

**March 25/ April 7: Annunciation of
Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary**

Great Compline

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King... Holy God... O Most-Holy Trinity... Our Father...

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 the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Lord have mercy. (12 times)

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.

Psalms 4

When I called upon Thee, O God of my righteousness, Thou didst hearken unto me; in mine affliction Thou hast enlarged me. Have compassion on me and hear my prayer. O ye sons of men, how long will ye be slow of heart? Why do ye love vanity, and seek after falsehood? Know also that the Lord hath made wondrous His holy one; the Lord will hearken unto me when I cry unto Him. Be angry, and sin not; feel compunction upon your beds for what ye say in your hearts. Sacrifice a sacrifice of righteousness, and hope in the Lord. Many say: Who will show unto us good things? The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, hath been signed upon us; Thou hast given gladness to my heart. From the fruit of their wheat, wine, and oil are they multiplied. In peace in the same place I shall lay me down and sleep. For Thou, O Lord, alone hast made me to dwell in hope.

Psalms 6

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled, and my soul is troubled greatly; but Thou, O Lord, how long? Turn to me again, O Lord, deliver my soul; save me for Thy mercy's sake. For in death there is none that is mindful of Thee, and in hades who will confess Thee? I toiled in my groaning; every night I will wash my bed, with tears will I water my couch. Through wrath is mine eye become troubled, I have grown old among all mine enemies. Depart from me all ye that work vanity, for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping. The Lord hath heard my supplication, the Lord hath received my prayer. Let all mine enemies be greatly put to shame and be troubled, let them be turned back, and speedily be greatly put to shame.

Psalms 12

How long, O Lord, wilt Thou utterly forget me? How long wilt Thou turn Thy face away from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul with grievings in my heart by

day and by night? How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me? Look upon me, hear me, O Lord my God; enlighten mine eyes, lest at any time I sleep unto death. Lest at any time mine enemy say: I have prevailed against him. They that afflict me will rejoice if I am shaken; but as for me, I have hoped in Thy mercy. My heart will rejoice in Thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, Who is my benefactor, and I will chant unto the name of the Lord Most High. Look upon me, hear me, O Lord my God; enlighten mine eyes, lest at any time I sleep unto death. Lest at any time mine enemy say: I have prevailed against him.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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 24

Unto Thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul. O my God, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be put to shame, nor let mine enemies laugh me to scorn. Yea, let none that wait on Thee be put to shame; let them be ashamed which are lawless without a cause. Make Thy ways, O Lord, known unto me and teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth and teach me, for Thou art God my Savior; for on Thee have I waited all the day long. Remember Thy compassions; O Lord, and Thy mercies, for they are from everlasting. The sins of my youth and mine ignorances remember not; according to Thy mercy remember Thou me, for the sake of Thy goodness, O Lord. Good and upright is the Lord; therefore will He set a law for them that sin in the way. He will guide the meek in judgment, He will teach the meek His ways. All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth, unto them that seek after His covenant and His testimonies. For the sake of Thy name, O Lord, be gracious unto my sin; for it is great. Who is the man that feareth the Lord? He will set him a law in the way which He hath chosen. His soul shall dwell among good things, and his seed shall inherit the earth. The Lord is the strength of them that fear Him, and His covenant shall be manifested unto them. Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He it is that will draw my feet out of the snare. Look upon me, and have mercy on me; for I am one only-begotten and poor. The afflictions of my heart are multiplied; bring me out from my necessities. Behold my lowliness and my toil, and forgive all my sins. Look upon my enemies, for they are multiplied, and with an unjust hatred they have hated me. Keep my soul and rescue me; let me not be put to shame, for I have hoped in Thee. The innocent and the upright have cleaved unto me, for I waited on Thee, O Lord. Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his afflictions.

Psalm 30

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped, let me not be put to shame in the age to come; in Thy righteousness deliver me, and rescue me. Bow down Thine ear unto me, make haste to rescue me, be Thou unto me a God to defend me and a house of refuge to save me. For

my strength and my refuge art Thou, and for Thy name's sake wilt Thou guide me and nourish me. Thou wilt bring me out of this snare which they have hid for me, for Thou art my defender, O Lord. Into Thy hands I will commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. Thou hast hated them that cling to empty vanities; but I have hoped in the Lord. I will rejoice and be glad in Thy mercy, for Thou hast regarded my lowliness; Thou hast saved my soul out of necessities, And hast not shut me up in the hands of enemies; Thou hast set my feet in a spacious place. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am afflicted; mine eye is troubled with anger, as also my soul and my belly. For my life is spent with grief, and my years with groanings; my strength hath grown weak in poverty, and my bones are troubled. I am become a reproach among all mine enemies, and greatly for my neighbors also, and a fear to mine acquaintances. They that saw me without fled from me. I am forgotten by the heart like a dead man. I am become like a broken vessel. For I have heard the reproach of many that dwell round about; when they assembled together against me, they devised to take away my life. But as for me, I have hoped in Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my God; in Thy hands are my lots. Deliver me from the hands of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant, save me in Thy mercy. O Lord, let me not be put to shame, for I have called upon Thee; let the ungodly be put to shame and let them be brought down into hades. Speechless be the deceitful lips which speak iniquity against the righteous man with arrogance and contempt. How great is the multitude of Thy goodness, O Lord, which Thou hast hid for them that fear Thee, which Thou hast wrought for them that hope in Thee before the sons of men. Thou shalt hide them in the secrecy of Thy presence from the disturbance of men; Thou shalt shelter them in the tabernacle from contradiction of tongues. Blessed is the Lord, for He hath made His mercy wondrous in a fortified city. But as for me, I said in mine ecstasy: I am cast away from the presence of Thine eyes. Therefore hast Thou heard the voice of my supplication when I cried unto Thee. O love ye the Lord, all ye His saints, for the Lord requireth truth; and unto them that act with exceeding pride, He rendereth them their due. Be ye manful, and let your heart be strengthened, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Psalms 90

He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven. He shall say unto the Lord: Thou art my helper and my refuge. He is my God, and I will hope in Him. For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters and from every troubling word. With His shoulders will He overshadow thee, and under His wings shalt thou have hope. With a shield will His truth encompass thee; thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the thing that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and demon of noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but unto thee shall it not come nigh. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and thou shalt see the reward of sinners. For Thou, O Lord, art my hope. Thou madest the Most High thy refuge; No evils shall come nigh thee, and no scourge shall draw nigh unto thy dwelling. For He shall give His

angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. On their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Upon the asp and basilisk shalt thou tread, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon. For he hath set his hope on Me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him because he hath known My name. He shall cry unto Me, and I will hearken unto him. I am with him in affliction, and I will rescue him and glorify him. With length of days will I satisfy him, and I will show him My salvation.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

The holy doors are opened, the temple illuminated, and the choir sings:

Choir: God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us.

Reader: Hearken ye unto the ends of the earth.

Choir: For God is with us.

For if ye again strengthen yourselves, ye shall again be vanquished.

For God is with us.

And whatsoever counsel ye shall take, the Lord shall bring it to nought.

For God is with us.

And the word, whatsoever ye speak, shall not remain with you.

For God is with us.

And of your fear we shall be neither afraid nor in dread.

For God is with us.

But the Lord our God, Him will we hallow, and he shall be fear unto us.

For God is with us.

And if I be trusting in Him, He shall be unto me sanctification.

For God is with us.

And I will be hoping in Him, and shall be saved by Him.

For God is with us.

Behold I and the children which God hath given me.

For God is with us.

The people that walk in darkness have seen a great light.

For God is with us.

Ye that dwell in the region and shadow of death, a light shall shine upon you.

For God is with us.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given.

For God is with us.

Whose government is upon His shoulder.

For God is with us.
And of His peace there is no end.
For God is with us.
And His name shall be called Angel of Great Counsel.
For God is with us.
Wonderful Counselor.
For God is with us.
Mighty God, Ruler, Prince of Peace.
For God is with us.
Father of the age to come.
For God is with us.

Choir: God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit yourselves: for God is with us.

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

Choir: God is with us.

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

Choir: God is with us. For God is with us!

Reader: The day being past, I give Thee thanks, O Lord; the evening, I pray, together with the night without sin grant me, O Savior, and save me.

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

The day being past, I glorify Thee, O Master; the evening, I pray, together with the night without temptation grant me, O Savior, and save me.

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

The day being past, I hymn Thee, O Holy One; the evening, I pray, together with the night without peril grant me, O Savior, and save me.

The bodiless nature of the Cherubim with unceasing hymns glorify Thee. The six-winged beings, the Seraphim, with never-ceasing voices supremely exalt Thee. And all the ranks of the Angels praise Thee with thrice-holy hymns. For before all art Thou the existing Father, and Thou hast Thy co-unoriginate Son; and bearing the co-honorable Spirit of life, Thou dost manifest the Indivisible Trinity. O Most holy Virgin Mother of God, and ye eyewitnesses of the Word and servants, all the choirs both of Prophets and Martyrs, as those that have attained unto life immortal, supplicate earnestly for us all, for we all are in distress; that, being delivered from the delusion of the evil one, we may cry out the angelic hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, Thrice-holy Lord, have mercy and save us. Amen.

Symbol of the Faith

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.

And straightway he reads these verses, each one once:

O most holy Lady Theotokos, intercede for us sinners.

O all ye Heavenly Host of the holy Angels and Archangels, intercede for us sinners.

O holy John, Prophet and Forerunner and Baptist of our Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for us sinners.

O holy glorious Apostles, Prophets, and Martyrs, and all the Saints, intercede for us sinners.

O our holy and God-bearing fathers, pastors, and ecumenical teachers, intercede for us sinners.

O (*patron saint of the temple*), intercede for us sinners.

O Invincible and incomprehensible and divine power of the precious and life-giving Cross, forsake not us sinners.

O God, cleanse us sinners.

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

Trisagion

Reader: Holy God... O Most-Holy Trinity... Our Father...

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 the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Troparion of the Feast, Tone 4

Today is the fountainhead of our salvation/ and the manifestation of the mystery/ which was from eternity./ The Son of God becometh the Virgin's Son,/ and Gabriel announceth the good tidings of grace;/ for this cause, let us cry to the Mother of God with him:/ Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Lord have mercy. (*Forty times*)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father bless.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have

mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

And this prayer of Basil the Great:

O Lord, O Lord, Who hast delivered us from every arrow that flieth by day, deliver us from everything that walketh in darkness. Receive as an evening sacrifice the lifting up of our hands. Vouchsafe us also to pass through the course of the night without blemish, untempted by evil. And deliver us from every anxiety and fear that come to us from the devil. Grant unto our souls compunction, and unto our thoughts solicitude concerning the trial at Thy dread and righteous judgment. Nail down our flesh with the fear of Thee, and mortify our earthly members, that in quietness of sleep we may be enlightened by the vision of Thy judgments. Take from us every unseemly dream and pernicious carnal desire. Raise us up at the hour of prayer, fortified in faith and advancing in Thy commandments; through the benevolence and goodness of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thy most-holy and good and life creating Spirit, 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.

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

Psalm 101

O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come unto Thee. Turn not Thy face away from me; in the day when I am afflicted, incline Thine ear unto me. In the day when I call upon Thee, quickly hearken unto me. For my days are vanished like smoke, and my bones consumed like wood for the burning. I am smitten like grass, and withered is my heart, for I forgot to eat my bread. By reason of the voice of my groaning, my bone hath cleaved unto my flesh. I am become like a pelican of the wilderness, I am like an owl in a ruined house. I have watched, and am like a sparrow that sitteth alone upon the house-top. The whole day long mine enemies reproached me, and they that praised me made an oath against me. For before the face of Thy wrath and Thine anger I ate ashes like bread, and my drink I mingled with weeping; for after uplifting me, Thou hast dashed me down. My days like a shadow have declined, and I like grass am withered. But Thou, O Lord, for ever abidest, and Thy remembrance is unto generation and generation. Thou shalt rise up and have pity upon Sion, for it is time to have compassion on her, yea, the time is come. For Thy servants have taken pleasure in her stones, and they shall feel pity for her dust. And the nations shall fear Thy name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Thy glory. For the Lord shall build up Sion, and He shall be seen in His glory. He hath regarded the prayer of the humble, and hath not despised their supplication. Let this be written for another generation, and the people that is being created shall praise the Lord. For He hath looked out from His holy height, the Lord from heaven hath looked upon the earth, To hear the groaning of them that be in fetters, to loose the sons of the slain, To declare in Sion the name of the Lord, and His praise in Jerusalem, When the peoples are gathered together, and the kings to serve the Lord. He answered Him in the way of his strength: The fewness of my days declare unto me. Take me not away at the half of my days; in generations and generations are Thy years. In the beginning, O Lord, Thou didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou abidest; and all like a garment shall grow old, And as a vesture shalt Thou fold them, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall not fail. The sons of Thy servants shall have their dwelling, and their seed for ever shall be guided aright.

The Prayer of Manasses, King of Judea

O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and of their righteous seed; Who hast made heaven and the earth with all their majesty; Who hast bound the sea by the word of Thy commandment; Who hast closed the abyss, and sealed it by Thy terrible and glorious name; of Whom all things are afraid, and tremble from the presence of Thy might; for no one can endure the majesty of Thy glory, and unbearable is the wrath of Thy threatening toward sinners, but immeasurable and unsearchable is the mercifulness of Thy promise; for Thou art the Lord most High, compassionate, long-suffering, and plenteous in mercy, and repentest of the evils of men: Thou, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy goodness, hast promised penitence and forgiveness to them that have sinned against Thee, and in the multitude

of Thy compassions hast decreed repentance for the salvation of sinners. Thou, therefore, O Lord God of hosts, hast not appointed repentance for the righteous, for Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, who have not sinned against Thee, but hast laid repentance upon me a sinner, for I have sinned more than the number of the sands of the sea. Mine iniquities are multiplied, and I am not worthy to look upon and to see the height of heaven for the multitude of mine iniquities. For I am bowed down with many iron bands so that I cannot lift up my head, and there is no release for me, because I have provoked Thine anger, and done evil before Thee, neither having done Thy will, nor having kept Thy commandments; and now I bow the knees of my heart, beseeching of Thee clemency. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know mine iniquities; but imploring I pray Thee: Loose me, O Lord, loose me, and destroy me not with mine iniquities. Neither in enmity forever keep mine evils, neither condemn me to the nethermost parts of the earth. For Thou, O God, art the God of them that repent, and upon me Thou wilt show all Thy goodness; for Thou shalt save me who am unworthy, according to the plenitude of Thy mercy, and I will praise Thee continually throughout the days of my life: for all the heavenly hosts hymn Thee, and Thine is the glory unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Trisagion

Reader: Holy God... O Most-Holy Trinity... Our Father...

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 the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8

To thee, the Champion Leader, we thy flock dedicate/ a feast of victory and of thanksgiving/ as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos;/ but as thou art one with might which is invincible,/ from all dangers that can be do thou deliver us,/ that we may cry to thee:/ Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded.

Lord have mercy. (*Forty times*)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father bless.

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

Reader: Amen.

O Master God, the Father Almighty, O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and O Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power: Have mercy on me a sinner, and by the judgments which Thou knowest, save me, Thine unworthy servant; for blessed art Thou 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.

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.

Psalm 142

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

The Doxology

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and good will among men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify

Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every night will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever, yea, forever and ever.

Lord, thou hast been our refuge in generation and generation. I said: O Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. O Lord, unto Thee have I

fled for refuge, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For in Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light. O continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages. Amen.

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

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the works of Thy hands. To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Litia Stichera of the Feast, Tone 1

In the sixth month the supreme commander/ was sent to thee, the pure Virgin,/ to announce to thee the word of salvation,/ and to cry out to thee:/ "Rejoice, O joyous one!/ The Lord is with thee!/ Thou shalt give birth to the preeternal Son of the Father,// and He shall save His people from their sins!"

During the sixth month the Archangel Gabriel was sent from heaven/ to the city of Nazareth of Galilee,/ to convey to the Maiden the joy of the annunciation./ And, approaching her, he cried aloud, saying:/ "Rejoice, O joyous one!/ The Lord is with thee!/ Rejoice, O receptacle of the uncontainable Essence!/ For Him Whom the heavens cannot contain/ hath thy womb held, O blessed one!/ Rejoice, O honored restoration of Adam and deliverance of Eve,// thou joy of the world and gladness of our race!"

The Archangel Gabriel was sent by God from heaven/ to the undefiled Virgin,/ to the city of Nazareth of Galilee,/ to announce to her a conception strange in manner./ The incorporeal servant was sent to the animate city and noetic gate,/ to declare the descent and arrival of the Master./ The heavenly warrior was sent to the all-holy palace of glory,/ to prepare for the Creator a dwelling-place which cannot be taken away./ And, approaching her, he cried:/ "Rejoice, O fiery throne,/ far more glorious than the creatures with four faces!/ Rejoice, O throne of the King of heaven!/ Rejoice, O unquarried mountain,/ all-precious receptacle,/ for in thee hath all the fullness of the Godhead dwelt bodily,/ at the good pleasure of the everlasting Father/ and through the cooperation of the most Holy Spirit!/ Rejoice, O joyous one!// The Lord is with thee!"

Glory..., Both now... Tone 2

Today Gabriel announceth the glad tidings to her who is full of grace,/ saying: "Rejoice, O Mother unwedded,/ who knoweth not wedlock!/ Marvel not at my strange appearance,/ neither be thou afraid, for I am an archangel./ The serpent once deceived Eve, but now I announce joy to thee:/ thou shalt remain incorrupt and shalt give birth to the Lord,// O all-pure one!"

Deacon: Save, O God, Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance...

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*Forty times*)

Deacon: Again we pray for our Archbishop Demetrius, and for all our brotherhood in Christ, and for every Christian soul that is oppressed and tormented, in need of the mercy and help of God; for the protection of this city and them that dwell therein; for the good estate of the holy churches of God; for the salvation and help of our fathers and brethren that labor with zeal and the fear of God; for them; for the repose, refreshment, blessed memory, and remission of sins of all our fathers and brethren that have departed before us, and the Orthodox here and everywhere laid to rest; for the deliverance of the imprisoned; and for our brethren that are serving, and for all that serve and have served in this holy temple, let us say:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*Thirty times*)

Deacon: Again we pray for the United States of America its authorities and armed forces, and the suffering Russian land and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and in the diaspora, and for their salvation; and every Christian land, let us say:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*Fifty times*)

Deacon: Again we pray that this city, and this holy temple, and every city and country may be preserved from famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, the invasion of aliens, and civil war; that our good and man-loving God may be gracious and favorable, that He may turn away all the wrath stirred up against us, and deliver us from His righteous threatening which hangeth over us, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Again we pray also that the Lord God may hearken unto the voice of the supplication of us sinners and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Priest: Hearken unto us, O God our Savior, Thou hope of all the ends of the earth and of them that be far off at sea; and be merciful, be merciful, O Master, regarding our sins, and have mercy on us; for a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

And as all bow their heads the priest prayeth in a loud voice:

Priest: O Master plenteous in mercy, O Lord Jesus Christ our God...

Choir: Amen.

Aposticha of the Feast, Tone 4

During the sixth month/ the archangel was sent to the pure Virgin,/ and having pronounced a salutation to her,/ he announced that the Deliverer would come forth from her./ Wherefore, having accepted the salutation,/ she conceived Thee, the

preeternal God,/ Who wast well pleased to become ineffably incarnate// for the salvation of our souls.

Stichos: Proclaim from day to day/ the good tidings of the salvation of our God.

The Theotokos heard a tongue which she knew not,/ for the archangel spake to her words of annunciation./ And accepting his salutation with faith,/ she conceived Thee, the preeternal God./ Wherefore, rejoicing, we cry out to Thee:/ O God Who wast immutably incarnate of her,// grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls!

Stichos: O sing unto the Lord a new song,/ sing unto the Lord all the earth.

Behold, our restoration hath now been revealed to us!/ God uniteth Himself to men in manner past recounting!/ Falsehood is dispelled by the voice of the archangel!/ For the Virgin receiveth joy,/ an earthly woman hath become heaven!/ The world is released from the primal curse!/ Let creation rejoice and chant aloud:// O Lord, our Creator and Deliverer, glory be to Thee!

Glory...Both now..., in the same tone

Today is the joy of the Annunciation,/ the triumph of virginity!/ Those below are united to those above!/ Adam is restored, and Eve is freed from her primal grief!/ The tabernacle of our nature, mingled with divinity,/ hath become the temple of God!/ O the mystery!/ Incomprehensible is the image of His abasement,/ and ineffable the richness of His goodness!/ An angel serveth the miracle,/ and the Virgin's womb receiveth the Son./ The Holy Spirit is sent down from on high,/ and the Father is well pleased./ The covenant is enacted by common consent./ Saved thereby, let us cry out together with Gabriel to the Virgin:/ Rejoice, O joyous one,/ from whom Christ God, our salvation, is come,/ assuming our nature and elevating it in Himself!// Him do thou entreat, that our souls be saved.

Priest: Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples; a light of revelation for the nations, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Trisagion

Reader: Holy God... O Most-Holy Trinity... Our Father...

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 the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Troparion of the Feast, Tone 4

Today is the fountainhead of our salvation/ and the manifestation of the mystery/ which was from eternity./ The Son of God becometh the Virgin's Son,/ and Gabriel announceth the good tidings of grace;/ for this cause, let us cry to the Mother of God with him:/ Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee. (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who didst bless the five loaves and didst satisfy the five thousand: Do Thou Thyself bless also these loaves, wheat, wine, and oil, and

multiply them in this city and in all Thy world, and sanctify the faithful that partake of them. For it is Thou that dost bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory together with Thine unoriginate Father, and Thine All-holy and good and life creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord from henceforth and for evermore. (*Thrice*)

Psalm 33

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.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord be upon you, through His grace and love for mankind, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.