

Little Compline

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

The reader stands in the middle of the church.

Reader: Amen. Glory to you, O God, Glory to you!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere and fill all things; Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life; come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

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

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

Lord, have mercy (3x)

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

All: 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.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Lord, have mercy (12x)

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

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

Psalm 50 (51)

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness, let the bones which you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart you will not despise.

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Psalm 69 (70)

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt. Let them be appalled because of their shame who say, "Aha!, Aha!"

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

But I am poor and needy; hasten to help me, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry!

The Lesser Doxology

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory.
O Lord, God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty! O Lord, the Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us! You that take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You that sit at the right hand of God the Father have mercy on us!
For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, you only, O Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Every night will I give thanks to you and praise your Name for ever and ever!
Lord, you have been our refuge from generation to generation! I said, Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. Lord, I flee unto you. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.
For with you is the fountain of life, and in your light shall we see light. O continue your mercy unto those who know you!
Vouchsafe, O Lord to keep us this night without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is your Name forever. Amen. Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on you.
Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your statutes.
Blessed are you, O Master, make me to understand your commandments.
Blessed are you, O Holy One, enlighten me with your precepts.
Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever, despise not the works of your hands. To you belongs worship, to you belongs praise, to you belongs glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Creed

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things, visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; True God of True God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets;

In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

[The Canon is sung here]

Hymn to the Theotokos

Choir: It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos,
ever blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God.
More honorable than the Cherubim,
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim:
without defilement you gave birth to God the Word:
true Theotokos, we magnify you.

Troparia of the Day

Monday

Reader: The memory of the righteous is celebrated with songs of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner. You were shown indeed to be the most honorable of the prophets, for in the waters you baptized the One Whom you preached. After suffering with joy on behalf of the Truth, you proclaimed even to those in hell the God Who appeared in the flesh, Who takes away the sin of the world and

grants us great mercy.

Tuesday

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of your Cross, preserve your habitation.

Wednesday

O Holy Apostles, intercede with our merciful God that He may grant to our souls the forgiveness of our sins.

You appeared to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence. Because of your lowliness Heaven was opened to you; because of your poverty riches were granted to you. O Holy Bishop Nicholas, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Thursday

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of your Cross, preserve your habitation.

Friday

O Apostles, Martyrs, and Prophets, Venerable and Righteous Ones; you that have accomplished a good labor and kept the Faith, that have boldness before the Savior; O Good Ones, intercede for us, we pray, that our souls be saved.

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

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of your servants, where there is neither sickness, nor sorrow, nor sighing, but life everlasting.

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

To you, O Lord, the Planter of creation, the world offers the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. By their intercessions preserve your Church, your commonwealth, in profound peace, through the Theotokos, O Greatly-merciful One.

Reader continues immediately:

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for laying aside all excuse, we sinners offer to you, as to our 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 you have we put our trust. Do not be angry with us, nor remember our iniquities, but look down on us even now, since you are compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies, for you are our God and we are your people; we are all the work of your hands, and we call on your Name.

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

Open to us the doors of compassion, O Blessed Theotokos, for we have set our hope on you; may we not perish, but be delivered from adversity through you, the salvation of the Christian people.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Prayer of the Hours

Reader: At every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, you are worshipped and glorified; O Christ our God, who are long-suffering, merciful and compassionate; who love the just and show mercy to those who are hardened in sin; who call all men to salvation through the promise of blessings to come: do you the same Lord, receive our supplications at this present time, and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds, and deliver us from all tribulations, evil, and distress. Surround us with your holy angels, that guided and guarded by their host, we may attain to the unity of the faith, and to the knowledge of your unapproachable glory, for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

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

In the Name of the Lord, bless Father!

Priest: God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show us the light of Thy countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Reader: Amen.

Turning to Icon of Theotokos

Prayer to Theotokos

Priest: O all-pure and incorruptible Virgin Bride of God, and our sovereign Lady, who made the Word of God one with mankind by gloriously giving birth to Your Son, and joining our fallen nature to His divine nature; who are the hope of the despairing and the support of those in distress, the swift defender of those who turn to You and the refuge of all Christians; do not turn from me, an unclean sinner, who have destroyed myself with unworthy Thoughts, words and deeds, and been enslaved by forgetfulness to the carnal passions of life; but have compassion on me, O Theotokos, and accept the prayer of a sinner and prodigal, offered from unclean lips. Exercise Your boldness as a Mother, and pray to Your Son, our Lord and Master, that He will make known to me also His compassionate goodness, and overlooking my countless sins, will turn me to repentance, and make me fervent in doing His commandments.

Be with us always in Your grace and loving mercy, for You are the fervent helper, who turns away the assaults of enemies and guides men towards salvation, caring for my unworthy soul at the hour of death, and driving from it the darkness of evil spirits. In the Day of Judgment free me from eternal torment, and show me to be an heir of the divine glory of Your Son and our God.

Grant this, O Lady Theotokos, by Your prayers and intercessions, through the mercy and loving-kindness of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom are due all glory, honor, and worship, with the Father Who is eternal, and His All-Holy, Good, and Life-Giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Turning to Icon of Savior:

Prayer to Christ

And grant rest, O Master, to our souls and bodies as we sleep; preserve us from the gloomy slumber of sin and from the dark passions of the night. Calm the impulses of carnal desires; quench the fiery darts of the Evil One which are craftily directed against us. Still the rebellions of the flesh, and put far from us all anxiety and worldly cares.

Grant us, O God, a watchful mind, pure thoughts, a sober heart, and a quiet rest, free from every vision of the devil. Raise us up again at the hour of prayer, strengthened in your precepts, and holding within us steadfastly the thought of your commandments. Grant that we may sing praises to you through the night, and that we may hymn, bless, and glorify your all-honorable and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Turning back to Icon of Theotokos:

O exceedingly glorious and ever-virgin Theotokos, bring our petitions before Your Son and our God, and implore Him that through You He will save our souls. Amen.

Turning to face Royal Doors:

O Father, my Hope; O Son, my Refuge; O Holy Spirit, my Protection; O Holy Trinity, glory to you!

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

In the Name of the Lord, bless Father!

Priest: O Master, great in mercy, Lord Jesus Christ our God: through the prayers of our All-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the prayers of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist, John; of the holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious, and gloriously triumphant martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; of the Enlighteners of North America, our blessed Father Herman of Alaska, Innocent, Tikhon the Confessor of Moscow, Raphael of Brooklyn; and the righteous priests Alexis Of Minneapolis and Wilkes-Barre and John of Chicago; of the holy and righteous Ancestors-of-God, Joachim and Anna, and of all your Saints: make our prayer acceptable; grant unto us remission of our iniquities; hide us under the shadow of your wings; drive far from us every foe and adversary; give peace to our life; have mercy upon us and upon your world, O Lord, and

save our souls, forasmuch as you are merciful and love mankind.

Making prostration, priest asks forgiveness of the faithful, who ask forgiveness of him in return:

Priest: Bless, and forgive me, fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters:

People: God forgives you, father.

Facing the Royal Doors

Priest: Let us pray for all Orthodox bishops, for our Metropolitan _____, our Archbishop _____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people:

People: Lord, have mercy. (*after each petition*)

Priest: For this country, its president, its civil authorities, and its armed forces everywhere:

For those who hate us and those who love us:

For those who are kind to us and serve us:

For those who have asked us to pray for them, unworthy Though we may be:

For the release of prisoners:

For those who are traveling by land, by sea and by air:

For those who lie sick:

Let us pray also for abundance of the fruits of the earth:

And for every soul of Orthodox Christians departed this life:

For all Orthodox bishops:

For our parents and brethren, and for all departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord:

Let us say also for ourselves!

People: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy!

Priest: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

People: Amen.

Priest goes to stand before Icon of in center of temple to give blessings to each of the faithful, before this we sing either Beneath your Compassion or the Troparion of the feast.

Beneath your compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos. Despise not our prayer in our necessities, but deliver us from harm, O only pure, only blessed one. Most Holy Theotokos, save us! Most Holy Theotokos, save us! Most Holy Theotokos, save us!