



GREAT VESPERS

On the eve of the
Commemoration of the Fathers of the Seventh
Ecumenical Council

~ Please Stand

Priest: Blessed be our God, always, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Then, in two choirs:

✚ Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.

Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere present and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us; cleanse us of all that defiles us, and, O Good One, save our souls.

✚ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

✚ **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.**

✚ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

✚ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, ***
now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us. Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord; pardon our transgressions, O Master; look upon our

weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One; for the sake of Your name.

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

+ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, * now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, **+ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.**

All: **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. *Twelve times.*

+ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, * now and for ever and ever. Amen.

+ Come, let us bow in worship before the King, our God.

+ Come, let us bow in worship before Christ, the King, our God.

+ Come, let us bow in worship and fall down before the very Lord Jesus Christ, * our King and God.

PSALM 103

Chanted in two choirs, or recited on the reader on a single note

(1) Bless the Lord, O my soul! * You are very great O Lord, my God!

- (2) Clothed in pomp and brilliance; * arrayed with light as with a cloak.
- (1) Stretching out the sky as a tent-cloth, * covering Your lofty halls with water.
- (2) You make the clouds Your conveyance. * You surge on the wings of the wind.
- (1) You make spirits Your messengers, * and flaming fires Your attendants.
- (2) You settle the earth on its firm foundation; * it shall stand unmoved from age to age.
- (1) The abyss covers it like a garment; * waters stand over the mountains.
- (2) At Your rebuke they will take flight; * at the peal of Your thunder they will fear.
- (1) They hurdle the hills and run down the dales, * to the place You have chosen for them.
- (2) You have set up a boundary not to be passed; * they shall never return to cover the earth.
- (1) Down in the gullies You make springs to rise; * water shall go down between the mountains.
- (2) They shall give drink to the beasts of the field; * wild asses will seek them to quench their thirst.
- (1) The birds of the sky will abide by them; * from among the rocks they will raise their song.
- (2) From Your lofty halls You refresh the mountains; * the earth shall be fed with the fruit of Your works.
- (1) You make green pastures for the cattle * and food-plants for the service of all,

- (2) So that bread may be brought forth from the earth, * and wine that gladdens the heart of man.
- (1) So that oil may put a gleam upon his face; * and that bread may strengthen the heart of all.
- (2) The trees of the plain will be satisfied, * the cedars of Lebanon that He planted.
- (1) The sparrows will build their nests in them; * and the herons will call them their home.
- (2) To the deer belong high mountains, * to rodents, the shelter of the rocks.
- (1) You have made the moon to mark the seasons; * the sun knows the time of its setting.
- (2) You establish darkness, and it is night * wherein the forest creatures prowl around.
- (1) Young lions roar for their prey, * and call out to God for their meat.
- (2) As the sun rises, they will come together, * and lay themselves down in their dens.
- (1) Man will go out to his labour* and work until eventide.
- (2) How great are Your works, O Lord, * in wisdom You have wrought them all.
- (1) The earth is filled with Your creatures; even the wide and open sea itself, * within it there are countless creeping things, living beings small and large.
- (2) Upon it there are ships a-sailing, * and that great beast You made to have fun.
- (1) All of them look up to You, * to give them their food in due time.
- (2) You provide and they gather up; * You open Your hand and they are full.

- (1) You hide Your face and they cringe; * You suspend their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.
- (2) You send forth Your breath and they live; * You renew the face of
the earth.
- (1) May the Lord's glory endure forever, * may the Lord rejoice in His
works.
- (2) He looks upon the earth and makes it quake; * He touches the
mountains and they smoke.
- (1) I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; * I will praise my God as
long as I last.
- (2) Would that my thoughts be pleasing to Him, * and I will rejoice in
the Lord.
- (1) May sinners vanish from the earth, * and may the wicked be no
more. Bless the Lord, * O my soul!
- (2) The sun knows the time of its setting. * You establish darkness, and
it is night.
- (1) How great are Your works, O Lord, * in wisdom You have wrought
them all.
- ✙ Glory be to the Father and to the Son * and to the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever * and ever. Amen.
- ✙ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, * Glory be to You, O God. *Three times.*

THE GREAT LITANY

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: For peace throughout the world, for the well-being of God's
holy Churches and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith,
reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: For our most holy universal Pontiff, *N.*, Pope of Rome, our
most blessed Patriarch, *N.*, our most reverend Metropolitan, *N.*, our
God-loving Bishop, *N.*, the reverend priesthood, the diaconate in
Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: For our nation under God, for our government, and for all the
military, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: For this city, for every city and country and for the faithful
who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: For favourable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the
earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the seafarers and travellers, for the sick and the suffering, for those held captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

All: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For all glory, honour, and worship befit You, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

BLESSED IS THE MAN FIRST STASIS OF THE FIRST KATHISMA

Verses from Psalms 1-3

Blessed is the man * who has not walked in the council of the wicked.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lord knows the way of the just, * but the way of the wicked
shall be lost. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Serve the Lord with fear, * exult in Him with trembling. Alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are those who trust in Him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Arise, O Lord, save me, my God! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salvation is of the Lord! * Upon Your people Your blessing! Alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

✚ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

✚ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.* Glory be to You, O God.

✚ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.* Glory be to You, O God.

✚ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.* Glory be to You, O God.

SMALL LITANY

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

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your
grace.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed
and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary,

together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

All: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For Yours is the might, and Yours are the kingdom and the power and the glory, + Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

“O LORD, I HAVE CRIED TO YOU”

Psalms 140, 141, 129, 116

Right choir: O Lord, I have cried to You, hear me; * Hear me, O Lord!
* O Lord, I have cried to You, hear me; * receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon You. * Hear me, O Lord!

Left choir: Let my prayer rise like incense before You; * and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. * Hear me, O Lord!

Then, in two choirs, or recited on the reader on a single note:

- (1) Set a guard, O Lord, before my mouth, * and a portal around my lips.
- (2) Incline my heart away from evil dealings, * from finding excuses for sinful deeds.
- (1) In company with those who work iniquity, * let me not partake of what they choose.
- (2) May the just chasten me with justice and reprove me; * may the oil of the wicked never touch my head.
- (1) Yet even then shall I pray for their welfare. * Their rulers were swallowed near the rock.

- (2) My words will be heard, for they were sweet. * As a lump of clay broken on the ground, so their bones were strewn near the grave.
- (1) To You, Lord, O Lord, my eyes are lifted up. * In You have I hoped; let not my soul be lost.
- (2) Keep me from the snare that was set for me, * and from the stumbling-blocks of the wicked.
- (1) The wicked shall fall into their own nets, * while I remain alone until I can escape.

Psalm 141

- (2) With my voice I cried to the Lord; * with all my voice I implored the Lord.
- (1) Before Him I pour out my supplications; * before Him I declare my distress.
- (2) When my breath was escaping me, * then you knew my paths;
- (1) On the road upon which I was walking, * they set up snares for me.
- (2) I looked to my right and observed * there was no one friendly to me;
- (1) Even flight was denied me; * there was no one to take care of my life.
- (2) I cried out to You, O Lord, and said: * You are my hope, my share in the land of the living.
- (1) Listen to my supplication, * for I am laid very low.
- (2) Deliver me from my oppressors, * for they have overwhelmed me.

(If 10 stichera are sung): Lead my soul forth from prison, * **that I may give thanks to Your name.**

The just shall gather around me * **when You have been good to me.**

(If 8 stichera are sung): Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord; * **O Lord, hear my voice!**

Let Your ears be attentive * **to the voice of my prayer.**

(Tone 6) If You mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand?* **But with You forgiveness is that You may be revered.**

Truly the Seven Councils of the Fathers* although held at various times* were brought together under the canons and in good order* by the Patriarch Germanus the New.* By inscribing and establishing their doctrines* and offering themselves as intercessors with the Lord,* the Fathers are protectors of our salvation* and shepherds of the fold.

I have waited for You as You have commanded; my soul patiently relies on Your promise,* **for it has trusted in the Lord.**

The Book of the Law has truly honoured the seventh day for the Hebrews* who were dispersed in the shadow of the Law and devoted to it.* But you Fathers, by your participation in the Seven Councils,* by the inspiration of God who in six days finished this universe* and blessed the seventh day,* have made it even more honourable by decreeing the bounds of faith.

From the morning watch until night* **let Israel trust in the Lord.**

You have given all, O thrice-blessed Fathers,* to know the Father, the Son, and the Spirit clearly by their works:* the Trinity who is the cause of the creation of the world.* By your mystical speech* you called the first three Councils and then the next four.* You have appeared as champions of the true faith,* proving that the Trinity is truly the Creator* of the four elements and of the world.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him there is plentiful redemption;* **and He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

It would have sufficed Elisha the Prophet* to bend but once to instil life into the dead son of the servant,* but he kneeled and bent seven times.* Thus, in his foreknowledge he prophesied your gathering* through which you revived the Incarnation of the Word of God,* and humiliated Arius and his co-workers.

Praise the Lord, all the nations;* **proclaim His glory, all you people.**

In wisdom, O venerable Fathers,* you patched the garment of Christ* which had been torn by barking dogs;* for you could not possibly bear to see his nakedness,* like Shem and Japheth of old,* who could not bear to see the nakedness of their father.* Thus you confounded the foolish Arius* and all those who followed his doctrines.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us;* **eternally will His truth endure.**

O Fathers, you are the true shepherds* who expelled from the Saviour's fold* the Macedonians and the Nestorians,* the followers of Ephtechnis and Dioscorus,* Appolonarius, Sabellius, and Severus* because they became devouring wolves hidden in the skins of lambs.* Since you exposed these wretched ones, we truly honour you.

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

Let us honour today those mystical trumpets of the Spirit, namely the God-mantled Fathers* who, speaking of divine things,* sang in the midst of the Church a hymn in unison,* teaching that the Trinity is One,* not differing in Substance or Godhead,* refuting Arius and struggling for the true faith.* They always intercede with the Lord* to have mercy on our souls.*

Now and for ever * **and ever. Amen.**

(Tone 4) O Mother of God, because of You* David the Prophet became an ancestor of God;* he foretold and sang a joyous hymn of praise* and cried out to Him who worked wonders in you:* “The Queen stood at your right hand.”* God revealed you as a life-giving mother,* when He chose to be incarnate of you without a father.* He renewed in man His image* which the passions had corrupted.* He found the lost sheep in the mountains,* carried it on His shoulders,* offered it to the Father,* generously numbered it among the powers of heaven,* and saved the whole world, since He is Christ of great and rich mercy.

THE ENTRANCE

This dialogue takes place in a spoken voice.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest: O gracious King, You love mankind and bless all things. With contrite heart and humble spirit we pray to You, O Christ our true God: Bless our comings and our goings. For Your coming and ascension and dwelling among us are blessed, always, now and for ever and ever.

Deacon: Amen. Master, bless the holy entrance.

Priest (blessing towards the east): Blessed is the entrance of Your saints, always now and for ever and ever.

Deacon: Amen.

Then, aloud, the Deacon: Wisdom! Stand aright!

TRANQUIL LIGHT

Tranquil Light, of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy blessed Father, O Jesus Christ: as we come upon the sunset, as

we see the evening light, we sing to God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. At all times You are worthy of being hymned by joyful voices; O Son of God, You are the giver of life. For this the whole world glorifies You.

(Trans. Conrad Dachuk)

PROKEIMENON

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

The deacon intones the Prokeimenon and its verse, and in conclusion repeats the first half of the Prokeimenon.

Prokeimenon, Tone 6: **The Lord reigns, * He is clothed in majesty.**

Verse: Robed is the Lord and girt about with strength.

Verse: For He has made the world firm, which shall not be moved.

Verse: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for length of days.

READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

On certain Sundays and feasts, three readings from the Old Testament are included here:

(1) Genesis 14: 14-20; (2) Deuteronomy 10: 14-21

INSISTENT LITANY

Deacon: Let us all say with our whole soul and our whole mind, let us say.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: Almighty Lord, God of our Fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, in the greatness of Your compassion, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

Deacon: We also pray for our most holy universal Pontiff, *N.*, Pope of Rome; for our most blessed Patriarch, *N.*, our most reverend Metropolitan, *N.*, our God-loving Bishop, *N.*, for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

All: **Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

Deacon: We also pray for our nation under God, for our government, and for all the military.

All: **Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

Additional petitions may be added here.

Deacon: We also pray for the people here present who await Your great and bountiful mercies, for those who have been kind to us, and for all orthodox Christians.

All: **Lord, have mercy. (3x)**

Priest: For You are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to You, **+** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

DEIGN, O LORD

Chanted by a single reader, or sung in tone 7

Deign, O Lord, to keep us this evening * without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, * and praised and glorified
is Your name forever. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, * because we have set our hope
in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, * teach me Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Master, * make me understand Your
commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, * enlighten me with Your laws.

O Lord, Your mercy endures forever; * do not despise the work of
Your hands.

It is proper to praise You, * and hymns belong to You.

Glory belongs to You, * + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Now and for ever, * and ever. Amen.

EVENING LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your
grace.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That this whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful and
sinless, let us ask the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

All: **Grant this, O Lord.**

Deacon: For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and offences, let us ask the Lord.

All: **Grant this, O Lord.**

Deacon: For all that is good and beneficial for our souls and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

All: **Grant this, O Lord.**

Deacon: That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

All: **Grant this, O Lord.**

Deacon: For a Christian end to our lives, one that is painless, unashamed, and peaceful; and for a good defence at the awesome tribunal of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

All: **Grant this, O Lord.**

Deacon: Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

All: **To You, O Lord.**

Priest: For You, O God, are gracious and You love mankind, and we glorify You, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: Peace + be with all!

All: **And with your spirit.**

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

All: **To You, O Lord.**

Priest: O Lord our God, You lowered the heavens when You came down for the salvation of the human race. Now look upon Your servants and upon Your inheritance; for they have bowed their heads to You, the Judge, both awesome and loving. They do not await human help, but look for Your mercy and are ready to receive Your salvation. Guard them at all times, this evening and tonight, against all enemies, against the devil's assaults, against vain thoughts and evil dreams.

May the might of Your kingdom be blessed and exalted, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

APOSTICHA

Of the Resurrection or the feast. The verses for Saturday vespers are given below.

(Tone 4) In being lifted upon the cross, O Lord,* You abolished the curse which we had inherited from our fathers.* By going down into Hades,* You freed from eternal captivity those imprisoned there,* and granted incorruption to mankind.* We, therefore, praise Your life-giving and redeeming resurrection.

The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty. Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.*

By hanging on the cross, O Almighty One,* You shook the whole creation to its foundations.* When You Yourself were laid in the grave,* You raised to life those who had been lying in the graves,* and You granted life and incorruption to mankind.* We, therefore, praise and glorify Your resurrection on the third day.

For He has made the world firm, which shall not be moved.*

O Christ, the lawless people showed their ingratitude to You, their Benefactor,* by delivering You to Pilate who condemned you to be crucified.* But You willingly suffered death and burial;* and, as God, You rose by Your own power on the third day,* granting us everlasting life and great mercy.

Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for length of days.*

The women, shedding bitter tears, came to see You in Your tomb;* and not finding Your body, they lamented, saying:* O Saviour and King of All, how were You stolen?* What place holds Your life-bearing body?* An angel answered them, saying:* Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen,* filling our hearts with joy;* for He alone is most compassionate.

(Tone 4) *Glory be to the Father and to the Son *and to the Holy Spirit.*

Come all you people of the true faith,* let us celebrate today in faith and true worship* the anniversary of the God-mantled Fathers* who came together in the splendid city of Nicaea* from the whole inhabited world.* These Fathers, in the wisdom of their pious minds,* refuted the impious belief which the wretched Arius had invented.* They banished him from the universal Church by a decree of the Council.* They instructed all to confess openly* that the Son of God is consubstantial and co-eternal with the Father before all eternity,* decreeing the same with precision and true worship in the Canon of Faith.* Therefore, following their divine doctrines,* in true faith let us worship the Father and the Son and the most Holy Spirit,* the consubstantial Trinity in one Godhead.

*Now and for ever * and ever. Amen*

O most pure Virgin, hear the petitions of your servants.* Remove the burdens which oppress us,* and deliver us from our sorrows;* for you are the only firm and constant support on whom we rely.* O Mother of God, never permit us who call upon you* to be overwhelmed by our cares.* Hasten to fulfill the supplications of all who, in faith, cry out to you:* Rejoice, O Lady, helper of all mankind,* the joy, the refuge, and the salvation of our souls.

CANTICLE OF SIMEON

Now, * O Master, You have kept Your promise; * let Your servant go in peace. * With my own eyes, I have seen the salvation * which You have prepared * in the sight of every people: * a Light to reveal You to the gentiles * and the glory of Your people, Israel!

TRISAGION PRAYERS

Chanted by a single reader

✚ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

✚ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

✚ Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

✚ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, * now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us. Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord; pardon our transgressions, O Master; look upon our weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One; for the sake of Your name.

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

✚ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, * now and forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, ✚ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

TROPARIA

Of the Resurrection or the feast

(Tone 4): When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel* the glorious news of the resurrection* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles:* “Death has been plundered!* Christ our God is risen,* granting to the world great mercy.”

✙ Glory be to the Father and to the Son * **and to the Holy Spirit,**

(Tone 8): O Christ our God, You are above all praise for You established our Fathers as lights to all the earth.* You led us to the true faith through them.* O Most Bountiful Lord, glory be to You!*

Now and for ever * **and ever. Amen.**

O gracious Lord, for the sake of mankind You were born of a virgin; through Your death on the cross You conquered death;* and through Your resurrection You revealed yourself as God.* O merciful Lord, do not disdain those whom You have created with Your own hands,* but show forth Your love for mankind.* Accept the intercession which the Mother, who bore You, makes in our behalf.* O Saviour, save Your despairing people!*

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Wisdom!

All: **Give the blessing!**

Priest: Blessed is the One-Who-Is, blessed is Christ our God, always, now and for ever and ever.

All: **Amen. O God, strengthen the orthodox faith for ever and ever!**

Priest: O most holy Mother of God, save us.

All: **More honourable than the cherubim * and by far more glorious than the seraphim; * ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word, * O true Mother of God, we magnify you.**

Priest: Glory be to You, O Christ our God, our hope, glory be to You.

All: **Glory be to the + Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
* now and for ever and ever. Amen. * Lord, have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord, have mercy. * Give the blessing.**

Priest: Christ our true God, risen from the dead, through the prayers of His immaculate Mother, patroness of this church; of the holy, glorious, and all-praiseworthy apostles; of Saint, *N.* (*whose day it is*), and of all the saints, will have mercy and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

All: **Amen.**