

Sunday, April 21, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast – Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, TONE 5

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

St. Mary of Egypt

At Great Vespers

Trisagion, Proemial Psalm, Great Litany, then Antiphon of the First Kathisma; followed by the Small Litany, and then “Lord I call...”

At “Lord I Call...”

Tone 5, for the Resurrection

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

By Thy precious Cross, O Christ, • Thou hast put the devil to shame. • By Thy Resurrection, Thou hast blunted the sting of sin • and saved us from the gates of death. • We glorify Thee, O only-begotten One.

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

Christ was led as a sheep to the slaughter • in order to grant Resurrection to the human race. • The princes of Hades were frightened by this, • for the gates of sorrow were lifted. • Christ the King of glory had entered, • saying to those in chains: “Go forth.” • And to those in darkness: “Come to the light.”

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

O great wonder. • The Creator of the invisible suffered in the flesh in His love for man • and rose again immortal. • Come, O sons of nations, • let us worship Him, • for delivered from error by His compassion, • we have learned to sing of one God in three Persons.

Tone 5, Resurrection Stichera by Anatolius

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

We offer Thee our evening worship, • O never-setting Light, • Who didst come in these last days to the world in the flesh; • Who even didst descend to Hades to dispel its darkness. • Who hast revealed the light of Resurrection to the nations. • Glory to Thee, O Lord and Giver of light.

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

We glorify the Leader of our salvation; • by His Resurrection from the dead, • the world was saved from deceit. • The assembly of Angels rejoices • as the deceit of demons is overthrown. • Fallen Adam rises as the devil falls.

(5) For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

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The guards were instructed by the lawless ones: • “Hide the rising of Christ, take money and say: • ‘The body was stolen from the tomb while we were asleep.’” • But who has heard of a body being stolen, • a body embalmed and naked, • with its grave clothes left behind in the tomb? • Do not be deceived, O Jews, • study the words of the Prophets and understand: • Christ is the Redeemer of the world and all powerful.

Tone 6, from the Lenten Triodion, (Having placed all their hope)

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

Thou wast standing before the doors of the Church, • polluted with evil and unable to enter. • Accused by thine own conscience, O wise one of God, • thou wast converted to a better way of life. • Looking upon the icon of the blessed Mother of God, • thou didst condemn all thy past sins, O Mother Mary, • and didst go to bow before the precious Cross.

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

REPEAT: Thou wast standing before the doors of the Church, • polluted with evil and unable to enter. • Accused by thine own conscience, O wise one of God, • thou wast converted to a better way of life. • Looking upon the icon of the blessed Mother of God, • thou didst condemn all thy past sins, O Mother Mary, • and didst go to bow before the precious Cross.

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

Having worshipped at the holy places with great joy, • thou didst receive saving grace for thy journey of virtue. • Thou didst set out in haste to follow the narrow path, • crossing the river Jordan, • and going to live where the Baptist had dwelt. • Through self-denial thou didst tame the savagery of the passions, • and through violence thou didst break the rebellion of thy flesh, • taking the Kingdom of God by force.

(1) *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

Thou didst live alone in the wilderness, • and as thou didst erase the images of sin from thy soul, • God marked it with the imprint of holiness. • Filled with the spirit, O Blessed Mother, • thou didst walk on the surface of the waters; • by thy prayers thou didst ascend from earth to heaven. • Since thou standest before Christ, O glorious Mary, • entreat Him with boldness to save our souls.

Tone 4, from the Lenten Triodion

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

The power of Thy Cross has worked a wonder, O Christ. • Through it a harlot became a champion of the ascetic life. • She cast aside her weakness and bravely fought the devil, • and having won the prize of victory, • she ceaselessly prays for our souls.

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Tone 5, Theotokion – Dogmatikon

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

In the Red Sea of old, • a type of the Virgin Bride was prefigured. • There Moses divided the waters; • here Gabriel assisted in the miracle. • There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet, • here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed. • After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable; • after Emmanuel's birth, the Virgin remained a Virgin. • O ever-existing God Who didst appear as Man, • O Lord, have mercy on us.

Entrance "O gladsome Light," and Prokeimenon of the day.

Augmented Litany of Fervent Supplication, "Vouchsafe...", and Completed Litany; then the Aposticha.

Aposticha

Tone 5, for the Resurrection

We magnify Thee in songs of praise, • O incarnate Christ and Savior. • By accepting the Cross and death for our sake, • as the Lord and Lover of man, • Thou didst overthrow the gates of Hades, • and didst arise on the third day, saving our souls.

The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty.

By being pierced in the side, O Lover of man, • Thou hast poured out drops of life and salvation for all. • By accepting death in the flesh, Thou hast granted us immortality. • Thou hast freed us by being placed in the tomb, • and hast resurrected us with Thyself in glory, as God. • Glory to Thee, O Lord and Lover of man.

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

Thy crucifixion and descent into Hades are awesome, O Lover of man. • Thou hast captured it, releasing the ancient prisoners. • Thou hast opened Paradise and given it to us. • Grant us purification of sins, • who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day. • Make us worthy of Paradise • and save us, O Lover of man.

Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore.

For our sake, Thou didst accept death in the flesh, • to rise from the dead on the third day. • Heal us from our earthly passions, • and restore us from our evil transgressions; • and save us, O Lover of man.

Tone 2, from the Lenten Triodion

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

With the sword of abstinence, • thou didst cut down the corrupt desires of thy soul and the passions of thy flesh. • With the silence of the wilderness thou didst strangle thy sinful words and thoughts. • Thou didst water the desert with the streams of thy tears, • and madest the fruits of repentance to grow for us. • We celebrate thy memory, O holy one.

Tone 2, Theotokion

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

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles. • Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man, • who carried in her arms her Creator? • This birth is the will of God. • Since thou didst carry Him as an infant in thine arms, O most pure one, • and since thou dost possess motherly boldness before Him, • do not cease praying for us who honor thee, • that He may be bountiful and save our souls.

Hymn of Symeon (read or chanted), Trisagion, then the following Troparia.

Troparia at Great Vespers

Tone 5, Troparion, Resurrection

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, • co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, • born for our salvation from the Virgin; • for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, • to endure death, • and to raise the dead • by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 8, Troparion, St. Mary of Egypt

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

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, • for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. • By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; • but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. • Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

Tone 8, Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

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

For our sake Thou wast born of the Virgin • and didst endure crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death. • Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of Thy hand. • Reveal Thy love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the Theotokos praying for us, • and save the despairing people, O our Savior.

Dismissal at Great Vespers

DEACON: Wisdom.

Father, bless.

PRIEST: Blessed is He Who Is (**Ο Ων**), Christ our God, always, now, and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen. Confirm, O God, the holy Orthodox faith of Orthodox Christians, together with His holy Church and this city, unto ages of ages. Amen.

DEACON: Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word: true the Theotokos, we magnify Thee. *Etc.*

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Troparia at the THIRD and at the SIXTH Hours

The Hours

Troparia: Resurrection, Glory... St. Mary

Kontakion: Resurrection

Troparia at the Third after Psalm 50, and at the Sixth Hour after Psalm 90:

Tone 5, Troparion, Resurrection

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Tone 8, Troparion, St. Mary of Egypt

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

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, • for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. • By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; • but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. • Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

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

Theotokion at the Third Hour: “O Theotokos; thou art the true vine...”

Theotokion at the Sixth Hour: “As we have no boldness...”



Kontakion at the Third Hour and at the Sixth Hour after the Trisagion Prayers:

Tone 5, Kontakion, Resurrection

Amen. Thou didst descend into Hades, O my Savior, • shattering its gates as Almighty, • resurrecting the dead as Creator, • and destroying the sting of death. • Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, • and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us.”

Then: “Lord, have mercy” (40)



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At the Divine Liturgy

*The Litany of Peace, the Typical Psalms, then the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12):
On the Beatitudes, eight troparia from the Oktoechos in the Tone of the Week:*

In Thy Kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

(8) Believing Thee to be God, O Christ, the thief on the cross confessed Thee in a pure manner, crying out from the depths of his heart: “Remember me in Thy kingdom, O Lord.”

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

(7) Together let us hymn as Savior and Creator, Him Who on the Cross budded forth life for our race and caused the curse which originated from the tree to wither up.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

(6) By Thy death hast Thou destroyed the power of death, O Christ, and Thou didst raise up with Thyself the dead of ages past, who now hymn Thee as our true God and Savior.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

(5) Arriving at Thy tomb, O Christ, the honorable women sought to anoint Thee with myrrh, O Bestower of life; but an Angel appeared to them, crying out: “The Lord is risen.”

Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

(4) When Thou wast crucified between two condemned thieves, O Christ, one of them blasphemed Thee and was justly damned, while the other confessed Thee and dwelleth now in paradise.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

(3) When they had come to the choir of the Apostles, the honorable women cried out: “Christ is risen.” Let us worship Him as Master and Creator.

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

(2) O indivisible Trinity, all-effecting and all-powerful Unity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: Thee do we hymn as our true God and Savior.

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

(1) Rejoice, O animate temple of God and impassible gate. Rejoice, O fiery throne which burneth yet is not consumed. Rejoice, O Mother of Emmanuel, Christ our God.

After the Entrance:

Troparia: Resurrection, Church (if of the Theotokos or Saint(s)), and St. Mary;
Kontakia: Resurrection, Church (if of Saint(s)); Glory... St. Mary; Now and ever... Church (if of Theotokos). If not, then “Steadfast Protectress...”

Prokeimenon, Tone 5:

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation for ever! (11:8) V. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly. (11: 2)

Another, Tone 4 (St. Mary):

God is wondrous in His saints, the God of Israel. (67:35)

Epistles: (321-ctr) Heb. 9:11-14 and (208) Gal. 3:23-29 (Saint). Alleluia, Tone 5:

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. (88:2) V. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. (88:3)

Another, Tone 1 (St. Mary):

I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer. (39:1)

Gospels: (47) Mark 10:32-45 and (33) Luke 7:36-50 (Saint). Instead of “It is truly meet...,” we sing, “In thee rejoiceth all creation...” Communion Hymns:

Praise the Lord from the heavens... The righteous shall be in Triodion. And the rest, as on the previous Sunday. everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings. Alleluia...

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As the Faithful receive Holy Communion

PRIEST: In the fear of God, with faith, and love, draw near.

Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the Fountain of immortality.

Canon from the Triodion:

With love I celebrate thy light-giving and holy memory, do thou send down to me the unapproachable light of Christ O venerable Mary of Egypt, before Whom thou dost now stand, and deliver me from the manifold temptations of life.

Not knowing the divine commandments, thou didst sully the divine image of God within thee, but, O all-praised one, through divine providence, thou didst cleanse it once again, rendering thyself godlike by thy godly actions, O venerable one.

She who was once a weapon of sin, O Longsuffering One, hath now been revealed to be a weapon of Thy Cross, O Compassionate One, for by venerating it, she conquered all the weapons and cunning of the devils.

He Who shed His own blood as a ransom for the sake of all, in the waters of thy tears cleansed thee who wast grievously sickened with the leprosy of thy wicked deeds, for He is the Cause of all that is.

O Creator of the mortal nature of man, since Thou art a fount of mercy and a wealth of compassion, O Lover of mankind, Thou didst have compassion upon her that fled unto Thee for refuge, snatching her away from the destroying beast.

Hastening to see the Cross, thou wast illumined by its effulgence O Mary, and having communed with it, by the divine manna of Him Who was crucified thereon, thou didst become crucified to the world, O right-wondrous one.

Previously guilty of leading many astray by wicked lust, thou dost now shine forth like the sun, manifesting thyself as a guide to all transgressors, O venerable one.

Moses once shone in glory on Mount Sinai, for having mystically beheld the most glorious back of God, he himself became a reflection of the strange mystery; and now, fervently falling down before the image of the most-pure one, the vessel which contained the Manna from heaven, Mary undertakes the angelic life.

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the Fountain of immortality.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

