

THE PARAKLESIS SERVICE



With the
Little Supplicatory Canon
To the Most Holy Theotokos

Reader Service

Though the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art in all places, and fillest all things, Treasury of good things, and Giver of life, come, and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain; and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. *(Thrice)*

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

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

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(Twelve times)*

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

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

“GOD IS THE LORD” IN TONE FOUR

God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Verse 1. O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Holy Name. (*Refrain*)

Verse 2. All nations compassed me about; but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them. (*Refrain*)

Verse 3. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (*Refrain*)

(Tone Four) To God's Birthgiver let us run now most earnestly, we sinners all and wretched ones, and fall prostrate in repentance, calling from the depths of our souls: Lady, come unto our aid, have compassion upon us; hasten thou for we are lost in a throng of transgressions; turn not thy servants away with empty hands, for thee alone do we have as our only hope.

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

(Tone Four) To God's Birthgiver let us run now most earnestly, we sinners all and wretched ones, and fall prostrate in repentance, calling from the depths of our souls: Lady, come unto our aid, have compassion upon us; hasten thou for we are lost in a throng of transgressions; turn not thy servants away with empty hands, for thee alone do we have as our only hope.

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

(Tone Four) O Theotokos, we shall not cease from speaking of all thy mighty acts, all we the unworthy ones; for if thou hadst not stood to intercede for us, who would have delivered us from such numerous dangers? Who would have preserved us all until now in true freedom? O Lady, we shall not turn away from thee; for thou dost always save thy servants from all manner of grief.

PSALM 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

THE LITTLE SUPPLICATORY CANON IN TONE EIGHT

Ode One *Traversing the water as on dry land*

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

By many temptations am I distressed; * in search of salvation * unto thee have I taken flight. * O Mother of the Word and Ever-virgin, * from all ordeals and afflictions deliver me.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Attacks of the passions disquiet me; * my soul to repletion * has been filled with despondency. * Bestill them, O Maiden, with the calmness * of thine own Son and thy God, O All-blameless One.

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

To Christ God, the Savior; thou gavest birth. * I beg thee, O Virgin, * from afflictions deliver me. * For now unto thee I flee for refuge, * bringing to thee both my soul and my reasoning.

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

Diseased is my body and my soul. * Do thou make me worthy * of divine guidance and thy care, * O thou who alone art God's Mother, * for thou art good, and the Birth-giver of the Good.

Ode Three *Of the vault of the heavens*

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

I have thee as the shelter and the defense of my life. * Thee, the Theotokos and Virgin; pilot and govern me * into thy sheltered port, * for thou art author of good things * and staff of the faithful, O thou only lauded one.

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

I beseech thee, O Virgin, do thou dispel far from me * all of the distress of despair and turbulence in my soul; * for thou, O Bride of God, * hast given birth to the Lord Christ, * Who is Prince of Peace, O thou only all-blameless one.

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

Since thou gavest birth unto our Benefactor, the cause of good, * from the wealth of thy loving kindness, do thou pour forth on all; * for thou canst do all things, * since thou didst bear Christ, the One Who * is mighty in power; for blessed of God art thou.

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

With most grievous diseases and with corrupt passions, too, * I am put to trial, O Virgin; come thou unto mine aid; * for I know thee to be * an inexhaustible treasure * of unfailing healing, O only all-blameless one.

Preserve and save, O Theotokos, thy servants from every danger. After God, do all of us for refuge flee unto thee; a firm rampart art thou and our protection.

In thy goodwill, look thou on me, O all-hymned Theotokos, and do thou behold my body's grievous infirmity, and heal thou the cause of my soul's sorrow.

KATHISMA IN TONE TWO

O fervent advocate, invincible battlement, fountain of mercy, and sheltering retreat for the world, earnestly we cry to thee: Lady Mother of God, hasten thou, and save us from all imperilment, for thou alone art our speedy protectress.

Ode Four *I have hearkened and heard*

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Lull the tempest of all my sins, * and bestill the raging of passions with thy calm; * for progenitress art thou of Him * Who is Lord and Helmsman, O thou Bride of God.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

O bestow out of the abyss * of thy great compassion on me thy supplicant; * for thou brought forth One compassionate * Who is Savior of all who sing hymns to thee.

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

While delighting, O spotless one, * in thy many favors, a hymn of thankfulness * do we all raise up in song to thee, * knowing thee to be the Mother of our God.

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

Having thee as our staff and hope, * and as our salvation's unshaken battlement, * from all manner of adversity * are we then redeemed, O thou all-lauded one.

Ode Five *Lord, enlighten us*

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Pure one, fill my heart * with rejoicing unto plenitude, * and grant thine undefiled felicity, * since thou didst give birth unto Him Who is the cause of joy.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Come, deliver us * out of dangers, O pure Mother of God, * since thou art Mother of deliverance, * and of the peace which doth surpass all human reasoning.

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

Dissipate the gloom * of my trespasses, O Bride of God, * with the clear brightness of thy radiance, * for thou didst bear the Light divine which was before all time.

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

Heal me, O pure one, * of the sickness which the passions bring, * and make me worthy of thy guardianship, * and by thy prayers and intercessions grant thou health to me.

Ode Six *Entreaty*

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

My nature, held by corruption and by death, * hath He saved from out of death and corruption, * for unto death He, Himself, hath submitted. *

Wherefore, O Virgin, do thou intercede with Him * Who is in truth thy Lord and Son * to redeem me from enemies' wickedness.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

I know thee as the protection of my life * and most safe fortification, O Virgin. * Disperse the horde of my many temptations * and put to silence demonic audacity. * Unceasingly I pray to thee: * From corruption of passions deliver me.

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

A bulwark of safe retreat art thou to us, * and of souls art thou the perfect salvation, * and a relief in distresses, O Maiden; * and in thy light do we ever exult with joy. * O Lady, do thou also now * from all passions and perils deliver us.

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

Bedridden, I lie supine with sickness now, * and no healing for my flesh is existent * except for thee, who didst bear the world's Savior, * our God, the Healer of every infirmity. * I pray to thee, for thou art good: * From corruption of illnesses raise me up.

Preserve and save, O Theotokos, thy servants from every danger. After God, do all of us for refuge flee unto thee; a firm rampart art thou and our protection.

O spotless one, who inexpressibly in the last days didst by a word bring forth the Word; do thou make request of Him, as one who hath motherly boldness.

KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to

make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Ode 7 *Once from out of Judea*

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

Having willed thus, O Savior, * to dispense our salvation in Thine economy, * Thou dweltest in the Maid's womb, * and unto all creation * as protectress didst show her forth. * O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

Make request, O pure Mother, * to thy Son Who hath willed to grant mercy unto us, * to rescue from transgressions * and from the soul's defilement * those who cry out most faithfully: * O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

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

A fount of incorruption * and a tower of safety is she who gave Thee birth. * A treasure of salvation * and portal of repentance * hast Thou provided her to them that shout: * O God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

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

Deign to grant restoration * from diseases of body and soul to those who run * to thy divine protection * with faith, O Theotokos, * and thus grant them recovery; * for Mother of Christ our Savior art thou.

Ode 8 *The King of Heaven*

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

Do not disdain those * who seek the aid that thou dost grant, * for, O Virgin Maiden, they do hymn thee, * and they all exalt thee unto ages forever.

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

On all who hymn thee * with faith, O Virgin, and exalt * thy truly ineffable Offspring, * thou poured forth a great abundance of thy cures and healings.

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

All the diseases * that plague my soul dost thou make well, * and the sufferings of the flesh thou healest also; * wherefore, O thou Maiden full of grace, I glorify thee.

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

All the assaultings * of the temptations dost thou quell, * and the onslaughts of the passions dost thou banish; * wherefore do we hymn thee to all ages, O Virgin.

Ode 9 *Most rightly we confess thee*

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

The torrent of my weeping * spurn not with refusal, * for thou didst give birth to Him Who doth take away all tears * from every face, O thou Virgin, * for He is Christ indeed.

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

Do thou, O Virgin Maiden, * fill my heart with gladness, * for thou art she who received all the fullness of joy * and made to vanish away all * sorrow of sinfulness.

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

A haven and protection, * and a wall unshaken, * and a rejoicing and shelter and place of retreat * do thou become, O thou Virgin, * for those who flee to thee.

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

Illumine with the radiance * of thy light, O Virgin, * all those who piously call thee the Mother of God; * and do thou banish away all * darkness of ignorance.

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

Brought low am I, O Virgin, * in a place of sickness * and in a dwelling of anguish. Grant healing to me, * transforming all of my illness * into full healthfulness.

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, who art ever blessed and all-blameless, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Higher than the heavens above art thou, * and thou art much purer * than the radiance of the sun; * for thou hast redeemed us * out of the curse that held us. * O Mistress of creation, * with hymns we honor thee.

From the great abundance of all my sins, * ill am I in body, * ailing also am I in soul. * Thee have I as refuge. * Do thou therefore help me, * O hope of all the hopeless, * for thou art full of grace.

O Lady and Mother of Christ our God, * receive supplication * from us wretches, who beg of thee * that thou make entreaty * unto the One born from thee. * O Mistress of creation, * do thou intercede for us.

Now we chant with eagerness unto thee * with this ode most joyful, * O all-hymned Mother of our God. * Together with the Baptist * and all the saintly choirs, * beseech, O Theotokos, * that we find clemency.

Speechless be the lips of the impious * who refuse to rev'rence * thy revered Icon which is known * by the name Directress * and which hath been depicted * for us by the Apostle * Luke, the Evangelist.

Let us laud the first heralds of the Word, * Peter the all-honored * chief apostle among the Twelve, * and Paul the fiery preacher * of Christ God's dispensation * for crowned with wreaths of glory * they now intercede for us.

O all ye arrays of angelic hosts, * with the Holy Baptist, * the Apostles' twelve-numbered band, * all the Saints together, * as well as God's birthgiver, * pray make ye intercession * for our deliverance.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*Thrice*)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

TROPARIA OF CONTRITION IN TONE SIX (Soft Chromatic)

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for laying aside all defense we sinners offer unto Thee, as Master, this supplication: have mercy on us.

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

O Lord, have mercy on us, for in Thee have we put our trust; be not exceedingly wroth with us, nor remember our iniquities, but look down upon us even now, as Thou art compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies; for Thou art our God, and we are Thy people; we are all the work of Thy hands, and we call upon Thy Name.

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

Open unto us the door of thy compassion, O blessed Theotokos. As we set our hope in thee, may we not be confounded; through thee may we be delivered from all adversities, for thou art the salvation of the race of Christians.

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

****EXAPOSTEILARION FOR DORMITION FAST ONLY IN TONE
THREE****

O ye Apostles from afar, * being now gathered together * here in the vale of Gethsemane, * give burial to my body, * and Thou, my Son and my God, * receive Thou my spirit.

Thou art the sweetness of Angels, * the gladness of afflicted ones; * and the protectress of Christians, * O Virgin Mother of our Lord; * be thou my helper, and save me * from out of eternal torments.

I have thee as Mediatrix * with the man-befriending God; * may He not censure my actions * before the hosts of the Angels. * I supplicate thee, O Virgin, * come unto mine aid most quickly.

Thou art a gold-entwined tower * and twelve-wall encircled city, * a throne besprinkled with sunbeams, * a royal chair of the King. * O inexplicable wonder * that thou dost milk-feed the Master.

****FOR USE OUTSIDE OF THE DORMITION FAST****

TONE TWO *When from the Tree*

All those who in faith flee unto thee, with thy mighty hand dost thou shelter, O pure one, as thou art good; no one else have we who sin as a

perpetual intercession with our God in dangers and sorrows, we who have been burdened down with our abundant sins, Mother of God in the highest. Wherefore, we all fall down before thee; rescue us, thy servants from adversities.

Joy of all that sorrows art thou, and of the oppresses a protectress, and nurture of all the poor, comfort unto the estranged, a staff art thou of the blind, visitation of all the sick, a shelter and succor unto those brought down by pain, helper of orphaned ones: Mother of God in the Highest art thou, O immaculate Maiden; hasten, we beseech thee, to redeem thy slaves.

TONE EIGHT

Lady, do thou receive the supplications of thy slaves, and deliver us from affliction and necessity.

TONE TWO

Unto thee do I commit mine every hope, O Mother of God; guard me under thy shelter.