

Saint Mary Protectress Center

Reader Service

(service without a priest)

18th Sunday After Pentecost, Leave-taking (Apodosia) of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Tone I

Reader: + Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

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

Lord have mercy. (3x)

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

+ Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Lord have mercy. (12x)

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

+ O come, let us worship God our King.

+ O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

+ O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

Antiphon 1
(from Psalm 102)

Choir: (Tone 1)

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Blessed art Thou, O Lord!

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And all that is within me,

Bless His holy Name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And forget not all His benefits!

Who forgives all your iniquities,

Who heals all your diseases!

The Lord is compassionate and merciful,

Long-suffering and of great goodness.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Blessed art Thou, O Lord!

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Antiphon 2
(From Psalm 145)

Choir: (Tone 1)

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

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have being.

Put not your trust in princes, in sons of men
In whom there is no salvation.

When his breath departs
He returns to his earth:
On that very day his plans perish.

The Lord will reign forever;
Thy God, O Zion, to all generations.

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

Only-Begotten Son and Immortal Word of God.
Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate
Of the holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary;
Who without change didst become man and was crucified.
O Christ our God, trampling down death by death;
who art one of the Holy Trinity,
Glorified with the + Father and the Holy Spirit:
Save us!

Lord have mercy. (3x)

Antiphon 3 **The Beatitudes**

Choir: (Tone 1)

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord,
When Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: (12)

Choir: Blessed are they that mourn,
For they shall be comforted.

Reader: (11)

Choir: Blessed are the meek,
For they shall inherit the earth.

Reader: (10) Through food did the enemy lead Adam forth from paradise; but by the Cross hath Christ led back to it the thief who cried: Remember me when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

Choir: Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness,
For they shall be filled.

Reader: (9) With Adam and the thief I worship Thy sufferings and glorify Thy resurrection; and I cry out with a splendid voice: Remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

Choir: Blessed are the merciful,
For they shall obtain mercy.

Reader: (8) O Sinless One, of Thine own will Thou wast crucified and placed in the Tomb, yet Thou didst arise as God, raising up with Thyself Adam who crieth out: Remember me when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

Choir: Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see God.

Reader: (7) Raising up the temple of Thy body by Thy resurrection on the third day, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Adam and his descendants who cry: Remember me when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

Choir: Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they shall be called the sons of God.

Reader: (6) Very early, the myrrh-bearing women arrived, weeping, at Thy tomb, O Christ God; and they found an angel sitting there, clad in white garments, who said: What seek ye? Christ is risen! Lament no longer!

Choir: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: (5) When Thine apostles went to the mountain whither Thou hadst commanded them to go, and saw Thee, O Saviour, they worshipped Thee; and Thou didst send them unto the nations, to teach and baptise them.

Choir: Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you,
And shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake.

Reader: (4) O Theotokos, thou art a mystical Paradise, who untill'd hast brought forth Christ. He hath planted upon the earth the life-giving Tree of the Cross: therefore at its exaltation on this day, we worship Him and thee do we magnify.

Choir: Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad,
For great is your reward in the heavens.

Reader: (3) O Theotokos, thou art a mystical Paradise, who untill'd hast brought forth Christ. He hath planted upon the earth the life-giving Tree of the Cross: therefore at its exaltation on this day, we worship Him and thee do we magnify.

Choir: + Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Reader: (2) Let all the trees of the forests rejoice, for their nature hath been sanctified by Him who planted them in the beginning—Christ Who was stretched out upon the Tree. Wherefore, worshipping it as it is now raised aloft, we magnify thee, O Theotokos.

Choir: Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: (1) A sacred horn hath been lifted up, the chief horn for all the divinely wise: the Cross, whereby all the horns of the sinful are noetically broken asunder. Wherefore, worshipping it as it is now raised aloft, we magnify thee, O Theotokos.

Introit
(Entry Hymn)

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ,
Who didst rise from the dead, O Son of God,
Save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Troparia
(Thematic Hymns)

Choir: (Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / And the soldiers were guarding
Thine immaculate Body, / Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, / granting
life unto the world. / Wherefore, the Hosts of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O
Life-giver: / Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. / Glory to Thy kingdom. // Glory
to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of mankind.

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

(Festal Troparion, Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant Thou victory unto
Orthodox Christians / over their enemies, / and by the power of Thy Cross // do
Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Trisagion
(Thrice-Holy Hymn)

Choir: + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

+ Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Prokeimenon
(that which precedes)

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 1st Tone: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us,
according as we have hoped in Thee.

Choir: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.

Reader: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.

Choir: Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God.

Reader: In the 7th Tone: Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

Choir: Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

Epistle Reading
(Galatians 2:16-20; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11)

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

Brethren: Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. * But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. * For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. * For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. * I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Brethren: This I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. * Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. * And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: * (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. * Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) * Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

Alleliua
(Praise ye the Lord)

Reader: Alleluia in the 1st Tone: Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased from the beginning.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: God is our king before the ages, He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: O God who givest avengement unto me and hast subdued people under me.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Holy Gospel Reading
(Mark 8:34-9:1; Matthew 18:23-35)

Reader: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Reader: At that time, when Jesus had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. * For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. * For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? * Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? * Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels. * And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.

The Lord said to His disciples: The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. * And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. * But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. * The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. * Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. ** But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him,

and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. * And his fellow servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. * And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. * So when his fellow servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. * Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: * Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee? * And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. * So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Choir: (Tone 6, Vespéral Sticheron)

Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith:

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Lord of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Reader: Come unto Him, and be enlightened & your faces shall not be ashamed.

Choir: The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith:

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Lord of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Reader: + Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir: The choir of Holy angels and archangels,

With all the heavenly hosts praiseth Thee and saith:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Reader: Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

The Nicene Creed

Choir: + 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 the heavens, / and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; / And was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, / and suffered and was buried; and arose again on the third day according to the Scriptures; / And ascended into the heavens, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father; / And shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. / And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; Who proceedeth from the Father; / Who with the + Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the prophets. / In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. / I confess one baptism for the remission of sins. / I look for the resurrection of the dead, // And the life of the age to come. Amen.

Reader: Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offenses, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and thought; forgive us all things, for Thou art good & the Lover of mankind.

The Lord's Prayer

Choir: (Tone 4)

+ Our Father, Who art in the heavens,
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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

Reader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Kontakia (Thematic Hymns)

Choir: (Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 1)

As God, Thou didst arise from the tomb in glory, / and Thou didst raise the world together with Thyself. / And mortal nature praiseth Thee as God, / and death hath vanished. / And Adam danceth, O Master, / and Eve, now freed from fetters, rejoiceth as she crieth out: / Thou art He, O Christ, // that grantest unto all resurrection.

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

(Festal Kontakion, Tone 2)

O Thou Who wast lifted up willingly on the Cross, / bestow Thy mercies upon the new community named after Thee, O Christ God; / gladden with Thy power the Orthodox Christians, / granting them victory over enemies; // may they have as Thy help the weapon of peace, the invincible trophy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (12x)

O All-Holy Trinity, the consubstantial dominion, the indivisible Kingdom, and cause of every Good: Show Thy good will even unto me a sinner; make steadfast my heart and grant it understanding, and take away mine every defilement; enlighten my mind that I may glorify, hymn, worship, and say:

Choir: One is Holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ,
to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Blessed by the name of the Lord, henceforth and forever more. (3x)

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

Psalm 33

Choir: I will bless the Lord at all times,
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
In the Lord shall my soul be praised;
let the meek hear and be glad.
O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt His name together.
I sought the Lord, and He heard me,

and delivered me from all my tribulations.
Come unto Him, and be enlightened,
and your faces shall not be ashamed.
This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him,
and saved him out of all his tribulations.
The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him,
and will deliver them.
O taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the man that hopeth in Him.
O fear the Lord, all ye His saints;
for there is no want to them that fear Him.
Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry;
but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing.

**Instead of “It is truly meet...” we chant the
Irmos of the 9th Ode of the 1st Canon of the feast, Tone 8:**

Choir: (Tone 4)

Refrain: Magnify, O my soul, / the most precious Cross of the Lord.

Irmos: O Theotokos, thou art a mystical Paradise, / who, untilled, hast brought forth Christ. / He hath planted upon the earth the life-giving Tree of the Cross: / therefore at its exaltation on this day, // we worship Him and thee do we magnify.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

O Lord, Bless.

Reader: Thou that didst rise from the dead, O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother our Protectress, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

Choir: Amen

Memory Eternal

(For those who have fallen asleep in the Lord)

Choir:

Memory eternal!

Memory eternal!

Memory eternal!

His/Her/Their soul(s) shall dwell with the blessed!

Many Years

(For those with birthdays and namedays)

Choir:

God grant you many years!

God grant you many years!

God grant you many, many years!

Save them O Christ God!

Save them O Christ God!

Save them O Christ God!

God grant you many years!

God grant you many years!

God grant you many, many years!

Patronal Hymns

(St Mary Protectress Troparion, Tone 4)

Today we Orthodox people joyfully celebrate
thy glorious coming among us, O Mother of God,
and gazing upon thy most pure image, we say with compunction:
Shelter us with thy most precious protection,
and deliver us from all evil,
and pray to thy Son, Christ our God, //
that He save our souls.

(St Mary Protectress Kontakion, Tone 3)

Today the Virgin doth stand before us in church,
and with the choirs of saints invisibly prayeth for us to God.
Angels worship with hierarchs,
apostles rejoice with prophets, //
for the Theotokos prayeth for us to the Eternal God.