

THE 2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
COMMEMORATION OF ALL SAINTS WHO HAVE
SHONE FORTH IN THE LAND OF RUSSIA:
AT GREAT VESPERS

After the Introductory Psalm, we chant "Blessed is the man ...," the first antiphon.

At "Lord, I have cried ...," 10 Stichera, 4 in Tone I:

Verse: Bring my soul out of prison * that I may confess Thy name.

Receive our evening prayers, * O Holy Lord, * and grant us remission of sins; * because Thou alone hast revealed ** the Resurrection to the world.

Verse: The righteous shall wait patiently for me * until Thou shalt reward me.

Go around Zion, O ye peoples, * and encompass her, * and give glory to him who in her midst hath arisen from the dead; * for he is our God, ** and hath delivered us from our iniquities.

Verse: Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; * O Lord, hear my voice.

Come O ye peoples, * let us hymn and worship Christ * glorifying his Resurrection from the dead: * for he is our God, ** who hath redeemed the world from the wiles of the adversary.

Another Sticheron, by Anatolius:

Verse: Let Thine ears be attentive * to the voice of my supplication.

Rejoice, O ye heavens! * Sound the trumpets O ye foundations of the earth! * O ye mountains thunder forth your joy! * for behold, Emmanuel hath nailed our sins to the Cross, * and the giver of life, hath slain death * raising up Adam, ** for He alone is the Lover of mankind.

The Stichera for the Saints of Russia, three in Tone III:

Verse: If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? * For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Tone III: Come, ye assemblies of Russia, * let us praise the saints that are in our land. * The venerable, the holy hierarchs, the right-believing princes, the martyrs, hieromartyrs, * the fools for Christ's sake, and the company of holy women. * Both those known by name and those unknown; * for truly by their deeds and words, and their manifold ways of life, * and through the gifts of God, they became saints, * and God hath glorified even their graves with miracles. * And now, standing directly before Christ Who hath glorified them, ** they pray fervently on behalf of us who celebrate their radiant festival with love.

Verse: For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath patiently waited for Thy word, * my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Tone III: With what beauties of hymnody shall we praise the divinely wise hierarchs of Russia, * the splendid adornments of the Church of Christ, * the crowns of the priesthood, the rule of piety, the inexhaustible well-springs of divine healing, * the outpouring of the gifts of the Spirit, * the rivers of manifold miracles which gladden the land of Russia with their flow, * the fervent helpers of pious peoples, * for whose sake Christ, Who hath great mercy, ** hath cast down the uprisings of the enemy.

Verse: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch * let Israel hope in the Lord.

Tone III: Earth is glad and heaven rejoiceth, O venerable fathers, * praising your feats and labors, your spiritual fortitude and purity of mind; * for ye were not overcome by the law of nature. * O holy company and divine assembly, ** ye are truly the confirmation of our land.

And three in Tone VIII:

Verse: For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; * and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

Tone VIII: O blessed and divinely wise princes of Russia, * who shine forth with Orthodox wisdom, * and are resplendent with the brilliance of the virtues: * Ye illumine all the faithful, driving away the darkness of the demons. * Wherefore, we honor you as partakers of never-waning grace * and unashamed preservers of your heritage, ** O right wondrous ones.

Verse: O praise the Lord, all ye nations; * praise Him, all ye peoples.

Tone VIII: O most blessed martyrs of Christ, * ye gave yourselves over to voluntary sacrifice, * have sanctified the land of Russia with your blood, * and have brought splendor even unto the air by your repose; * and now ye dwell in the heavens amid never-waning light, ** ever praying on our behalf, O ye beholders of God.

Verse: For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, * and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

Tone VIII: The corrections of your virtues have enlightened the hearts of the faithful, * O fools for Christ's sake and ye righteous, * who have shone forth in Russia; * for who hath heard of your boundless humility and forbearance, and not marveled? * The needs of all did ye anticipate, O right-wondrous ones: * ye were an example of meekness and guilelessness for all, * of pity for the sorrowful, of speedy aid to those in misfortune, * an untroubled haven for those at sea, and good speed for travelers. * And now ye have been crowned with unfading wreaths by the hand of the omnipotent God. ** Him do ye entreat, that our souls be saved.

Glory ..., in Tone VIII:

Rejoice in the Lord O thou Orthodox Russia, * dance now and be glad, * for thou art radiantly adorned with the faith, * having within thy loins, like a precious dowry, * venerable ascetics who struggled for the faith, * and witnessed to the truth,* take pleasure in the miracles that flow forth from them, * and beholding such a multitude of saints, * who encompass and protect thee from enemies visible and invisible, * cry out with thanksgiving unto the Savior: ** O Lord glory be to Thee.

Now & ever ..., the Dogmaticon in Tone I:

Let us hymn the whole world's glory, * who sprang forth from mankind and who gave birth to the Master, * the Portal of heaven, Mary the Virgin, * the hymn of the Bodiless Powers and adornment of the faithful; * for she hath been revealed as the Heaven and Temple of the Godhead. * By destroying the middle wall, she hath brought forth peace, * and opened wide the Kingdom. * Therefore, holding fast to her as a firm confirmation of the faith, * we have as our champion the Lord born from her. * Take courage therefore, take courage, O ye people of God; ** for as the Invincible one He shall conquer our adversaries.

Entrance. Prokeimenon of the day. Three Lessons:

READING FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH (49: 8-15)

Thus saith the Lord, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages; That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim. Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

READING FROM THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, and their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for Himself. As gold in the furnace hath

He tried them and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign forever. They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him: for grace and mercy is to His saints, and He hath care for His elect.

READING FROM THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

The righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. He shall take to Him His jealousy for complete armor, and make the creature His weapon for the revenge of His enemies. He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of a helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall He sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with Him against the unwise. Then shall the right-aiming thunderbolts go abroad; and from the clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast as out of a stone bow, and the water of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall cruelly drown them. Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away: thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. Hear, therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. For power is given you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Most High.

At the Litiya, the Sticheron of the temple, And these Stichera to the saints, in Tone VIII:

Rejoice with us, all ye choirs of saints and ranks of angels, * spiritually gathered together; * and let us come and chant a hymn of thanksgiving unto Christ our God. * For, lo! the countless assembly of our kinsmen, * who have been well-pleasing unto God, * standeth before the King of glory, and with entreaty mediateth for us. * They are the pillars and beauty of the Orthodox Faith; * they have glorified the Church of God with their ascetic feats and the shedding of their blood, * with their teachings and deeds; * they have confirmed the Faith of Christ with miracles and signs; * they have shone forth from all the regions of our land, * have established the Orthodox Faith therein, * and with apostolic zeal have brought it even unto other lands. * Others have adorned the wilderness and the cities with holy monasteries, * manifesting an angelic life. * Many have been subjected to trials through mockery, * wounding and cruel death by the children of this age. * And many have struggled in other ways, in every class. * And all pray to the Lord, that He deliver our homeland from tribulations, ** and that we all may be saved.

Glory ..., Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in Tone VIII:

All the noetic ranks rejoice with us, * joining in spiritual chorus. * They have seen the Queen and Sovereign Lady of all, * glorified by the faithful with many names. * And all the souls of the righteous, beholders of the sight, * rejoice to see her in the air stretching forth her most precious hands in supplication, * entreating peace for the world, * confirmation for the land of Russia, ** and salvation for our souls.

At the Aposticha, the Resurrection Stichera, in Tone I:

By thy Passion, O Christ, * we have been set free from passions, * and by thy Resurrection we have been delivered from corruption. ** O Lord, glory be to thee.

Verse: The Lord is King: He is clothed with majesty. * The Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.

All ye His creation rejoice! * let the heavens be glad, * let the nations clap their hands with gladness; * for Christ our Savior hath nailed our sins to the Cross * and by slaying death hath granted us life eternal, * raising all of the fallen race of Adam, ** as he alone is the Lover of mankind.

Verse: For He established the universe * which shall not be shaken.

Being the King of heaven and earth, * O Incomprehensible one, * Thou wast willingly crucified through Thy love for mankind; * when Hades met thee he was vexed, * while the souls of the righteous receiving thee below rejoiced, * and Adam, seeing thee his Creator in the nethermost regions, rose again. * O the wonder! * How did the life of all taste death? * Except that he wished to enlighten the world, * which crieth out saying: * 'O Thou who didst arise from the dead, ** O Lord glory be to thee!'

Verse: Holiness becometh Thy house, * O Lord, unto length of days.

Carrying sweet spices the myrrh-bearing women * reached thy tomb with haste, lamenting; * and not finding thy most pure Body, * but learning from the Angel the new and marvelous wonder, * spake unto the Apostles saying: * The Lord hath arisen, ** granting the world His great mercy.

Glory ..., in Tone IV: (According to Lambertson)

Celebrating the yearly commemoration of our holy kinsmen, * let us call them blessed, as is meet; * for they have truly passed through all the beatitudes of the Lord: * impoverished, they have become rich in spirit; * being meek, they have inherited the land of the meek; * having wept, they have found comfort; * having thirsted after righteousness, they have been filled; * having had mercy upon others, they have found mercy themselves; * pure of heart, they have seen God, as far as such is possible; * peace-makers, they have been counted worthy of adoption by God; * and persecuted and tormented for piety and righteousness' sake, * they now rejoice and are glad in the heavens; * and they earnestly entreat the Lord, ** that He take pity on our homeland.

Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in Tone V: (According to Lambertson)

Let us sound the clarion of hymns! * Together let us chant unto the Theotokos and Queen, the helper of our land: * Rejoice, O thou who from ages past hast crowned our homeland with thy benevolence * and pourest forth thy grace thereon! * Wherefore, our Church of Russia doth celebrate with splendor * thine all-honored protecting veil and the memory of thy miracles wrought thereby. * Take not thy mercy away from us now, O Sovereign Lady; * but look down upon our sorrows and oppression, ** and raise us up by thy mighty assistance.

"Rejoice O Virgin Theotokos ..." (Twice)

Troparion to all Saints of Russia, in Tone VIII:

The land of Russia doth offer Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone forth in it, * as the beauteous fruit of Thy salvific splendor. * By their supplications and through the Theotokos preserve Thou the Church ** and our land in profound peace, O most Merciful One. (Once)

AT MATINS

At "God is the Lord ...," the Resurrection Troparion, in Tone I:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, * and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, * Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, * granting life unto the world. * Wherefore, the Hosts of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Life-giver: * Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. * Glory to Thy kingdom. ** Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of mankind. (Twice)

Glory ..., Troparion of the Saints, in Tone VIII:

The land of Russia doth offer Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone forth in it, * as the beautiful fruit of Thy salvific splendor. * By their supplications and through the Theotokos preserve Thou the Church ** and our land in profound peace, O most Merciful One.

Now & ever ..., Theotokion:

O Good One, Who for our sake wast born of the Virgin * and, having endured crucifixion, * cast down death by death, and as God revealed the resurrection: * disdain not that which Thou hast fashioned with Thine own hand. * Show forth Thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; * Accept the supplications of the Theotokos who bore Thee, ** and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior!

After the first chanting of the Psalter (Kath. II), the Sedalions, in Tone I:

While watching Thy grave, the soldiers * became as dead men from the lightning flash of the Angel * who appeared and proclaimed to the Women the Resurrection. * We glorify Thee, the destroyer of corruption; * we fall down before Thee, * who hath risen from the grave ** and who alone art our God.

Verse: Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hands be lifted on high; * forget not Thy paupers to the end.

Thou wast willingly nailed to the Cross, * O Compassionate one, * and laid in a tomb as a mortal, * O Giver of life. * By Thy death, O Powerful one, * Thou hast smashed its might; * for Hades' gatekeepers trembled before Thee; * Thou hast raised with Thee the dead from every age, ** for Thou alone lovest mankind.

Glory ..., Now & Ever ..., Theotokion:

All we who with love flee for refuge to thy goodness * know thee to be the Mother of God * and after childbirth still truly Virgin; * for we sinners have thee as our protection; * we have thee as our salvation in misfortunes, ** as the only all-immaculate one.

After the second chanting of the Psalter (Kath III), the Sedalions, in Tone I:

The women came to Thy tomb at dawn * and seeing a vision of an Angel they trembled; * the tomb became resplendent with life; * and amazed by the miracle, * they returned to the disciples and proclaimed the Resurrection: * for Christ hath despoiled Hades, * as alone almighty and all powerful, * raising up those in corruption, * dispelling the fear of condemnation ** by the power of the Cross.

Verse: I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, * I will tell of all Thy wonders.

O Life of all, Thou wast nailed to the Cross; * O immortal Lord, Thou wast numbered among the dead, * arising on the third day, O Savior, * raising Adam from corruption; * wherefore the heavenly Powers cried out to Thee: * 'O Giver of life, * Glory to Thy sufferings, O Christ; * glory to Thy Resurrection; * glory to Thy condescension, ** O only Lover of mankind'.

Glory ..., Now & Ever ..., Theotokion:

O Mary, holy tabernacle of the Master, * raise us up who have fallen into the pit of wicked despair, * of transgressions and afflictions; * for thou art the salvation, * the help and the mighty protection of sinners, ** and thou dost save thy servants.

Polyeleos & Magnification: We magnify you, * O all ye saints * who have shone forth in the land of Russia, * and we honor your holy memory; ** for ye entreat Christ our God on our behalf.

Selected Psalm Verses:

A: Our God is our refuge and strength, a helper in afflictions which mightily befall us.

The Resurrectional Verses (THE EVLOGITARIA)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, * teach me Thy statutes.

The assembly of angels was amazed, * beholding Thee numbered among the dead, * O Savior, * destroying the stronghold of death, * and with Thyself raising up Adam, ** and freeing all from Hades.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, * teach me Thy statutes.

Why mingle ye myrrh with tears of pity, * O ye women disciples? * Thus the radiant angel within the tomb * addressed the myrrh-bearing women; * behold the tomb and understand, ** for the Savior is risen from the tomb.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, * teach me Thy statutes.

Very early * the myrrh-bearing women hastened * unto Thy tomb, lamenting, * but the angel stood before them and said: * the time for lamentation is passed, weep not, ** but tell of the Resurrection to the apostles.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, * teach me Thy statutes.

The myrrh-bearing women, * with myrrh came to Thy tomb, O Savior, bewailing, * but the angel addressed them, saying: * Why number ye the living among the dead, * for as God ** He is risen from the tomb.

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

Let us worship the Father, * and His Son, and the Holy Spirit, * the Holy Trinity, * one in essence, * crying with the Seraphim: ** Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord.

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

In bringing forth the Giver of life, * thou hast delivered Adam from sin, O Virgin, * and hast brought joy to Eve * instead of sorrow; * and those fallen from life * have thereunto been restored, ** by Him Who of thee was incarnate, God and man.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (Thrice).

Then the little Litany and:

The Hypacoi:

The Thief's repentance plundered Paradise, * but the Myrrh-bearers' lamentations announced the joy that Thou hast risen, * O Christ God, ** granting the world great mercy.

Sessional Hymns for the feast, in Tone V: (According to Lambertson)

Having been illumined with the lightning-flashes of the saints, * as though entering a beautiful paradise * we have found delight in a torrent of sweetness; * and gazing in wonder at their valorous feats, * let us come to love their virtues, * crying out to the Savior: * Through their supplications, O God, ** grant us a share in Thy kingdom!

Like the radiant sun, like the brilliant morning-star, * the honored day of the memorial of the saints * who have shone forth in the land of Russia hath dawned, * illumining all of us and rousing our hearts ** to emulate their godly life and their zeal for the Faith.

Glory ..., in Tone III:

All the faithful people of Russia * celebrate on the day of the commemoration of Thy saints, O Lord. * The heavens rejoice and the ends of our earth are glad. ** Through their supplications grant our souls great mercy.

Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in Tone IV:

Looking down from the highest, * O most merciful Master, visit us who have been afflicted by sin, taking unto Thyself the wretched; and through the supplications of the Theotokos and all the saints of Russia, grant unto our souls great mercy.

The Song of Ascents, 1st Antiphon, in Tone I:

When I am afflicted, * I cry unto Thee, O Lord, ** hearken unto my pains.

For those who dwell in the desert * the longing for God never ceaseth, ** for they are far from the vanity of this world.

Glory ..., Now & Ever ...,

To the Holy Spirit, as to the Father and the Son, * are due honor and glory; ** thus let us sing to the Trinity, a single power.

2nd Antiphon:

Having lifted me up to the summit of Thy laws, * make me to shine with virtues, O God, ** that I may sing Thy praises.

Take me with Thy right hand, O Word, * guard me and keep me, ** lest the fire of sin scorch me.

Glory ..., Now & Ever ...,

In the Holy Spirit all creation is renewed, * and hasteneth back to its original condition; ** for He is equal in strength to the Father and the Word.

3rd Antiphon:

With those who said unto me: * 'Let us journey to the courts of the Lord', ** my Spirit was gladdened and my heart rejoiceth.

In the house of David is great fear; * for when the thrones are set therein, ** all the tribes and nations of the earth will be judged.

Glory ..., Now & Ever ...,

To the Holy Spirit must be offered honor, adoration, glory and power, * as befits also the Father and the Son; ** for the Trinity is a Unity, one in essence, but not in hypostases.

Prokeimenon, in Tone I: Now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will establish them in salvation, * I will be manifest therein..

The Verse: The words of the Lord are pure words, silver that is fired, tried in the earth, brought to sevenfold purity.

Let every breath.

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARK [16:1-8]

At that time, the Sabbath having past: Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves. Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulcher? And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a

young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them. Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulcher; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.

The Sunday Resurrection Gospel. Then, in Tone VI:

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, * let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, * the only sinless One. * We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, * and Thy holy Resurrection we hymn and glorify. * For Thou art our God, * and we know none other beside Thee; * we call upon Thy name. * O come, all ye faithful, * let us worship Christ's holy Resurrection, * for, behold, through the Cross joy hath come to all the world. * Ever blessing the Lord, * we hymn His Resurrection; * for, having endured crucifixion, ** He hath destroyed death by death.

Psalm 50, Then:

Glory ..., in Tone VI:

Through the prayers of the Apostles * O Merciful One, ** blot out the multitude of our transgressions.

Now & Ever ..., in Tone VI:

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, * O Merciful One, ** blot out the multitude of our transgressions.

Have mercy on me, O God, * according to Thy great mercy; * and according to the multitude of Thy compassions, ** blot out my transgressions.

Jesus having risen from the grave, * as He foretold, * hath given us life eternal, ** and great mercy.

After which: "O God, save Thy people ...", The Canons:

Canon of the Resurrection with 4 Troparia, including the Irmos; the canon to the Theotokos with 2 Troparia; and the Canon to all saints of Russia with 8 Troparia.

ODE I

Irmos: Thy triumphant right hand, * in a manner befitting God, * hath been glorified in strength, O Immortal One; * for in its infinite strength it broke into pieces the enemy, * and hath made a strange new way for the Israelites through the deep.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

As God, working with exceedingly pure hands, Thou hast fashioned me in the beginning from dust, and now stretching out those hands on the Cross, Thou didst recall from the earth my corruptible body, which Thou hast taken from the Virgin.

Refrain: **G**lory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

He, who by divinely breathing upon me placed a soul in me, hath willingly submitted to be slain for me and thus, having delivered his soul to death, hath freed my soul from the eternal bonds, raising it with Himself, and glorifying it with incorruption.

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

Theotokion: **R**ejoice! source of grace, Rejoice! ladder and gate of heaven, Rejoice! lamp-stand and golden jar, the un-hewn mountain, that bore unto the world, Christ the Giver of life.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

What hymn worthy of thee can our weakness offer unto thee? If not only the joyful one Gabriel revealed unto us: 'Rejoice! O Theotokos, Virgin Mother who knewest not wedlock!'

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

Unto the Ever-virgin and Mother of the King of the highest Powers, let us the faithful cry in spirit from hearts most pure: 'Rejoice! O Theotokos, Virgin Mother who knewest not wedlock!'

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

In spiritual songs let us all hymn together our godly fathers who have shone forth in piety, whom every place and region of the land of Russia hath brought forth, and whom the Church of Russia hath nurtured.

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Come all ye faithful who love the martyrs, and with hymns let us honor the martyrs of Russia, Theodore, and the youth John, who refused to worship the idols, shedding their blood for Christ.

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Rejoice, O ye seven holy hierarchs - Basil, Ephraim, Eugene, Elpidius, Agathadorus, Eutherus and Capito - who were bishops in Cherson and hallowed our land with your blood!

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Thou art our greatness and boast, O divinely wise Olga; for by thee were we freed from the deception of idolatry. Pray thou now for the people whom thou hast led to God.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Rejoice and be glad, O servant of Christ, great and wise Prince Vladimir, intercessor for our souls, for by thee have we all been delivered from the deception of the demons. Wherefore, we cry to thee: Rejoice!

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Michael, the hierarch of God, shineth like a star in heaven, who illumined the land of Russia with the light of the knowledge of the divine Faith and led to the Master a new people, reborn in the font of baptism.

Glory ..., **O** blessed passion-bearers of Christ, Boris and Gleb: forget not thy homeland. Dispel from it famine and affliction, and deliver us, who set our hope on you, from civil strife and every sinful fall.

Now & ever ..., **W**ith the ranks of the angels, O Sovereign Lady, with the honorable and glorious prophets, the pre-eminent apostles and hieromartyrs, and with the archangels, pray thou to God on behalf of us sinners, who in the land of Russia have glorified the feast of thy protecting veil.

Katavasia: **I shall open my mouth * and the Spirit will inspire it, * and I shall utter the words of my song unto the Queen and Mother: * I shall be seen radiantly keeping feast * and joyfully praising her wonders.**

ODE III

Irmos: **Thou alone knowest the weakness of mortals * and in compassion took their form; * gird me with power from on high, * that I may cry unto Thee: * Holy is the living temple of Thine ineffable glory, O Lover of mankind!**

Refrain: **Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.**

As Thou art my God, O Good one, Thou hast taken compassion upon me, fallen as I was, deigning to come down to me, and exalting me through Thy crucifixion that I may cry unto Thee: 'Holy art Thou the Lord of glory, in goodness beyond compare!'

Refrain: **Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.**

O Christ, as the hypostatic Life and as compassionate God, Thou hast clothed Thyself with me, the corrupted one, descending, O Master, unto the dust of death, destroying the power of death, and arising on the third day, whereby Thou hast clothed me with incorruption.

Refrain: **Most holy Theotokos save us.**

Theotokion: **H**aving conceived God in thy womb, O Virgin, by the most holy Spirit, thou hast remained unburnt, like the bush that burned before Moses the lawgiver yet remained unconsumed, clearly foretelling thee who received the unendurable fire.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

Truthfully, O Virgin, following the words of the Prophet, we name thee the light cloud; for from thee the Lord hath come to overthrow the idols of Egypt, made by men, and to enlighten those who served them.

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

The choir of Prophets hath truly named thee the sealed fountain and the shut gate, clearly depicting for us the symbols of thy virginity, O all-hymned one, which Thou didst preserve even after childbirth.

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

The sacred and great Lavra, which was founded by thee, O venerable father Anthony, first of all the monks of Russia, most gloriously preacheth and soundeth forth more loudly than a trumpet; and the house of the Mother of God doth glory in splendor, chanting unto God: by Thee have I been established, O Lord.

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Let us radiantly hymn the blessed Theodosius, eminent in miracles and great in the virtues, the founder of the coenobitic monastic life in Russia, the glorious favorite of Christ and the Theotokos; and with him Nestor, the recorder of memorable events, and Alypius, the first iconographer in Russia.

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Thou art a noetic paradise, O holy Mountain of the Caves, who produced a multitude of spiritual trees - the blessed fathers, whose number it is not possible to reckon individually. We therefore offer praise and hymnody to the one Master for all of them together.

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O Martyr Anthony and steadfast Eustathius, together with John, ye adornment of the Lithuanian land, who set at naught the arrogance of Olgerd: Quench ye the passions which mortify me!

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Be ye intercessors for your earthly homeland and for the city wherein ye struggled in martyrdom, O venerable-martyr Athanasius, and thou, O young Gabriel. And teach us also to confess Orthodoxy with boldness and not to fear the enemy.

R:**A**ll ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Let the venerable Job be honored, the adornment of the Lavra of Pochaev, together with all the wonderworkers and saints of Volyn, who have illumined the ends of our land with their deeds and miracles.

Glory ..., With sacred hymns let us praise Athanasius, the holy bishop of Constantinople, who brought his own precious relics, as an earnest of unity with the universal Church, to be a blessing for the land of Russia, and hath left them to us.

Now & ever ..., **Lo!** the time for the assistance of the most holy Theotokos is come, for temptations have multiplied. Behold! now is the time for us to sigh unto her, O brethren! Let us therefore say with our whole heart: O Sovereign Lady, O Sovereign Lady, help thou thy people.

Katavasia: O Theotokos, thou living and plentiful fount, * grant strength to those united in spiritual fellowship, * who sing hymns of praise to thee: * and in thy divine glory * grant unto them crowns of glory.

Kontakion of All Saints of Russia, in Tone III:

Today the choir of the saints * who have pleased God * in our land standeth forth in the Church * and invisibly prayeth to God for us. * With them the angels give glory, * and all the saints of the Church of Christ * celebrate with them; ** for all together they entreat the pre-eternal God for us.

Ikos: Fruitful trees of the Garden of Eden, laden with goodly fruit, have the saints been shown to be, producing the sweet-smelling blossoms of doctrine and the fruits of good works: whereby our souls are fed, and our spiritual hunger is assuaged. Come ye, therefore, let us hasten beneath their shadow and bless them as the delight and adornment of our land, and as a model and pattern for our life; for they have received imperishable crowns from the pre-eternal God.

Sessional Hymn, in Tone VII:

Christ, the Sun of righteousness, * set you forth as rays illumining the land of Russia, * O favored ones of God, * enlightening our race. * Wherefore, with your divine entreaties, * O blessed ones of God, ** make radiant my darkened soul.

Glory ..., Now & ever ..., Theotokion:

O ye faithful, let us make haste * to the divine and healing robe of God our Savior, * Whose good pleasure it was to assume this flesh * and to shed His own holy Blood upon the Cross, * and thereby redeemed us from slavery to the enemy. * Wherefore, we cry out to Him in thanksgiving: * Save Thou our Orthodox episcopate and this city, * and with Thy precious robe defend all the people and save our souls, ** in that Thou lovest mankind.

ODE IV

Irmos: Habbakuk with foreseeing eyes * perceived thee as a mountain overshadowed by the grace of God, * from which, he foretold, * the Holy one of Israel would come, * for our salvation and refashioning.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

Who is this Savior that cometh from Edom, wearing a crown of thorns, His garments reddened, and hanging upon a tree? He is the Holy one of Israel, who hath come for our salvation and restoration.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

Behold, O ye disobedient people, and be ashamed! For He, whom ye in your madness begged Pilate to hang upon a cross as a malefactor, hath abolished the power of death, and in a manner befitting God, arisen from the tomb.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Theotokion: We know thee to be the tree of life, O Virgin; for it was not the fruit which bringeth death that budded from thee, but rather the delight of eternal life and the salvation of us who hymn thee.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Hear wonders, O heaven, take note, O earth, for a daughter of the earthly, fallen Adam hath been declared the Mother of God and of her Creator, for our salvation and restoration.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

We praise thy great and awesome mystery; for unknown to the Commanders of the armies beyond this world, the One Who hath descended upon thee, like dew upon the fleece, O All-praised one, hath done so for our salvation and restoration.

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O divinely blessed prince Daniel, the Lord showed thee forth as the founder and first prince of the city of Moscow. Praying unceasingly to him, save thou the city of Moscow and all the land of Russia from tribulation, and in thy mercy visit its Orthodox people.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

We entreat you, O holy hierarchs of Christ - Peter, Alexis, Jonah and Philip - and all the rest of the wonderworkers of Moscow, to still the turmoil of our spirit and the tempest of grief, and by your supplications to God grant us serenity.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

A primate of the apostolic Church, a confessor of the Orthodox Faith, a second Chrysostom in denouncing the sin-loving and seditious, and a builder of the Orthodox kingdom wast thou, O holy hierarch Hermogenes; and for this thou wast tormented with imprisonment and starvation and hast received from God an imperishable crown.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Today the glorious city of Moscow rejoiceth, and all Russia is filled with gladness; and thine honored monastery, O divinely blessed Sergius, boasting, is adorned, possessed of thy precious relics as an inexhaustible and all-wondrous treasure.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

With sacred hymns let us praise the venerable Nikon, the lover of obedience; and with him let us also hymn Stephen, Sabbas, Andronicus, and all the venerable disciples and companions of the great Sergius, by whose supplications the children of Russia are saved.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

We entreat you, O blessed and most wise ones - Basil, Maximus and John of Moscow, and all the fools for Christ's sake in Russia, who were wondrous in the manner of your life and understanding: Beseech Christ our God on behalf of your earthly homeland, and beg salvation for all the faithful.

Glory ..., **T**he venerable Tichon showed himself to be a new pillar dweller in the regions of Kaluga, with his faithful and fervent disciple Pathanutius, and the blessed Laurence revealed the difficult path of faith to those of his country, saving them, and us, by his holy prayers.

Now & ever ..., **T**he likeness of the image of the Iveron Icon not only illumineth sacred Athos, but it also adorneth the city of Moscow, and other towns and villages with its effulgence, being a fount of healing to all those who turn to it entreating miraculous aid, and a good gatekeeper, opening unto us the gates of heaven.

Katavasia: Seated in glory * upon the throne of the Godhead, * Jesus most divine is come on a swift cloud, * and with His incorrupt arm hath He saved those who cry aloud: * Glory to Thy power, O Christ!

ODE V

Irmos: O Christ, who hast enlightened the ends of the world * by the brightness of Thy coming, * and made them radiant by Thy Cross, * enlighten with the light of Thy divine knowledge * the hearts of those who sing Thy praises with right belief.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

The Jews put to death on the Tree of the Cross the great shepherd and Lord; but from death's might He hath rescued like sheep the dead buried in Hades.

Refrain: **G**lory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

When Thou didst announce the glad tidings of peace by Thy cross and proclaimed deliverance for captives, O my Savior, then didst Thou, O Christ, put to shame him who held them captive revealing him as naked and destitute by Thy Divine Arising.

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

Theotokion: **O** all-hymned one, despise not the prayers of those who faithfully entreat thee, but accept them, O Pure one, and convey them to thy Son, our God and only benefactor; for in thee we have acquired a protectress.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

Beholding thee, the Powers of heaven are made glad, and with them rejoiceth the assemblies of mortals; for they have been united, O Virgin Theotokos, by thine offspring; whom we worthily glorify.

Refrain: **M**ost holy Theotokos save us.

Let every mortal tongue and mind be roused to the praise of mortal man's true adornment; the Virgin clearly standeth by the Lord, glorifying those who with faith sing the praises of her wonders.

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:**All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.**

O first pastors of Novgorod the Great - Nicetas, John and Gregory, Theoctistus, Euthymius and Serapion - in the house of the Wisdom of God ye flourished like palm-trees in your right-fruitful words and blameless lives.

Refrain: **All Saints of Russia, pray to God for us.**

With splendor let the princes of Novgorod be praised: Vladimir, who erected the most marvelous Cathedral of the Holy Wisdom, and his mother Anna, and Mstislav and Theodore; and with them let all who shone forth in their God-pleasing life from the generation of the princes of Russia be hymned with divine songs.

R:**All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.**

Who among mortals can glorify as is meet the wondrous Barlaam, the adornment of Novgorod, the beacon of all Russia, and Anthony, who traveled from Rome on a stone, over the waves of the sea? And Savva, and Ephraim, and Michael, worthily praised among the earthborn.

R:**All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.**

Come ye, let us behold the ever-living and divinely-blossoming flowers of the Garden of Eden: the struggles of the fathers who shone forth in the region of Novgorod, whose husbandman is the Lord alone.

R:**All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.**

With songs let us hymn the meek Vsevolod and Dovmont, the unassailable ramparts of Pskov, and Nicholas the Blessed, and Cornelius, who enlightened the land of Latvia with holy baptism.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Isidore the priest, and with him the assembly of martyrs in Yuriev, the city of Estonia, who confessed the Orthodox Faith in the face of the Latins, have passed over to the eternal mansions; and standing in splendor before the king of hosts, they pray for us who honor their memory.

Glory... The god-bearing Avraam, the adornment of Smolensk, Euphrosynia, the joy of Polotsk and splendor of virgins, do we bring before Thee, O my Christ, as intercessors. For their sake do Thou save us.

Now & ever ..., O thou who art a fervent helper for those who have recourse to thee and the hope of the hopeless, as thou wast once to those dwelling in Novgorod the great, look now upon the affliction of thy people and reveal to us a sign of thy mercy, O most pure one.

Katavasia: All creation stands in awe of thy divine glory; * for thou, O Virgin who hast not known wedlock, * didst contain within thy womb Him Who is the God of all; * and giving birth to the timeless Son, * thou grantest peace unto all who hymn thee.

ODE VI

Irmos: The deepest abyss hath surrounded us, * and there is none to deliver us, * yea we have been counted as sheep for the slaughter; * O God save Thy people, * for Thou art the strength and restoration of the weak.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

Through the transgression of the first-formed man, O Lord, we were grievously wounded; but by Thy wounds, by which Thou wast afflicted for our sakes, O Christ, we have been healed; for Thou art the strength and restoration of the feeble.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

Thou hast led us up from Hades, O Lord, by destroying the all-devouring whale of the deep, O All-powerful one, and destroying his power by Thy might; for Thou art the life and the light and the resurrection.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Theotokion: The Forefathers rejoice in thee, immaculate Virgin, for through thee they regain Eden, which they had lost through transgression; for thou art pure both before child-bearing and after giving birth.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

The heavenly Ranks stand beside thine Offspring like servants, fittingly struck with amazement at thy seedless child-bearing, O Ever-virgin; for thou art pure both before bearing child and after giving birth.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

The Word, who before was without flesh, and who made the universe by His will, who brought the armies of the Bodiless ones into being out of nothing, as All-powerful, became incarnate from thee, O Most pure one.

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O venerable Zosimas, Sabbatius and Germanus, who loved Christ: Ye turned away from the world in accordance with the Gospel, crossing over to the impassable and barren islands of Solovki. And ye accustomed yourselves to all the virtues, emulating the wise bee, and became eminent receptacles of the Holy Spirit, O most wise ones.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Let us hymn the venerable Tryphon, great in wonders, the enlightener of Kola, who shone forth in the uttermost ends of the lands of the north, delivered the people from bitter slavery to the demons, and illumined them with holy baptism.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Rejoice, O wilderness which before wast barren and uninhabited, but now dost blossom like a lily and is filled with a multitude of monks! Leap up, ye mountains of Valaam and all ye groves, praising Sergius and Germanus, together with Arsenius of Konev and Alexander of Svir, the all-praised fathers.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Thou didst pass over the rolling deep of this life, having the Mother of God as pilot, O venerable Cyril. And thou, O Joseph, boast of Volotsk, and Nilus the un-acquisitive, who wisely pastured the flocks of your disciples by the still waters and on the meadow of abstinence, and dwell now with them invisibly: Pray ye for us who keep your memory.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Anthony of Sisk, and Triphon of Vyatsk, like great luminaries illumine the assembly of monastics, as does Dimitrius of Priluk, and Amphilochios, and Dionysius the boasts of Glinsk, Gregory of Pelshemski, and Paul, Sergius and Cornelius of Vologodsk, whose lives radiated the virtues like beams of light.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O venerable Macarius, Barnabas, and Tichon, Abramius and Genadius, and all the other fathers of Yaroslavl, having lived in a god-pleasing manner, ye made the fastness of the wilderness useful and spiritually profitable, like cities, pouring forth a wellspring of healings upon those who with faith honor you, wherefore we bless and entreat you to beseech the Lord that we be not deprived of the vision of God which ye now eternally enjoy in the kingdom of heaven.

Glory..., Join chorus, O Russian Thebaid! Adorn yourselves, O wilderness and forests of Olonetz, Belozersk and Vologda, which produced a holy and glorious multitude of fathers, who by their wondrous life instruct all not to cleave unto the world, but to take their cross upon their shoulders and follow after Christ.

Now & ever ..., Of old, the Creator of all wrought a wonder through thy most precious icon, O Virgin, and saved the Imperial City from the incursion of aliens. Thus be thou now also a protection and aid for the land of Russia, O Lady and Queen, saving it from all the assaults of the enemy.

Katavasia: As we celebrate this sacred and solemn feast of the Theotokos, * let us come, clapping our hands, * O people of the Lord, * and glorify God who was born of her.

Kontakion: in Tone I:

Thou didst arise from the grave in glory as God * and thus raised up the world with Thee; * and mortal nature singeth Thy praises as God, * and death hath disappeared; * Adam danceth, O Master, * and now Eve, freed from her chains, * rejoiceth as she cries aloud: ** It is Thee, O Christ, who grantest the Resurrection to all.

Ikos: Let us praise as God all-powerful the One who hath risen on the third day, smashing the gates of Hades and rousing the age-long dead from the grave, who hath appeared to the Myrrh-bearers, as it was His good pleasure to say to them first: Rejoice! and thus revealing joy to the Apostles, as alone the Giver of life. Therefore with faith the Women proclaim the tokens of victory to the Disciples; Hades groaneth, Death lamenteth, the world exulteth and all rejoice together; for Thou, O Christ, hast granted the Resurrection to all.

ODE VII

Irmos: We the faithful recognize thee, * O Theotokos, * as a spiritual furnace; for as He, * the highly exalted One, * saved the three Youths, * so hath He wholly refashioned me, fallen humanity, in thy womb, * O God of our Fathers, who art praised and supremely glorified.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

The earth did shudder, the sun was hidden, and light was enveloped in darkness, the sacred veil of the Temple was rent in twain and the rocks were rent asunder; for the Just One hath tasted death upon the cross; O God of our Fathers, who art praised and supremely glorified.

Refrain: **Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.**

When Thou, the highly exalted one, didst willingly become as one helpless and slain among the dead for our sakes, Thou didst set us all free, and with a lofty arm, didst raise us up together with Thee, O God of our fathers, who art praised and supremely glorified.

Refrain: **Most holy Theotokos save us.**

Theotokion: Rejoice, spring of eternal water! Rejoice, Paradise of delight! Rejoice, wall of the faithful! Rejoice, Bride who kneweth not wedlock! Rejoice, joy of all the world! through whom the praised and supremely glorified God of our fathers hath dawned upon us.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: **Most holy Theotokos save us.**

Jacob prophetically discerned thee in the ladder, O Theotokos; for through thee the Highly Exalted One was well-pleased to appear and make His abode among us: O Thou praised and supremely glorified God of our fathers.

Refrain: **Most holy Theotokos save us.**

Rejoice, Adam's most revered fleece! The Shepherd, the highly exalted One, came forth from thee, truly clothed in my whole nature, through His ineffable compassion: O Thou praised and supremely glorified God of our fathers.

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:**All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.**

Let Leontius, Isaiah and Ignatius, James and Theodore, the precious vessels of the Spirit and honored adornment of Rostov, Abramius, the valiant scourge of the demons, and the other Joasaph, who shone forth in Russia, Peter, the scion of royalty, and Heirinarchus, the voluntary sufferer, be hymned with the other godly wonderworkers of Rostov.

R:**All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.**

After God, ye are the helpers and protectors of the city of Vladimir: O valorous Alexander, conqueror of the Swedes; George, who laid down thy life in battle for the Church of God and the people; Andrew, builder of the Russian nation, with the chaste Gleb, and thou, O venerable Abramius, who like the merchant of the Gospel purchased the kingdom of heaven with thy sufferings. Guide us to the haven of salvation, for ye are the bulwark of the faithful.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Glory be to John and Theodore, the luminaries of Suzdal! And with them let Euthymius also be hymned, who was great in ascetic struggles, the companion of the great Sergius, and also Euphrosynia, the all-radiant star of Suzdal, with them Cosmas who struggled on the banks of the Acheron river.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Let Nicetas be honored, the model of repentance, who struggled ascetically on a pillar and received death at the hands of his kinsmen; and Daniel, the burier of the dead; and with them also Andrew, who forsook the glory of the princely rank and finished his life in poverty: the wonderworkers of Pereyaslavl.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O Constantine, apostle and enlightener of the land of Murom, together with thy noble offspring Theodore and Michael; and thou, O valiant and pious Peter, vanquisher of the serpent of pride, with thy wise spouse Fevronia and the righteous and merciful Juliana: Entreat Christ on our behalf.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O holy hierarch Arsenius, boast of Tver; Michael, prince and martyr, and Anna, treasure of the city of Kashin; venerable Nilus and Macarius, Ephraim, enlightener of the city of Torzhok, with Arcadius and Juliana: O blossoms of chastity: Entreat Christ on our behalf!

Glory ..., **W**ith the sword of your supplications, O right-believing and venerable princes Theodore, David and Constantine, ye vanquished the demons and received from heaven the grace to heal illnesses and to expel evil spirits from those who cry out: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Now & ever ..., **L**ikened to a grace-filled treasury, thou hast granted us thy holy Vladimir Icon, which our venerable fathers have often, and in many ways, turned to for aid. Turn not away from us now O Mother of God, but assuage and save the land of Russia from all those who treat us wickedly.

Katavasia: **The Holy Children bravely trampled upon the threatening fire, * refusing to worship created things in place of the Creator, * and they sang in Joy: * 'Blessed art Thou and praised above all, O Lord God of our Fathers.'**

ODE VIII

Irmos: **In the furnace as in a fiery smelter * the Israelite Youths shone brighter than gold * with the beauty of godliness as they exclaimed: * All ye His works bless ye the Lord, * praise and supremely exalt him throughout all ages.**

Refrain: **G**lory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

O Word of God, Thou Who by Thy will maketh and transformeth all things, by Thy Passion Thou hast transformed the shadow of death into everlasting life, wherefore we and all Thy works unceasingly praise Thee as Lord, and supremely exalt Thee throughout all ages.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

By rising on the third day, O Christ, Thou hast destroyed the misery and destruction within the gates and strongholds of Hades. Unceasingly all Thy works praise Thee as Lord, and supremely exalt Thee throughout all ages.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Theotokion: Let us praise her who without seed and transcending nature brought forth Christ the precious pearl from the divine flesh crying aloud: 'All ye His works bless the Lord, praise and supremely exalt Him throughout all ages.'

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Let us all hymn the praise of the resplendent Bridal Chamber, from which Christ, the Master of all, came forth as a bridegroom, as we sing: 'All ye His works bless the Lord, praise and supremely exalt Him throughout all ages.'

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Rejoice!, glorious throne of God! Rejoice! wall of the faithful, through whom Christ, the light, hath dawned for those in darkness, who call Thee blest and cry: 'All ye His works bless the Lord, praise and supremely exalt Him throughout all ages.'

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

Refrain: All Saints of Russia, pray to God for us.

Adorn thyself O city of Kazan, having as thine intercessors the venerable hierarch Gurius, Barsanuphius, and Herman, who expelled the darkness of falsehood from your realm, and John the martyr, with Stephen and Peter, who by martyrdom left their earthly homeland for the heavenly.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Having studied the sacred Scriptures from thy youth, O God-bearing Stephen, thou didst cultivate the stony hearts of the people of Perm with the plough of thy words; and having sown the divine seed therein, didst bring forth beautiful fruit for Christ, as also did those who followed thee; Gerasimus, Pitirim, and John, whose prayers overshadow all the land of Russia.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Be glad, O land of Siberia; for in thee the Lord hath revealed His favored ones: the righteous Symeon of Verkhoturya, and the holy hierarchs of Irkutsk: Innocent, Sophronius and John, the new and wondrous luminaries and wonderworkers. (**Twice**)

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

Rejoice O land of Iberia, and all the lands of Georgia, be festive Armenia, hymning the equal-to-the-apostles Nina, and Tamara, Gregory the Enlightener, and many others who confessed the Orthodox faith in the Caucasus, and who now entreat Christ God on behalf of our earthly fatherland.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O divinely wise hierarch Demetrius, recorder of the lives of the saints and good lover thereof: by thy supplications show us to be partakers of their glory.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O holy hierarch Metrophanes, first pastor of Voronezh, who showed great courage, fearing neither the threats of the Emperor nor death, and who saved thy soul in simplicity: Entreat God on our behalf.

Glory ..., **T**hou didst gather spiritual treasure from the corrupt world, as a bee gathereth sweet honey from ephemeral blooms, O father Tikhon; and therewith thou dost sweeten us all.

Now & ever ..., **W**e praise thee our fervent intercessor, and we fall down before thy precious Icon, by which the newly enlightened have been established in the true faith, and the city of Peter, the mother of the cities of Russia, hath been saved; O thou great treasury, and most glorious wealth of all our land.

Verse: We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him unto all ages.

Katavasia: **T**he Offspring of the Theotokos * saved the holy children in the furnace. * He who was then prefigured hath since been born on earth, * and he gathers all creation to sing: * O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and supremely exalt Him throughout all ages.

And then we sing the Song of the Most Holy Theotokos (the Magnificat) Note: on great feasts special Megalynarion are sung instead of the Magnificat:

Verse: My soul doth magnify the Lord, * and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

And after each Verse:

Refrain: **M**ore honorable than the Cherubim, * and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; * who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, ** the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

Verse: **F**or He hath looked upon the lowliness of His handmaiden; * for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Refrain: **M**ore honorable ...

Verse: For the Mighty One hath done great things to me, * and holy is His name; * and His mercy is on them that fear Him * unto generation and generation.

Refrain: More honorable ...

Verse: He hath showed strength with His arm, * and He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their heart.

Refrain: More honorable ...

Verse: He hath put down the mighty from their seat, * and exalted them of low degree; * He hath filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich He hath sent empty away.

Refrain: More honorable ...

Verse: He hath holpen His servant Israel * in remembrance of His mercy, * as He spake to our fathers, * to Abraham and his seed forever.

Refrain: More honorable ...

ODE IX

Irmos: The Bush, burning but not consumed, prefigured Thy pure conception, O Theotokos. Therefore we now entreat Thee: quench the raging furnace of the temptations that beset us, that we may unceasingly magnify Thee.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

O how the lawless and disobedient people, having plotted evil, justified the ungodly malefactor, but condemned the Just Lord of glory to the Tree! Him do we fittingly magnify.

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy Resurrection O Lord.

We glorify Thee O Savior, the blameless Lamb Who taketh away the sins of the world, risen on the third day, and Who with the Father and the divine Spirit we acknowledge as God, and the Lord of glory, Thee do we magnify.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

Theotokion: Save Thy people, O Lord, whom Thou hast purchased with Thine own precious blood, strengthening all Orthodox Christians against enemies, and bestowing peace upon Thy Churches, O Lover of mankind, through the supplications of the Theotokos.

Another, of the Theotokos:

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

O Virgin, fulfilling prophecy, thou didst spring from root of David; yet in giving birth to the Lord of glory, which hath been foretold by the Prophet David, and Whom we fittingly magnify, thou hast also glorified him.

Refrain: Most holy Theotokos save us.

O most pure one, every law of praise is defeated by the majesty of thy glory; yet, O Lady, graciously accept from us Thine unworthy supplicants, O Theotokos, the praise we offer thee with love.

Canon of the Saints of Russia:

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O Tikhon, thou righteous enlightener, and joyous angel of the church of Tambov, and thou holy hierarch Pitirim, rejoice over your flock and all Russia, for within her a new and eternal joy hath blossomed forth, the venerable Seraphim, the wondrous struggler for our salvation.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O holy hierarchs Theodosius, and Joasaph of Belgorod, ye have been glorified by the Lord because of your wondrous lives, wherefore we also glorify you, being children of the Orthodox church, in which even till now, the Lord manifests miracles upon those servants who glorify them.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O holy hierarch and martyr Joseph, the city of Astrakhan and all the lands of the Volga honor and boast in thee, who suffered cruelly for righteousness at the hands of godless rebels.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O beyond speech, and transcending all praise, are the struggles of the passion-bearers, for enduring all manner of wickedness and cruelty from transgressors, they bore their faith in Christ like a shield, opposing the teachings of this world, wherefore we worthily set them forth as examples of patient endurance.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O the firmness, and the manliness, of the legions of martyrs of Christ, who were slaughtered by the godless ones for Christ's sake! Ye adorn the Orthodox church in our land with the blood ye shed, like seeds of the faith freely given to us, wherefore ye are now worthily honored with all the saints.

R:All ye Saints who have shone forth in the land of Russia, pray to God for us.

O all ye great ancestors of ours, known and unknown, named and unnamed, manifest and hidden, having reached the heavenly Zion, and received from God an abundance of glory, be ye our comforters, for we are all in distress, entreat Him, to establish us who have fallen in the faith, and to gather into one, the dispersed, and accept from us as a gift, these hymns of praise which we offer unto you.

Glory..., **O** most precious Trinity, accept as first-fruits, as choice incense, all the saints which Russia hath offered Thee, like the chosen golden crucibles of old, and in recent times, those known and unknown; and by their supplications preserve it from all harm.

Now & ever ..., **O** Virgin full of grace, who hast enriched our cities and villages with the images of thy precious countenance, as with traces of sweet fragrance: Accept our thanks, and deliver our homeland from cruel misfortunes; for we all magnify thee as the almighty protection of our land.

Katavasia: **Let every mortal born on earth, * radiant with light, in spirit leap for joy; * and let the host of the angelic powers * celebrate and honor the holy feast of the Mother of God, * and let them cry: Rejoice! * Pure and blessed Ever-Virgin, * who hast given birth to God.**

Exapostilarion:

The myrrh-bearing women * rejoiced when they beheld the great stone rolled away from the tomb, * and a young man seated therein on the right side, * addressing them and saying: * 'Lo, Christ is risen from the dead. * Go and tell His disciples and Peter, * that He goeth before you into Galilee unto the mountain, * for there He shall appear unto you His friends, ** as He hath foretold you.

Glory ..., **Exapostilarion for the Saints:**

In hymns let us praise the never-waning luminaries of the land of Russia, the initiates of the mysteries of the Word, glorifying Christ Who hath enlightened and loveth them, and hath given them to us as helpers amid sorrows.

Now & ever ..., **Theotokion:**

Prior to thy conception an Angel conveyed unto the Virgin the salutation, "Rejoice", * and now, O Christ, an Angel hath rolled away the stone from Thy tomb. * The one, instead of sorrow, brought tokens of ineffable joy; * the other instead of death, heralded Thee the Giver of life ** magnifying Thee and telling of the resurrection unto the women and unto Thine apostles.

At the Praises, four Resurrection Stichera, in Tone I:

Verse: **To** do among them the judgment that is written * This glory shall be to all His saints.

We sing the praise of Thy saving Passion, * O Christ, ** and we glorify Thy Resurrection.

Verse: **Praise** ye God in His saints, * praise Him in the firmament of His power.

Having endured the Cross, * and destroyed death * and risen from the dead, * grant peace to our lives, O Lord, ** as Thou alone art All-powerful.

Verse: Praise Him for His mighty acts, * praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

Having despoiled Hades * and raised mankind by Thy Resurrection, O Christ, ** grant that with pure hearts we may praise and glorify Thee.

Verse: Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, * praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

As we glorify Thy divine condescension, * we praise Thee, O Christ: * For Thou wast born of a Virgin, * yet Thou wast not separated from the Father; * as man Thou didst suffer and willingly endure the Cross; * arising from the grave, * as though coming forth from Thy bridal chamber, * that Thou mightest save the world. ** O Lord, glory be to Thee!

Four Stichera of the Saints of Russia, in Tone V:

Spec. Mel.: "Rejoice O Life-bearing Cross ...":

Verse: Praise Him with timbrel and dance, * praise him with strings and flute.

Rejoice thou faithful Church of Russia, * Rejoice most glorious right-believing Prince Vladimir, * Rejoice Olga thou chosen one, * for ye are our intercessors before the Lord most high, * and our foundation in Orthodoxy, * and our establishment in the true faith. * Rejoice every place and country and city, * for as citizens which have been brought up in the heavenly kingdom, * they have been revealed to be holy luminaries shining upon our souls, * emitting rays of miracles, and deeds, and noetic signs throughout all the world, * and now pray ye unto Christ God ** that our souls be granted great mercy.

Verse: Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation. * Let every breath praise the Lord.

Rejoice O ye adornments of the land of Russia, * ye unshaken foundations of our church, * the glory of the Orthodox, * fount of miracles, * never silent harps of loving-kindness, * many faceted luminaries, * instruments of the Holy Spirit, * meek and guileless, * adorned with a multitude of virtues, * heavenly men, and earthly angels, * true friends of Christ God, ** to Whom pray ye, that we who honor you, be granted great mercy.

Verse: Our God is refuge and strength, * a helper in afflictions which mightily befall us.

Come ye unto us, O our heavenly intercessors, * for we are in need of your prayerful assistance, * that we be delivered from the wicked tormenting and evil intentions of the unbelievers, * from whom we are hounded like prisoners, * often

moving from place to place, and becoming lost in the precipices and mountains, * wherefore take pity on us O most praised ones, * and grant us refreshment, * calm the tempest, and extinguish those who wish us evil, * pray ye unto God, ** that by your prayers, our land be granted great mercy.

Verse: The Lord of hosts is with us, * our helper is the God of Jacob.

Tone IV: Having listened to the voice of the Gospel * and become enflamed with apostolic zeal, * ye made haste to teach the unbelieving heathen, * O divinely blessed Kuksha, Leontius, Stephen and Gurius, * equals of the apostles, and thou, O right-wondrous Innocent, * apostle of the great land of Siberia * and initiator of the enlightenment of the new lands beyond the sea. * Wherefore, as is meet, with all the others who have labored in preaching the Gospel of Christ, ** ye are called blessed.

Glory ..., in Tone II:

With their spices the women attending Mary * made haste unto the tomb, * wondering among themselves how they could accomplish their desire. * There they beheld the stone rolled away, * and a divine young man calmed the confusion within their soul, saying; * 'Jesus the Lord is risen. * go therefore unto His disciples and tell them to make haste unto Galilee; * there they will see Him resurrected from the dead ** as the Lord and the Giver of life.'

Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in Tone II:

Thou art most blessed, O Virgin Theotokos, * for through Him who took flesh from thee, Hades hath been captured, * Adam recalled, the curse slain, Eve set free, * death put to death, and we have been given life. * Therefore in praise we cry: ** Blessed art thou, O Christ our God, who hast been thus well-pleased, glory be to thee.

AT THE LITURGY

On the Beatitudes, 10 Troparia: 6 from the Oktoechos, and 4 from Ode III of the Canon to the Saints:

Through food the foe led Adam out of Paradise; but through the Cross Christ led back the Thief as he cried: Remember me when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

I venerate Thy sufferings and I glorify Thy Resurrection; with Adam and with the Thief I cry aloud with radiant voice: Remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Thou wast crucified, O sinless one, and willingly laid in a grave, but Thou didst arise as God; raising Adam with Thyself as he cried: Remember me when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Raising the temple of Thy body after Thy burial for three days, O Christ God, Thou hast raised with Adam those who came from Adam as they cried: Remember me when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

The Myrrh-bearers came weeping to Thy grave, O Christ God, very early in the morning, and found an Angel sitting clothed in white, who cried: What seek ye? Christ hath arisen, mourn no longer.

Thine Apostles, O Lord, coming to the mountain that Thou, O Savior, hadst appointed them, saw Thee and worshipped Thee. And Thou didst send them out to teach the nations and baptize the inhabitants therein.

The sacred and great Lavra, which was founded by thee, O venerable father Anthony, first of all the monks of Russia, most gloriously preacheth and soundeth forth more loudly than a trumpet; and the house of the Mother of God doth glory in splendor, chanting unto God: by Thee have I been established, O Lord.

Let us radiantly hymn the blessed Theodosius, eminent in miracles and great in the virtues, the founder of the coenobitic monastic life in Russia, the glorious favorite of Christ and the Theotokos; and with him Nestor, the recorder of memorable events, and Alypius, the first iconographer in Russia.

Glory ..., **W**ith sacred hymns let us praise Athanasius, the holy bishop of Constantinople, who brought his own precious relics, as an earnest of unity with the universal Church, to be a blessing for the land of Russia, and hath left them to us.

Now & ever ..., **L**o! the time for the assistance of the most holy Theotokos is come, for temptations have multiplied. Behold! now is the time for us to sigh unto her, O brethren! Let us therefore say with our whole heart: O Sovereign Lady, O Sovereign Lady, help thou thy people.

Troparion of the Resurrection, in Tone I:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, * and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, * Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, * granting life unto the world. * Wherefore, the Hosts of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Life-giver: * Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. * Glory to Thy kingdom. * Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Lover of mankind. (Twice)

Troparion of the Saints, in Tone VIII:

The land of Russia doth offer Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone forth in it, * as the beauteous fruit of Thy salvific splendor. * By their supplications and through the Theotokos preserve Thou the Church * and our land in profound peace, O most Merciful One.

Resurrectional Kontakion, in Tone I:

Thou didst arise from the grave in glory as God * and thus raised up the world with Thee; * and mortal nature sings Thy praises as God, * and death hath disappeared; * Adam danceth, O Master, * and now Eve, freed from her chains, * rejoiceth as she cries aloud: * It is Thee, O Christ, who grantest the Resurrection to all.

Kontakion of All Saints of Russia, in Tone III:

Today the choir of the saints * who have pleased God * in our land standeth forth in the Church * and invisibly prayeth to God for us. * With them the angels give glory, * and all the saints of the Church of Christ * celebrate with them; ** for all together they entreat the pre-eternal God for us.

Prokeimenon, in Tone I: Let Thy mercy be upon us, * O Lord, according as we have hoped in Thee.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.

The Prokeimenon of the saints: in Tone IV: Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages.

EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE ROMANS, [ROM. 2:10-16]

Brethren: Glory, honor, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with God. For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the

law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE HEBREWS, [HEB. 11:33-12:2]

Brethren: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions. Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; Of whom the world was not worthy: they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

Alleluia in Tone I: O God who givest avengement unto me, and hast subdued peoples under me.

Verse: Who magnifieth the salvation of His king, and worketh mercy for His anointed, for David, and for his seed unto eternity.

Alleluia in Tone IV: The righteous cried, and the Lord hearkened unto them.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATHEW [MT. 4:18-23]

At that time; Jesus, was walking by the sea of Galilee, and saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATHEW [4:25-5:12]

At that time; there followed Jesus great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven:

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord in the heavens, praise Him in the highest!

Another Communion Verse for the saints: The Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!