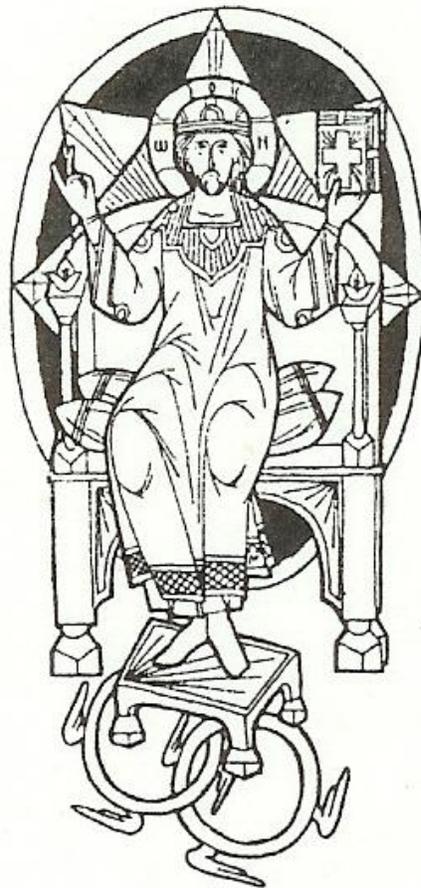


MONDAY BRIDEGROOM

MATINS

Served in anticipation on Sunday Evening –
abridged for parish use



The faithful stand.

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

READER: Amen.

PRIEST: Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee.

PEOPLE: O heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art in all places and fills all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of life; Come and abide in us and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.
Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we

forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from 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.

READER: Amen. (...)

The faithful may sit

READER: Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (2x)
O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

PSALM 3

Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me. Many are saying of me, there is no help for him in God. But You, O Lord are a shield for me, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cry to the Lord, and He answers me out of His holy hill.

I lie down and sleep; I awake again; for the Lord sustained me. I am not afraid of ten thousands of people, who have set themselves against me round about.

Arise, O Lord; deliver me, O my God! Strike all mine enemies upon the cheek; You break the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the Lord: Your Blessing is upon Your people. I lie down and sleep; I wake again; for the Lord sustained me. (...)

PSALM 63 (64)

O God, You are my God; I seek You: my soul thirsts for You, my flesh longs for You, as

in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is.
So I have looked upon You in the sanctuary,
beholding Your power and glory. Because Your
steadfast love is better than life, my lips shall
praise You. So I will bless You as long as I
live; I will lift up my hands and call on Your
Name.

My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fat;
and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips:
when I think of You on my bed, and meditate
upon You in the night watches. Because You
have been my help, and in the shadow of Your
wings will I rejoice. My soul follows after You:
Your right hand upholds me.

But those that seek to destroy my soul shall
go down into the lower depths of the earth.
They shall be given over to the power of the
sword: they shall be a prey for jackals. But the
king shall rejoice in God; all that swears by Him
shall glory: but the mouths of liars will be
stopped.

I meditate upon You in the watches of the
night: for You have been my help, and in the
shadow of Your wings will I rejoice. My soul
clings to You: Your right hand upholds me. (...)

PSALM 143 (142)

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my
supplications: in Your faithfulness, and in
Your righteousness, answer me. Enter not into
judgment with Your servant: for no man living is
righteous before You. For the enemy has
pursued me; he has crushed my life to the
ground; he has made me to sit in darkness, as
those that have been long dead. Therefore is
my spirit faint within me; my heart is appalled.

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all

that You have done: I muse on the work of Your hands. I stretch forth my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You, as a parched land.

Hear me speedily, O Lord! My spirit fails! Hide not Your face from me, lest I be like those that go down into the Pit. Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for I trust in You: Teach me the way in which I should go; for to You do I lift up my soul.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies! I have fled to You for refuge! Teach me to do Your will: for You are my God. Let Your good spirit lead me on a level path.

For Your Name's sake, O Lord preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring me out of trouble! And Your steadfast love cut off mine enemies, and destroy all my adversaries: for I am thy servant.

In Your faithfulness, answer me: and in Your righteousness enter not into judgment with Your servant. Let Your good spirit lead me on a level path.

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

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

The faithful stand.

PRIEST/DEACON & CHOIR: GREAT LITANY

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

CHOIR: Amen.

PRIEST/DEACON: Alleluia. (3x)

(1.) In the night my soul rises early for Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth.

CHOIR: (refrain after each verse) Alleluia (3x)

PRIEST/DEACON: (2) Learn righteousness, you inhabitants of the earth. ®

(3) Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people. ®

(4) Bring more evil upon them, O Lord, bring more evils upon those who are glorified on the earth. ®

TROPARION

CHOIR/CANTOR: (slowly, reverently) Behold, the
Bridegroom comes at midnight/
And blessed is the servant whom He shall find
watching; /

And again, unworthy is the servant whom He
shall find heedless. /

Beware, therefore, O my soul, /

Do not be weighed down with sleep, /

Lest you be given up to death, and lest you be
shut out of the Kingdom. /

But rouse yourself, /

Crying: Holy, Holy, Holy, art Thou, O our God.**

Through the Theotokos, have mercy on us. (...)

PRIEST/DEACON: That we may be accounted
worthy of hearing the Holy Gospel, let us pray to
the Lord.

CHOIR: Lord have mercy (3X)

PRIEST/DEACON: Wisdom! Let us be
attentive, let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace
be unto all!

CHOIR: And to your spirit!

PRIEST/DEACON: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

PRIEST: In those days, as Jesus returned to the city, He was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away.

And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?"

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"

But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things: The baptism of John--where was it from? From heaven or from men?"

And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if

we say, "From men,' we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus and said, "We do not know."

And He said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

"But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, "Son, go, work today in my vineyard.' He answered and said, "I will not,' but afterward he regretted it and went. Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, "I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?"

They said to Him, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw it, you did not afterward relent and believe him.

"Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son



to them, saying, "They will respect my son.' But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.

"Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?" They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

"Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it.

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

The faithful may sit.

PSALM 50 (51)

READER: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy great mercy: according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned and done evil in Thy sight: that Thou may be justified in Thy sentence, and blameless in Thy judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity: and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward

being: therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness: let the bones which Thou hast broken, rejoice. Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God: and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence: and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways: and sinners will return to Thee. Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy deliverance.

O Lord, open Thou my lips: and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For Thou hast no delight in sacrifice: were I to give a burnt offering, Thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a humble spirit: a humble and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with burnt offering, and whole burnt offerings: then shall they offer bulls upon Thy altar.

The faithful stand.

PRIESTDEACON: (PRAYER OF INTERCESSION)

CHOIR/CANTOR: Lord have mercy. (12x)

PRIEST: Through the mercy, and compassion, and love for mankind of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with

Thine All-Holy, Good, and Life-Creating Spirit,
now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR/CANTOR: Amen. (...)

The faithful may sit.

THE CANON

CHOIR/CANTOR: Let us sing to the Lord,/
By His Divine Command, He dried up the raging
and impassable sea,/
And led the people of Israel through on foot**
For gloriously has He been glorified.

People: Glory to Thee, our God, Glory to Thee.

READER: “With the wealth of My Divine Nature,
I come in order to minister to Adam in his
poverty. I fashioned his body and now I willingly
put it on. Through My Divine Nature I am not
subject to passion, I lay down My Life to ransom
His.”

KONTAKION

CHOIR/CANTOR: Jacob lamented the loss of
Joseph/
But his noble son was seated on a chariot and
honored as a king/
For when he refused to be enslaved by the
pleasures of the Egyptian woman,/
He was glorified by the Lord who beholds the
hearts of men,**
And bestows upon them an incorruptible crown.

CHOIR/CANTOR: The relentless fire was fed
by fuel in endless supply,/
Yet it shrank before the flesh of the Holy Youths,
as pure as their souls,/

And when the never-ending flame was
quenched,/
The singing of an everlasting hymn began:**
Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord, and exalt
Him throughout all ages.

PEOPLE: Glory to Thee, our God, Glory to
Thee.

READER: “By this will all men know that you
are my disciples,” said the Lord to His friends as
He went to His Passion, “If you will keep My
Commandments. Be at peace among
yourselves and you will be exalted. And,
knowing I am the Lord, you will sing and exalt
Me throughout all ages.”

PEOPLE: Glory to Thee, our God, Glory to
Thee.

READER: “Let your order be contrary to the
Gentiles, who hold power over their fellow men –
for such is not My portion – but rather self-
appointed tyranny. He, then, who would be great
among you, must be the servant of all, and
knowing that I am the Lord, he will sing and exalt
Me throughout all ages.”

The faithful stand.

PEOPLE: ... Let us bless the Lord: the Father,
and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

CHOIR/CANTOR: You magnified the
Theotokos who bore You, O Christ,/
From her You put on a body like our own, O our

Creator,
Which releases us from our errors,**
Blessing her, we in all generations, magnify her!

PEOPLE: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to
Thee.

READER: You warned the apostles, O Wisdom
of all: “Flee from all impure passion. Seek
instead wisdom worthy of the Kingdom of God.
Thus you will be glorified and shine more brightly
than the sun.”

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

READER: The Lord said to his disciples: “As
you look at Me, do not be haughty, but be joined
to the lowly. The cup which I drink, drink also,
that you may be glorified with Me in My Father’s
Kingdom.” (...)

DEACON/PRIEST & CHOIR: LITTLE LITANY
PRIEST: For all the powers of heaven praise
Thee, 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.

CHOIR: Amen.

The faithful kneel.

EXAPOSTEILARION

CHOIR/CANTOR: (Slowly, reverently)
I see Thy Bridal Chamber adorned, O my
Saviour/
And I have no wedding garment that I might

enter./
O Giver of Light, enlighten the vesture of my
soul**
And save me. (...)

The faithful may sit.

PRAISES: Selections from psalms 148-150

CHOIR/CANTOR: Let everything that breathes
praise the Lord. /
Praise the Lord from the heavens. /
Praise him in the highest, **
to Thee O God is due our song. (...)

PEOPLE: Praise Him for His mighty deeds;
praise Him according to His exceeding
greatness.

READER: As the Lord was going to His
voluntary passion, He said to the apostles on the
way: "Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and the
Son of Man shall be delivered up, as it is written
of Him." Come, therefore, let us go with Him,
purified in mind.

PEOPLE: Praise Him with trumpet sound,
praise Him with lute and harp. (...) Praise Him
with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings
and pipe!

READER: We have reached the saving passion
of Christ our God. Let us, the faithful, glorify His
ineffable forbearance, that in His compassion
He may raise us up – who were dead in sin – for
He is good and loves mankind. (...)

The faithful stand.

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

READER: Going to Your Passion, O Lord, You took Your disciples aside and reassured them: “How have you forgotten the words that I once spoke? Is it not written: A prophet cannot be killed but in Jerusalem? Now is the time of which I told you. Behold, I am betrayed into the hands of sinners – to be mocked. They will nail me to the cross, and deliver me up to burial, regarding me as a dead man, a thing of loathing. Yet take courage, for I will arise on the third day, giving to the faithful joy and life everlasting.” (...)

THE LESSER DOXOLOGY

Two readers alternately

- Glory to Thee who has shown us the light. Glory to God on high, and on earth peace, and goodwill to man.
- We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.
- Lord, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.
- Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world have mercy on us, Thou that takes away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
- Thou that sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
- For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father, Amen.

- Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name forever and ever.
- Vouchsafe O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
- Blessed art Thou O Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy name for ever. Amen.
- Let Thy mercy O Lord, be upon us as we do put our hope in Thee.
- Blessed art Thou O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. (3x)
- Thy mercy O Lord, endureth forever: O despise not the work of Thy hands.
- To Thee belongs worship, to Thee belongs praise, to Thee belongs glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

DEACON/PRIEST & CHOIR: LITANY OF MATINS

PRIEST: For Thou art a good God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

CHOIR: And to your spirit.

PRIEST/DEACON: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

CHOIR: To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Holy Lord, who dwells on high, and looks upon the humble; and who, with Thine all-

seeing eye, looks down upon all creation::
unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul
and body, and we pray Thee, O Holy of Holies,
stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy
dwelling place, and Bless us all. And if in any
way we have sinned, either willingly, or
unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as Thou art
good and lovest mankind. Grant us Thy good
things in this world, and beyond this world. For
Thine it is to show mercy and to save us, O our
God, 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.

CHOIR: Amen.

The faithful may sit.

APOSTICHA

READER: The mother of Zebedee's children, O
Lord, could not understand the ineffable mystery
of Your dispensation. She asked the honor of a
temporal kingdom for her sons, but instead You
promised Your friends that they should drink the
cup of death, a cup that You would drink before
them for the cleansing of sins. Therefore we cry
to You: "O Salvation of our souls, glory to You."

PEOPLE: Satisfy us in the morning with Your
steadfast love,/ that we may rejoice and be glad
all our days./ Make us glad as many days as
You have afflicted us,/ and as many years as
we have seen evil./ Let Your work be manifest
to Your servants,/ and Your glorious power to
their children.

READER: You taught Your disciples, O Lord to
desire what is perfect, saying: "Be not like the

Gentiles, who oppress the weak. It shall not be so with you, O my disciples. For of My own Will I am poor. Let the first among you, therefore be the servant of all. Let the ruler be like those who are ruled. Let him who is first be like the last. For I have come to serve Adam in his poverty, and to give my life as a ransom for the many who cry to me: O Lord, Glory to You!”

PEOPLE: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,/ and establish the work of our hands, You, O Lord, establish it!

READER: The fig tree was withered up because it was unfruitful. We should fear the same punishment, O brethren, and bring worthy fruits of repentance to Christ, who brings us Great Mercy.

The faithful stand.

PEOPLE: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

READER: The serpent found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman and plotted the fall of Joseph through words of flattery. But leaving behind his garment, Joseph fled from sin. He was naked, but not ashamed, like Adam before the Fall. Through his prayers, O Christ have Mercy on us!

READER: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most-high; to declare Thy steadfast love in the morning and Thy truth by night.

PEOPLE: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

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

READER: Amen. Standing in the temple of Thy glory, we think that we are in heaven, O Theotokos, Gate of Heaven, open to us the gates of your mercy.

Lord have mercy (...12x)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim:

without defilement you gave birth to God, the Word: true Theotokos, we magnify you!

In the Name of the Lord, Father, bless.

PRIEST: Christ, our God, the existing One is Blessed: always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

READER: Amen. O Heavenly King, strengthen the Orthodox Christians, confirm the Faith, quiet the heathen, give peace to the world, place our departed fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters in the tabernacles of the Just, and accept us sorrowers and penitents, for Thou art good, and lovest mankind.

PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM

At each break in the prayer (+), and at the end (+), all make a full prostration.

PRIEST/DEACON & PEOPLE

- LORD AND MASTER OF MY LIFE! TAKE FROM ME THE SPIRIT OF SLOTH, DESPAIR, LUST OF POWER, AND IDLE TALK. (+)
- BUT GIVE RATHER: THE SPIRIT OF CHASTITY, HUMILITY, PATIENCE, AND LOVE TO THY SERVANT. (+)
- YEA, O LORD AND KING! GRANT ME TO SEE MY OWN TRANSGRESSIONS, AND NOT TO JUDGE MY BROTHER, FOR BLESSED ART THOU, UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN. (+) (...)

PRIEST: Glory to Thee, O Christ: our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

CHOIR: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto
ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. (3x)
Father, Bless.

PRIEST: May He who for our sakes, and for our
salvation, is going to His voluntary Passion:
Christ, our true God, through the intercessions
of His all-pure and all-blameless Holy Mother,
and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and
save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

CHOIR: AMEN.

Compiled and edited by
the Archpriest Sergei and Prifteresha Elisabeth Bouteneff
Great Lent 2004

