prayer at the Bowing down of heads, the priest enters the altar and the reader reads the Aposticha:

Tone 6 READ.

Come, believers, let us work eagerly for the Master; for he gives his servants wealth. Let each of us, according to their measure, multiply the talent of grace; let one bring wisdom through good deeds; another perform the ministry of splendour; let a believer share the word with the uninitiated; and another distribute his wealth to the poor. So let us make the loan increase, and, as faithful stewards of grace, become worthy of the Master's joy. Make us worthy of this joy, Christ our God, as you love humankind.

Verse 1. In the morning we have been filled with your mercy, O Lord, and we have rejoiced, and have been gladdened in all our days. Let us be gladdened for the days when you humbled us, for the years in which we saw bad things. And look upon your servants and upon your works, and guide your sons. (*Psalm 89:16-18*)

When you come in glory with the angelic Powers and take your seat, O Jesu, on the throne of judgement, do not separate me from you, good Shepherd; for you know the right hand ways, while those on the left are twisted. So do not destroy me, hardened in sin, with the goats, but, numbering me with the sheep on the right, save me, as you love humankind.

Verse 2. And be the brightness of the Lord our God upon us, and make straight the works of our hands upon us, and make straight the work of our hands. (*Psalm* 89:19)

Bridegroom, lovelier in beauty beyond all humankind, who have invited us to the spiritual banquet of your bridal chamber, by participation in your sufferings strip my illclad form of faults, and adorning me with the robe of glory of your beauty, show me to be a radiant guest of your kingdom, as you are compassionate.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Tone 7.*

See, my soul, the Master entrusts you with a talent. Accept it with fear, gain interest for the giver by distributing it to beggars, and gain the Lord as friend, so that you may stand on his right hand when he comes in glory, and hear his blessed voice, 'Enter, my servant, into the joy of your Lord'. Make me, who have gone astray, worthy of this, O Saviour, because of your great mercy.

Then the Superior says:

It is good to confess to the Lord, and to chant to your name, O Most High. So that to proclaim your mercy in the morning and your truth through the night. (*Psalm 91:2*)

Reader: Holy God. Holy Mighty. Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us. (x3)

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

All-Holy Trinity: Have mercy on us. Lord: Cleanse our sins. Master: Pardon our transgressions. Holy One: watch over and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

Reader: Amen.

After the Our Father, we say the following Apolytikion:

Standing in the temple of your glory, we think we stand in heaven, O Mother of God. O gate of heaven, open to us the door of your mercy.

[The modern Greek books replace this with the Kontakion of the day: Think, miserable soul, on the hour of the end, and made fearful by the cutting down of the fig tree, work with love of toil at the talent given you, as you watch and cry: May we not be left outside Christ's bridal chamber!]

Then, the priest stands before the holy doors.

Lord have mercy (x40).

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word: true Birthgiver of God, we magnify you! In the name of the Lord, Father, bless.

Priest: Blessed is He-who-is, Christ our God, always, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

The Superior: Heavenly King, make firm our rulers, establish the faith, calm the nations, make the universe peaceful, keep well this holy church, assign our fathers and brothers who have gone before us to the tents of the righteous, and accept us in repentance and confession, as one who is good and loves mankind.

Then the prayer of St Ephrem with 4 full and 12 small metanias

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 the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to your servant. (Prostration)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed are you, to the ages of ages. **(Prostration)**

We then make 12 small metanias saying

God, cleanse me, the sinner.

then one further great metania as we repeat the prayer entirely.

The Apolysis

Priest: Glory to you, Christ God, our hope, glory to you!

Reader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. (x3) Father, bless!

Priest: He who is coming to his voluntary passion for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-pure and all-blameless holy mother; of the holy and all-laudable apostles; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Ioakeim and Anna; and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, as one who is good and loves mankind.

Reader: Amen.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ God, have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

Translation taken from Archimandrite Ephrem Lash and Ieratikon: Volume I (Cherubim Press).