

THE ORDER FOR READER VESPERS WHEN WE ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH

SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2020

Second Sunday of Lent. St. Gregory Palamas. Martyr Agapius and those with him.

THE SERVICE TAKES PLACE IN FRONT OF OUR ICON CORNERS

EVERYONE: O, God cleanse me a sinner and have mercy on me! (3x)

READER: **Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.**

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)

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

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

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

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

EVERYONE: 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.

READER: **Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.**

READER: Amen. 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.

Come, let us worship God, Our King! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ,
Our King and our God! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our
King and our God! Come, Let us worship and fall down before Him!

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great:
You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover *Yourself* with light as *with* a
garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.

He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters,
Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind,
Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire.

You who laid the foundations of the earth, So *that* it should not be moved forever,
You covered it with the deep as *with* a garment; The waters stood above the mountains.
At Your rebuke they fled; At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away.
They went up over the mountains; They went down into the valleys,
To the place which You founded for them. You have set a boundary that they may not
pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth.

He sends the springs into the valleys; They flow among the hills.
They give drink to every beast of the field; The wild donkeys quench their thirst.
By them the birds of the heavens have their home; They sing among the branches.
He waters the hills from His upper chambers; The earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your
works.

He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the service of man, That he
may bring forth food from the earth, And wine *that* makes glad the heart of man, Oil to
make *his* face shine, And bread *which* strengthens man's heart.
The trees of the LORD are full *of sap*, The cedars of Lebanon which He planted,
Where the birds make their nests; The stork has her home in the fir trees.
The high hills *are* for the wild goats; The cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers.

He appointed the moon for seasons; The sun knows its going down.
You make darkness, and it is night, In which all the beasts of the forest creep about. The
young lions roar after their prey, And seek their food from God. *When* the sun rises, they
gather together And lie down in their dens. Man goes out to his work And to his labor
until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all.
The earth is full of Your possessions— This great and wide sea, In which *are*

innumerable teeming things, Living things both small and great. There the ships sail about; *There is* that Leviathan Which You have made to play there.

These all wait for You, That You may give *them* their food in due season.
What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; May the LORD rejoice in His works. He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the LORD.
May sinners be consumed from the earth, And the wicked be no more.

Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

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 GREAT LITANY

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

EVERYONE: Amen. Followed by: ‘Blessed is the Man...’

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous but the way of the wicked will perish. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Salvation belongs to The Lord. Thy blessing be upon Thy people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

THE LITTLE LITANY

READER: Lord have mercy (3x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen. Followed by: ‘Lord, I call upon Thee...’

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon Thee!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Thy sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!

Tone 6 *(for the Resurrection)*

Possessing victory over hell, O Christ, since Thou art free among the dead,
Thou didst ascend the Cross raising with Thyself those who sat in the shades of death.// Drawing life from Thy light, O almighty Savior, have mercy on us!

v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Today Christ tramples on death, for He is risen as He said!
Let us all sing this song, for He has granted joy to the world:

O Light unapproachable, O Fountain of life!//
O Savior Almighty, have mercy on us!

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Where shall we sinners flee from Thee, Who art in all creation?
In heaven Thou dwest! In hell Thou didst trample on death!
In the depths of the sea? Even there is Thy hand, O Master!
To Thee we flee, and falling before Thee, we pray://
O Thou who didst rise from the dead, have mercy on us!

v. (7) Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)

In Thy Cross, we glory, O Christ. We sing and glorify Thy Resurrection.
For Thou art our God,// and we know no other than Thee.

v. (6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

We will always bless the Lord by singing of His Resurrection!
for He endured the Cross,// trampling down death by death.

v. (5) For Thy name's sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Glory to Thy might, O Lord, for Thou didst overthrow the prince of death,
by Thy Cross renewing us,// granting us life and incorruption.

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 21 *(from the Lenten Triodion) (With what crowns)*

What hymns of praise shall we sing to honor the holy bishop?
He is the trumpet of theology, the flaming mouthpiece of grace,
the chosen vessel of the Spirit, the unshakeable pillar of the Church,
the great joy of the inhabited earth, the river of wisdom, the candlestick of
the Light,// the shining star that has made all creation bright.

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

What hymns of praise shall we sing to honor the holy bishop?
He is the trumpet of theology, the flaming mouthpiece of grace,
the chosen vessel of the Spirit, the unshakeable pillar of the Church,
the great joy of the inhabited earth, the river of wisdom, the candlestick of
the Light, // the shining star that has made all creation bright.

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

What garlands of song shall we weave for the holy bishop?
He is the champion of true worship, the foe of ungodliness,
the fervent defender of the faith, the great guide and teacher, the well-
tuned harp of the Spirit, the golden tongue, the fountain flowing with
healing for the faithful, // the great and wonderful Gregory.

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

How shall we who dwell on earth praise the holy bishop?
He is the Church's teacher, the herald of the Uncreated Light,
the initiate of the Trinity's heavenly mysteries, the adornment of the
monastic life, renowned alike in action and contemplation, the pride of
Thessalonica; And now he dwells in heaven with the great and glorious
martyr Demetrius, // whose relics flow with holy oil.

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

Tone 6 *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

O thrice-blessed saint, most holy father,
good shepherd, disciple of Christ the Chief Shepherd.
Like Him thou gavest thy life for thy sheep.
By thine intercessions, O God-bearing Father Gregory, //
may great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

Tone 6 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Who will not bless thee, O most holy Virgin?

Who will not sing of thy most pure childbearing?
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,
but from thee He was ineffably incarnate.
God by nature, yet Man for our sake,
not two persons, but one known in two natures.
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,//
to have mercy on our souls!

CHOIR: O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the
immortal, Father heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus
Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the
sun, and behold the light of evening, we praise
Father, Son and Holy Spirit God. For meet it is at
all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O
Son of God and Giver of life; therefore all the
world glorifies Thee.

THE EVENING PROKEIMENON

READER: The evening prokeimenon is in the sixth tone: The Lord is King! He is
robed in Majesty!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: The Lord is robed, He is girded with strength!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: The Lord is King!

CHOIR: He is robed in Majesty!

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

READER: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name for ever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee.

Blessed are Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes.

Blessed are Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy commandments.

Blessed are Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.

Thy mercy endures forever, O Lord! Do not despise the works 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

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

Followed by the Apostikha!

Tone 6 *(for the Resurrection)*

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the Angels in heaven sing!
Enable us on earth// to glorify Thee in purity of heart!

v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

Destroying the gates of hell, breaking the chains of death,
Thou didst resurrect the fallen human race as almighty God!//
O Lord Who didst rise from the dead, glory to thee!

v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

Desiring to return us to Paradise, Christ was nailed to the Cross and placed in a tomb. The Myrrhbearing Women sought Him with tears, crying, “Woe to us, O Savior! How dost Thou deign to descend to death? What place can hold Thy life bearing body? Come to us as Thou didst promise! Take away our wailing and tears!” Then the Angel appeared to them: “Stop your lamentations! Go, proclaim to the Apostles: ‘The Lord is risen,// granting us purification and great mercy!’”

v. Holiness befitteTh Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

Having been crucified as Thou didst will, by Thy burial Thou didst capture death, O Christ, rising on the third day as God in glory,// granting the world unending life and great mercy!

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

Tone 8 *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Thy tongue, watchful in teaching, rings in the ears of our hearts, and awakens the souls of the slothful. Thy words are inspired by God; they are a ladder leading us from earth to heaven. O Gregory, pride of Thessalonica, Do not cease to intercede before Christ our God// to illumine with His Divine Light those who honor thee!

Tone 8 *(Theotokion)*

O unwedded Virgin, who ineffably didst conceive God in the flesh,
O Mother of God most high, accept the cries of thy servants, O blameless one! Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//
Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

After which is sung The Prayer of St. Simeon: ‘Lord, now lettest...’

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)

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

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

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

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.

READER: **Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.**

CHOIR: Amen.

Troparion for Resurrection - Tone 6

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, // glory to Thee.

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

Troparion for St. Gregory Palamas - Tone 8

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, // always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

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

Tone 4 Troparion to the Theotokos

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, //
for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

READER: More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond than
the Seraphim, without defilement, You gave birth to God the Word, True
Theotokos, we magnify You.

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. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Lord Bless!

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, through the Prayers of the
Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the Power of the Precious and Life-
Creating Cross, through the protection of the Bodiless Powers of Heaven, through
the prayers of Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, through the
prayers of the holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles, through the Prayers of all the
North American Saints, through the prayers of _____ the patron
of this Holy Temple, through the prayers of St. Gregory Palamas. Martyr Agapius
and those with him whom we commemorate today, of the holy and righteous
Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, O Lord Jesus Christ Our
God, have mercy on us and save us.

CHOIR: Amen.

(The faithful now come up and venerate the Precious Cross and Icons in our Icon Corner.)

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,
have mercy on us and save us.

CHOIR: Amen. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

