

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

**SATURDAY JANUARY 23, 2021**

**33rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8.** The New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. Ven. Xenia of Rome and her two female servants (5th c.). St. Gerásim, Bishop of Perm (1441). Martyr John of Kazan’ (1529). Martyrs Babylas (Vavíla) of Sicily, and his two disciples: Timothy and Agapius (3rd c.). St. Macedonius, Hermit, of Syria (ca. 420). Uncovering of the relics of Saint Anastasios the Persian (7th c.). Ven. Dionysius of Olympus (16th c.). Ven. Philotheus, founder of Philotheou Monastery (Mt. Athos – 10th c.). Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg (19th c.).

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**\*THE SERVICE TAKES PLACE IN FRONT OF OUR ICON CORNER\***

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: Amen. O, Heavenly King, the Comforter the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest 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, 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 us 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!

## THE PSALM OF CREATION (Psalm 104/103 LXX)

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who covers thyself with light as with a garment, who hast stretched out the heavens like a tent, who hast laid the beams of thy chambers on the waters, who makes the clouds thy chariot, who rides on the wings of the wind, who makes the winds thy messengers, fire and flame thy ministers. Thou didst set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of thy thunder they took to flight.

The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which thou didst appoint for them. Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From thy lofty abode thou waterest the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy work. Thou dost cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and fodder for the animals that serve man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart. The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers.

Thou hast made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth is full of thy creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan which thou didst form to sport in it. These all look to thee, to give them their food in due season. When thou givest to them, they gather it up; when thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good things. When thou hidest thy face, they are dismayed; when thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! The sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness and it is night. O Lord how manifold are thy works, in wisdom hast thou made them all!

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 is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon.**

**The reader continues:**

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 is not said in the  
absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:**

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..." (Tone 8)

"Lord I Call..." Tone 8

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!

**Reader: (10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!***

We offer to Thee, O Christ, our evening song and reasonable service, for Thou didst will to have mercy on us// by Thy Resurrection.

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

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Thy face! For Thou didst will to have mercy on us// by Thy Resurrection.

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

Rejoice, O holy Zion: Mother of the churches, the abode of God,  
for thou wast the first to receive remission of sins// by the Resurrection.

**Reader: (7) *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!***

The Word of God the Father, begotten before the ages, in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin and endured crucifixion unto death. He has saved mortal man// by His Resurrection.

**Reader: (6) *If Thou, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee. {TONE 5}***

Rejoice, new martyrs and confessors of Russia, the adornment of the Orthodox. lambs of the new slaughter, fellow warriors, and guardians of the faith, Blameless intercessors for us with God in the latter years, who in your sufferings appear as emulators of the first martyrs; O unshakeable pillars of patient endurance// entreat God that our souls be granted great mercy.

**Reader: (5) *For Thy name's sake I have waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord. {TONE 5}***

Rejoice, O glorious passion-bearers! Following in the steps of the martyrs of old, you contended firmly for the sake of the faith, in the cruel and grievous times of your land. And now you rouse all to the glory and praise of God, Who strengthened your weaknesses and has enriched you with gifts of the Spirit// Ever pray for the salvation of our souls.

**Reader: (4) *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope on the Lord! {TONE 5}***

O heavenly protectors, come to us who await the visitation of your prayer, and deliver us from danger caused by the madness of unbelievers; for which we are often pursued like prisoners and outcasts, moving from place to place and wandering in caves and mountains. Have compassion, O all-praised martyrs and confessors, and grant us relief! Pacify the storm and extinguish the hostility towards us// praying to God Who through you grants to our land great mercy.

**Reader: (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities. {TONE 6}**

O longsuffering archpastor, Father Tikhon, in a time of terrible godless persecutions, comforting the true children of the Church of Russia, with courage thou didst stand up for Christ and the Orthodox faith; and, dying day by day for the sake of thy pastoral service, thou wast revealed as a steadfast confessor.// For this, we lovingly glorify thee.

**Reader: (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples! {TONE 6}**

O true shepherd, Hieromartyr Vladimir, when lawless men compelled thee to depart from overseeing the Church of Russia, thou didst remain faithful in deed and word to Hierarch Tikhon. Like a holy sacrifice from Kiev, the mother of Russian cities, thou didst offer thyself to God, praying for those who were slaying thee.// For this, we willingly glorify thee.

**Reader: (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever. {TONE 6}**

O Hieromartyr Benjamin, as a true son of Christ's Church, and having heartfelt zeal for her welfare, thou didst bravely take thy stand against the false shepherds who were striving to steal thy flock, but not fearing the threats and false testimony of those who questioned thee, thou didst turn the judgment back upon the head of those who tested thee; and then, by thy death, thou didst strengthen Orthodoxy.// For this, we willingly glorify thee.

**Reader: Glory in the 5<sup>th</sup> Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

O most high Master, glorified and worshipped in Trinity, take pity on us by the acceptable prayers of Thy new martyrs, who in the presence of tyrants boldly confessed Thee, the One God, and Thine ineffable saving incarnation, // from a Virgin Mother, O Son of God.

**Reader: Now and ever: The Dogmatic is in the 8<sup>th</sup> Tone: Now and Ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

The King of heaven, because of His love for man, appeared on earth and dwelt with men. He took flesh from the pure Virgin and after assuming it, He came forth from her. The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person. Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man, we confess Christ our God!// Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, 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 is not said  
in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:**

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 art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes.

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

Blessed art 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 is not said  
in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:**

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 Aposticha.**

**Aposticha - Resurrection Tone 8**

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross, the eternal Life has come for death to raise those who are fallen; to enlighten those in darkness.//  
O Jesus, our Savior and illuminator, glory to Thee!

*V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

We glorify Christ, who rose from the dead. He accepted the human body and soul, and freed both from suffering. His most pure soul descended to hell, which He spoiled. His holy body did not see corruption in the tomb.// He is the Redeemer of our souls.

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

In psalms and songs we glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, O Christ. By it, Thou hast freed us from the tortures of hell// and as God hast granted eternal life and great mercy.

*V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

O Master of all, incomprehensible Creator of heaven and earth, by Thy suffering on the Cross Thou hast gained passionlessness for me. Accepting burial and arising in glory, Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself by Thine almighty hand. Glory to Thy rising on the third day! By it Thou hast granted us eternal life and cleansing of sins// as the only compassionate One.

*Glory in the 8<sup>th</sup> Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

O new house of Ephratha, splendid and elect region, O holy Russia, guard the Orthodox faith,// in which is thy confirmation and support.

*Now and ever, the Theotokion is in the 8<sup>th</sup> Tone: Now and Ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O marvelous wonder; the Queen of heaven and earth, who has been entreated by the saints of our land, has until now sheltered the Russian land, tenderly enriching the choir of its people. O mighty and sovereign Lady, cease not to pray for confirmation of the Orthodox faith in Rus'// and to pour out wonders forever. Amen.

**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.

#### **TROPAR FOR THE RESURRECTION, TONE 8**

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!// O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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

#### **TROPAR FOR THE HOLY NEW MARTYRS OF RUSSIA, TONE 4**

Today the Church of Russia forms a chorus in joy, praising her new martyrs and confessors; hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.// By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

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

#### **TROPAR FOR THE THEOTOKOS, TONE 4**

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:** May He, Who rose from the dead, Christ our True God, 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 the 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 The Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia 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.

*(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.