

# DIVINE ORTHROS

*Sunday, May 24, 2020*

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

VENERABLE STYLITES SIMEON THE YOUNGER OF THE MOUNTAIN OF WONDERS  
AND NIKITAS OF PEREYASLAVL-ZALESSKI • MARTYR MELETIOS THE GENERAL OF  
GALATIA • VENERABLE VINCENT OF LERINS

*Priest:*

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

**Amen.**

*Priest:*

**O** Christ is risen from the dead, O Christ is risen from the dead,  
trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tombs  
be-stowing life!

*~ The troparion is now repeated twice by the faithful ~*

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

**A**ll-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins.  
Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our  
infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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

**O**ur 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 evil.

*Priest:*

For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory:  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

**O** Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to  
Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of  
Thy Cross preserving Thine estate.

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

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross,  
O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which  
is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully  
govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries,  
having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

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

O Champion dread, who cannot be put to confusion, despise not our  
petitions, O Good and All-praised Theotokos; establish the way of the  
Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading  
us to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest  
birth to God, and alone art blessed.

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## THE LITANY

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**H**ave mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we  
pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

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

Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

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

Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan JOSEPH, for our  
Bishop NICHOLAS, and for all our Brotherhood in Christ.

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

For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

**G**lory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

**G**lory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men. (*thrice*)

**O** Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. (*twice*)

### PSALM 3

**O** Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

*I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.*

### PSALM 37

**O** Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine in-iquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome

and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mocking, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftiness all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

*Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me.*

*Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.*

## PSALM 62

**O** God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless

Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

*At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper;  
in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee;  
Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
both now and ever, and unto 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.*

## PSALM 87

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

**O** Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against

me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

*O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee.  
Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.*

#### PSALM 102

**B**less 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 that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto

the end will He be angered; neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

*In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.*

#### 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.

*O Lord, give ear unto my supplication  
and enter not into judgment with Thy servant.*

*Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.*

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

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (thrice)  
O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!*

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## THE GREAT LITANY

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## GOD IS THE LORD & THE APOLYTIKIA

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### *Plagal of the First Tone*

**G**od is the Lord and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

*✠. O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good;  
for His mercy endureth forever.*



*✠. All nations compassed me about:  
but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them.*

*✠. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.*

*✠. The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.  
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.*

## APOLYTIKIA

*Apolytikion of the Resurrection, from the Octoëchos • Plagal of First Tone*

**L**et us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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

**L**et us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

*Theotokion of the Resurrection, from the Octoëchos • Plagal of the First Tone*

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

**R**ejoice, O uncrossed gate; rejoice, O wall and protection of those who hasten unto thee; rejoice, O quiet haven, who hast not known wedlock, O thou who hast given birth in the flesh to thy Creator and God. Thou shalt continue to intercede for the sake of those who praise and worship thy birth-giving.

*~ and then the Small Litany ~*



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## KATHISMATA

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### *First Kathisma*

**L**et us laud the honoured Cross of the Lord; let us honour with song His holy Burial; let us glorify His divine Resurrection; for He hath raised the dead from the graves, since He is God, and hath led captive the might of death and the power of Diabolus, and hath shed light on those who are in Hades.

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

Thou hast been called dead, O Lord, Who hast caused Death to die. And Thou wast placed in a grave, O Thou Who hast emptied the grave. Above, the soldiers guarded the tomb, but below, Thou didst raise the dead who were from eternity. Wherefore, O Lord Almighty, the Incomprehensible, glory to Thee.

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

Rejoice, O holy mountain whom the Lord crossed in passing. Rejoice, O respiring bush, unconsumed. Rejoice, O thou who alone art a bridge for the world towards God, transferring the dead to eternal life. Rejoice, O pure one, free of corruption, who didst give birth without wedlock to the Savior of the world.

### *Second Kathisma*

**T**he transgressors of the law, O merciful Lord, nailed Thee between two thieves and stabbed Thy side with a spear. And Thou didst submit to burial, O Thou Who didst invade the gates of Hades, and didst rise in three days. Wherefore, the women hastened to behold Thee, and told the good tidings of Thy Resurrection to the Apostles, O Saviour transcendent in height, and praised of Angels. Wherefore, O blessed Lord, glory to Thee.

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

Thy strange mystery, O my Saviour, is become salvation for the world; for in a God-befitting manner Thou didst rise from the grave, and as God didst raise up with Thyself them that had become subject to corruption. O Thou Life of all, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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

O Theotokos, transcendent in praise, O bride who hast not tried marriage, O thou who hast changed Eve's sorrow to joy, we worshipping believers give praise; for that thou didst lift us up from the first curse. And now intercede ceaselessly, O all-holy one, for our salvation.

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## THE EVLOGETARIA

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### *Plagal of the First Tone*

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.*

**T**he company of the Angels was amazed, when they beheld Thee numbered among the dead, yet Thyself, O Saviour, destroying the power of Death, and with Thee raising up Adam and releasing all men from Hell.

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.*

Wherefore, O Women Disciples, do ye mingle sweet-smelling spices with your tears of pity? The radiant Angel within the sepulchre cried unto the Myrrh-bearing Women: Behold the grave, and understand; for the Saviour is risen from the tomb.

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.*

Very early in the morning did the Myrrh-bearing Women run lamenting unto Thy tomb; but an Angel came toward them saying: The time for lamentation is passed; weep not; but announce unto the Apostles the Resurrection.

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.*

The Myrrh-bearing Women mourned as bearing spices they drew near Thy tomb, O Saviour. But the Angel spake unto them saying: Why

number ye the Living among the dead? In that He is God, He is risen from the grave.

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

We adore the Father, as also His Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity in One Essence; crying with the Seraphim: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord.

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

In that thou didst bear the Giver of Life, O Virgin, thou didst redeem Adam from sin, and didst give to Eve joy in place of sadness; and He Who was incarnate of thee, both God and man, hath restored to life those who had fallen therefrom.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)  
O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!

*~ and then the Small Litany ~*

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## THE HYPAKOE, ANABATHMOI & PROKEIMENON

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**T**he minds of the ointment-bearing women were dazzled by the angelic scene, and their souls with the divine Resurrection. Wherefore, they spoke to the Apostles, saying, Declare in the nations the Resurrection of the Lord, Who worketh wonders with ye, who bestoweth on us the Great Mercy.

*First Antiphon*

**O** my Lord, I sing to Thee like David in my sorrow. Save my soul from the deceitful tongues.

Verily, the life of the dwellers in the wilderness is a very happy one; for by divine passion are they ever carried up.

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

By the Holy Spirit are all creations seen and unseen preserved, the control thereof being in Himself Who is without doubt one of the Trinity.

*Second Antiphon*

**C**ome, my soul, let us ascend the mountain yonder, whence cometh thy help.

O Christ, let Thy raised right hand encompass me, preserving me from all evil deceits.

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

By the Holy Spirit do we speak divinely, saying, Verily, Thou art God, Life, Love, Light and Mind. Thou art goodness; Thou dost reign for ages.

*Third Antiphon*

**I** have been filled with great joy by those who say to me, Let us go into the courts of the Lord. Verily, I have offered a constant prayer. In the house of David dread wonders take place; for there is a burning fire consuming every evil mind.

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

Verily, the Holy Spirit is the Element of life and its beginning; for through Him doth every living thing breathe; as is the Father and the Word.

**Arise, O my Lord and my God, •  
for Thou dost reign to the end of time.**

*✠ To Thee do I confess, O Lord, from my whole heart.*



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## LET EVERYTHING THAT HATH BREATH

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*Deacon:*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest:*

For Holy art Thou, O our God, Who restest in the Holy Place, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

**L**et everything that hath breath praise the Lord. *(twice)*  
Praise ye God in His Saints; praise Him in the firm foundation of His power.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

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## THE ORTHROS GOSPEL

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*Eothinon 8 • John 20:11-18*

**A**T THAT TIME, Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; and she saw two Angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?” Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, “Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to Him, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them,

I am ascending to My Father and your Father, to My God, and your God.” Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord.” And she told them that He had said these things to her.

*Reader:*

**I**n that we have beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us bow down before the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. Thy Cross do we adore, O Christ, and Thy Holy Resurrection we praise and glorify: for Thou art our God, and we know none other beside Thee; we call upon Thy Name. O come, all ye faithful, let us adore Christ’s Holy Resurrection. For lo, through the Cross is joy come into all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, let us sing His Resurrection: for in that He endured the Cross for us, He hath destroyed Death by death.

#### PSALM 50

**H**ave 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 built up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

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## TROPARIA AFTER PSALM FIFTY

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### *Second Tone*

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

**T**hrough the intercessions of the Apostles, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out all the multitudes of our transgressions.

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

**T**hrough the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out all the multitudes of our transgressions.

*Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.*

**J**esus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, hath given unto us life eternal and Great Mercy.

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## THE INTERCESSION

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**O** God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Visit Thy world with mercy and compassions. Exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians, and send down upon us Thy rich mercies. Through the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honourable bodiless Powers of heaven; at the suppli-



cation of the honourable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, all-laudable apostles Peter and Paul, and of all the holy apostles; of our fathers among the Saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Athanasius, Cyril and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon of Trimythous and Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworkers; of our fathers among the Saints Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Raphael, bishop of Brooklyn; of the holy, glorious, great-martyrs, George the Trophy-bearer, Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Soldier, Theodore the General, and Menas the Wonderworker; of the hieromartyrs Charalampos and Eleutherios; of the holy, glorious great women martyrs, Thekla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriaki, Photini, Marina, Paraskeva and Irene; of the holy, glorious, right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers who shone in the ascetic life; of Saint Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch, the patron and protector of this holy community; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the Venerable Stylites Simeon the Younger of the Mountain of Wonders and Nikitas of Pereyaslavl-Zaleski; Martyr Meletios the General of Galatia; and Venerable Vincent of Lerins, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: we beseech Thee, O most merciful Lord, hearken unto the petitions of us sinners who make our supplications unto Thee, and have mercy upon us.

**Lord, have mercy.** *(twelve times)*

*Priest:*

Through the mercies and compassions and love for mankind of  
Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed,  
together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit:  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**



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## KONTAKION & OIKOS

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### *of the Sunday of the Blind Man*

**S**ince my soul's noetic eyes are blind and sightless, I come unto Thee, O Christ, as did the man who was born blind. And in repentance I cry to Thee: of those in darkness Thou art the most radiant Light.

**G**rant me a stream of ineffable wisdom and knowledge from on high, O Christ, Thou Light of them that are in darkness and Guide of all them that are gone astray, that I may tell of those things that the divine book of the Gospel of peace hath taught, to wit, the miracle that was wrought upon the blind man; for though blind from birth, he receiveth the physical eyes as well as the eyes of the soul, as he crieth out in faith: of those in darkness Thou art the most radiant Light.

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## THE SYNAXARION

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**O**n May 24<sup>th</sup> in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable Stylites Simeon the Younger of the Mountain of Wonders and Nikitas of Pereyaslavl-Zaleski; Martyr Meletios the General of Galatia; and Venerable Vincent of Lerins.

On this day, the sixth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the miracle wrought by our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ upon the man who was blind from his birth.

### *Verses*

O Light of Light most perfect, and Light-provider,  
On the blind from birth, O Word, eyes Thou bestowest.

**T**HE SAVIOUR met this man, born blind and incurable after every human effort, while leaving the Temple on the Sabbath. Saints John Chrysostom, Basil the Great and Irenaeus teach that the man was born without eyes. Jesus spat into the dirt, made clay, rubbed it in his

eye sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam, a famous water spring in Jerusalem. The Savior did not send him there because his eye sockets were covered in clay, nor did the pool have healing power, but instead to test his faith and obedience. The blind man proclaimed that Jesus healed him, but this confession caused him to be cast out by the enemies of the truth. Even his own parents would not defend him. However, the blind man followed Jesus from that moment forward.

*By Thine infinite mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.*

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## KATAVASIAE OF THE SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

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### *Plagal of the First Tone*

**T**o our Saviour and God, Who led His people dry-shod, while drowning Pharaoh with his whole array, amidst the parted floods of the Red Sea in ancient times: to Him only let us sing, for He is glorified.

O Saviour Christ, establish my mind by the dread power of Thy holy Cross, that I may hymn and may glorify Thy saving Ascension.

I have heard the report of the mighty deeds of Thy Cross, O Lord, how Paradise was opened thereby, and I cried: Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Waking at dawn, we cry unto Thee, O Lord: Save us, for Thou art our God; besides Thee we know none other.

The abyss hath encompassed me, the sea monster is become my grave; but I cried unto Thee, the Friend of man, and Thy right hand saved me, O Lord.

Thou Who didst save the Children who praised Thee in the furnace of fire, blessed art Thou, O God of our Fathers.

*We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.*

Unto God the Son, Who was begotten of the Father before the ages, and was incarnate of a Virgin Mother in these last times give praise, O ye priests, and supremely exalt Him, O ye people, unto all the ages.

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## KATAVASIAE OF THE NINTH ODE OF THE PASCHAL CANON

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### *First Tone*

*Magnify, O my soul, Him Who suffered willingly, and wast buried,  
and arose from the grave on the third day.*

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord hath risen upon thee! Dance now and be glad, Sion, and dost thou exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear.

*Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life,  
Who arose from the grave on the third day.*

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord hath risen upon thee! Dance now and be glad, O Sion, and dost thou exult, O pure Theo-tokos, in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear.

*Christ is the new Pascha, the living sacrificial Victim,  
the Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world.*

Thy divine and beloved and most sweet voice! Thou hast truly promised that Thou wouldst be with us until the end of the world, O Christ. And we faithful rejoice, having this as an anchor of hope.

*Today doth all creation rejoice and is glad,  
for Christ is risen and Hades is despoiled.*

Thy divine and beloved and most sweet voice! Thou hast truly promised that Thou wouldst be with us until the end of the world, O Christ. And we faithful rejoice, having this as an anchor of hope.

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

*Magnify, O my soul, the might of the indivisible and three-personed Godhead.*

O great and most sacred Pascha Christ: O Wisdom and Word and Power of God! Grant that we partake of Thee fully in the unwaning day of Thy Kingdom.

*Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O great and most sacred Pascha Christ: O Wisdom and Word and Power of God! Grant that we partake of Thee fully in the unwaning day of Thy Kingdom.

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KATAVASIA OF THE NINTH ODE OF THE  
SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

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*Plagal of the First Tone*

**T**hou who art God's Mother transcending mind and word, who ineffably in time gavest birth unto the Timeless One, thee do we the faithful magnify in one accord.

*~ and then the Small Litany ~*

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THE EXAPOSTEILARIA

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Holy is the Lord our God. *(thrice)*

*of Holy Pascha • Second Tone*

**I**n the flesh Thou fell asleep, O King and Lord, as a mortal man. On the third day Thou arose, raising Adam from corruption and abolished Death. O Pascha of incorruption, salvation of the world.

*of the Sunday of the Blind Man • Second Tone*

**T**hough gloomy sin hath stricken blind the inner eyes within my soul, O Lord most great in compassion, do Thou enlighten them anew by granting me humility, and with tears of repentance \* restore me to purity.



**W**hile passing by, our Saviour found a blind man lacking eyes from his birth. And making clay with His spittle, the Lord anointed him with it. He sent the man to Siloam, that he might go and wash therein. And having washed as he was told, O Christ, he came away seeing, and he beheld Thy divine light.

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## THE PRAISES

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**L**et everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

Praise ye Him, all His Angels: praise ye Him, all His Hosts. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

*of the Resurrection • Plagal of the First Tone*

*This glory shall be to all His Saints.*

**T**he grave, O Lord, having been sealed by the transgressors of the law, Thou didst emerge from within like as Thou wast born of the Theotokos; for the incorporeal angels did not know how Thou wert incarnate. Likewise, the guardian soldiers were not aware when Thou didst rise; for these two matters were concealed from all seekers. But the wonders appeared to those who worshipped the mystery in faith. Therefore, grant us, who offer praise, joy and Great Mercy.

*Praise God in His sanctuary: praise Him in the firmament of His power.*

O Lord, Thou hast demolished the everlasting gates and broken asunder the chains. Thou didst rise from the tomb, leaving behind Thy wrappings and ointments in the grave, in testimony of Thy true three-day Burial, and didst go before into Galilee, O Thou Who wert kept in a cave. Great, therefore, are Thy mercies, O ineffable Saviour; have mercy upon us.

*Praise Him for His mighty acts: praise Him according to His excellent greatness.*

The women did hasten to Thy tomb to behold Thee, O Lord, Who didst suffer for us. And when they arrived, advancing, they saw an angel sitting on the stone rolled back from fear. And he shouted to them, saying, The Lord hath risen. Go and tell the Disciples that the Saviour of our souls is risen from the dead.

*Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet.*

*Praise Him with the psaltery and harp.*

O Lord Saviour, Thou didst enter unto Thy Disciples, the doors being closed, as Thou didst come out of the sealed tomb, showing the sufferings of the flesh which Thou didst accept in long-suffering; for Thou didst submit to pains patiently since Thou art the seed of David. But since Thou art the Son of God, Thou didst liberate the world. Great therefore, are Thy mercies, O incomprehensible Saviour. Have mercy upon us.

*Paschal Verses, from the Penetecostarion • Plagal of the First Tone*

*Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered,  
and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.*

A sacred Pascha hath been shown forth for us today, a new and holy Pascha, a mystic Pascha, an all-venerable Pascha, a Pascha that is Christ the Redeemer, a spotless Pascha, a great Pascha, a Pascha of the faithful, a Pascha that hath opened unto us the gates of Paradise, a Pascha that doth hallow all the faithful.

*As smoke vanisheth, let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.*

Come from that scene, O women, bearers of good tidings, and say to Sion: Receive from us the tidings of joy of the Resurrection of Christ. Exult, dance, and be glad, O Jerusalem, for thou hast seen Christ the King as a Bridegroom come forth from the tomb.

*So, let sinners perish at the presence of God; and let the righteous be glad.*

The myrrh-bearing women at deep dawn drew nigh to the tomb of the Giver of life. They found an Angel sitting upon the stone, and he

addressing them, in this manner didst say: “Why seek ye the Living among the dead? Why mourn ye the Incorruptible amidst corruption? Go, proclaim it unto His disciples!”

*This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.*  
A Pascha of delight, Pascha, the Lord’s Pascha; an all-venerable Pascha hath dawned for us; a Pascha whereon let us embrace one another with joy, O Pascha, ransom from sorrow! Today Christ hath shone forth from the tomb as from a bridal chamber, and hath filled the women with joy, saying: ‘Proclaim it unto the Apostles.’

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## DOXASTIKA

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*of the Sunday of the Blind Man, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Fourth Tone*  
*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

**W**ho shall declare Thy might, O Christ? And who shall number the multitude of Thy wonders? For as Thou wast doubly seen in Thy goodness on earth, so didst Thou doubly grant healing to the sick; for not only didst Thou heal the bodily eyes of the man born blind from the womb, but the eyes of his soul also. Wherefore, he confessed that Thou art a hidden God, granting all the Great Mercy.

*of the Resurrection, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the First Tone*  
*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

This is the day of Resurrection; let us be radiant for the festival, and let us embrace one another. Let us say, ‘O brethren!’ even to those that hate us. Let us forgive all things on the Resurrection. And, thus, let us cry: O Christ is risen from the dead! O Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life.

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## GREAT DOXOLOGY

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## TROPARION

### *Plagal of the Fourth Tone*

**H**aving risen from the tomb, and having burst the bonds of Hades, Thou didst loose the condemnation of Death, O Lord, releasing all mankind from the snares of the enemy. Having manifested Thyself to Thine Apostles, Thou didst send them forth to proclaim Thee; and through them Thou hast granted Thy peace unto the civilized world, O Thou Who alone art plenteous in mercy.

