

Books - Sources

Horologion

Small Compline

Triodion

The Akathist Hymn of the Most Holy Theotokos

Small Compline with Akathist

PRIEST

Blessed is our God always, now and ever,
and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

PRIEST

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
present in all places and filling all things,
treasury of good things and giver of life: come;
take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every
stain, and save our souls, O Good one. ^[HC]

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our
infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the
Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the 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. ^[GOA]

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 forever and to the
ages of ages.

READER

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship and bow down before
God our King.

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

Come, let us worship and bow down before
Him, Christ our King and God.

Psalm 50 (51).

Have mercy on me, O God, according
to Your great mercy; and according to the
abundance of Your compassion, blot out my
transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my
lawlessness and cleanse me from my sin. For
I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always

before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. For behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then You will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. [SAAS]

Psalm 69 (70).

O God, [give heed] to help me. [O Lord, make haste to help me.] May those who seek my soul be dishonored and shamed; may those who plot evils against me be turned back and disgraced; may those be turned back immediately who shame me, saying, "Well done! Well done!" May all who seek You greatly rejoice and be glad in You, and let those who love Your salvation always say, "Let God be magnified." But I am poor and needy; O God, help me. You are my helper and deliverer, O Lord; do not delay. [SAAS]

Psalm 142 (143).

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your righteousness; do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul; he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, and my spirit was in anguish within me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge. Teach me to

do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

[SAAS]

Doxology

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, and we thank you, for your great glory. Lord, King, Heavenly God, Father Almighty; only-begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit. Lord God, the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, you who take away the sins of the world. Accept our supplication, you who sit at the right of the Father, and have mercy on us. For you are the only Holy One, you are the only Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every evening I shall bless you, and I shall praise your name forever, and unto the ages of ages. Lord, you have become for us a refuge from generation to generation. I have said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. Lord, to you I have fled; teach me to do your will, for you are my God. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we shall see light. Extend your mercy to those who know you. Grant, O Lord, that in this night we may be kept without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is your

name unto the ages. Amen. Let your mercy, Lord, come upon us, just as we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed are you, O Master, make me understand your commandments. Blessed are you, O Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy remains forever, do not turn away from the works of your hands. To you belongs praise, to you belongs a hymn, to you belongs glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Creed

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father, through 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. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets. In one, holy,

catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen. ^[GOA]

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true Theotokos. ^[GOA]

CHOIR

Apolytikion. Mode pl. 4.

When he perceived what had secretly been ordered, * to the abode of Joseph urgently reported * the unbodied one saying unto the Unwedded: * "The Lord who has bowed the heavens in His descent, * in you is contained completely and without change; * and beholding Him in your womb * taking the form of a slave, * astounded I cry out to you: * Rejoice, O unwedded Bride." (3)

First Stanza.

PRIEST

An Angel of supreme rank was sent down from heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice. (3) And perceiving You take bodily form at the sound of his bodiless voice, O Lord, he was astounded and he stood shouting to her such salutations:

Rejoice, through whom is the joy to shine forth. Rejoice, through whom is the curse to vanish.

Rejoice, restoration of Adam the fallen one. Rejoice, liberation of Eve from tears.

Rejoice, height to which the thoughts of men are hardly able to ascend. Rejoice, depth which for the Angels' eyes is very hard to apprehend.

Rejoice, for you are a throne for the King. Rejoice, for you hold the One who holds everything.

Rejoice, the star causing the Sun's manifestation. Rejoice, the womb of the divine incarnation.

Rejoice, through whom is creation re-created. Rejoice, by whom is the Creator procreated.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Beholding herself wholly kept in chastity, boldly says to Gabriel she who is holy: The exceptional tidings of your voice seem difficult for my soul to accept. For what do you mean, pregnancy by unseeded conception, crying, Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Curious to know knowledge that is knowable to no one, the Virgin cried to the serving Angel: How is it possible for a son to be born of inviolate loins? Tell me please.

And he with fear replied to her, albeit shouting thusly:

Rejoice, initiate of secret counsel. Rejoice, assurance of what calls for silence.

Rejoice, introduction to the miracles of Christ. Rejoice, consummation of His articles of faith.

Rejoice, heavenly ladder by which did God himself descend. Rejoice, bridge that conveys unto heaven earthborn men.

Rejoice, the wonder most renowned among Angels. Rejoice, the wound greatly bemoaned by the demons.

Rejoice, who bear the Light inexplicably. Rejoice, who declare the manner to nobody.

Rejoice, transcending the knowledge of scholars. Rejoice, illumining minds of believers.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Divine power of the Most High, to effect her conception, overshadowed the unwedded Damsel; and it made her luxuriant womb to appear as a luscious field for everyone who desires to reap salvation while chanting, Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Eagerly did the Virgin, hosting God in her body, then hasten to visit Elizabeth, whose own infant recognized the voice of her greeting at once and rejoiced in the womb; and with leaps and bounds for songful sounds, he shouted to the Theotokos:

Rejoice, the branch with its shoot unwithered. Rejoice, the ranch with its fruit unblemished.

Rejoice, for the man-loving Husbandman you cultivate. Rejoice, for the Gardener of our life you germinate.

Rejoice, arable land yielding tender mercies hundredfold. Rejoice, banquet table whereupon has forgiveness overflowed.

Rejoice, for the meadow of delight you make flourish. Rejoice, for a haven of our souls do you furnish.

Rejoice, accepted incense of intercession. Rejoice, the universe's expiation.

Rejoice, the good pleasure of God unto mortals. Rejoice, the confidence of mortals before God.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Fraught within with confusion brought about by doubtful thoughts, the temperate Joseph was troubled as he looked upon you the unwed and suspected adultery, O blameless

one. But when he learned that your conception was by the Holy Spirit, he uttered, Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

The Canon of the Akathist

By Joseph the Hymnographer.

Ode i. Mode 4. Heirmos.

I open my mouth and pray the Spirit fill it, like David said, * to pour out a good word to the Queen and Mother of God. * I will celebrate * her feast with joy and gladness * and sing to her merrily, lauding her miracles.

(2)

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

O Maiden and Virgin pure, the great Archangel saluted you, * "Rejoice, living book of Christ, of which Isaiah foretold * that it would be sealed * to all men by the Spirit. * O vessel of joy, through you the curse on Eve shall be loosed." ^[SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Rejoice, Virgin Bride of God! Through you was Adam restored to life * and Hades was put to death. O blameless one, rejoice! * Since you bore the King, * we say you are His palace, * the fiery throne of the Ruler of all. Rejoice! ^[SD]

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

Rejoice! You have budded forth a holy Son, the unfading rose, * the One whom the Song has likened to a sweet apple tree. * Ever-

virgin Bride, * rejoice! You are the fragrance * beloved by the King of all. Through you the world is saved. ^[SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

We cry out, Rejoice, to you who are the treasure of chastity. * Through you we have risen from our fall. O Lady, rejoice! * We believers sense * the fragrances you send forth, * sweet lily and frankincense, costly anointing oil. ^[SD]

Ode iii. Heirmos.

Establish your servants who extol you, * O Mother of God, for they have formed * a spiritual choir for you * the living and abundant fount; * and graciously in your divine glory give glorious crowns to them. (2)

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Rejoice, blessed Virgin! You have borne Christ, * the Wheat that came forth from land unploughed. * The Table symbolizes you, * who held the Lord, the Bread of life. * Rejoice, O never empty well * of living water, O Bride of God! ^[SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

For us the believers you have mothered * the unblemished Bull, the Lamb of God, * who takes away the sins of the world; * we therefore call you Heifer and Ewe. * Rejoice! You are the Mercy Seat, * from which forgiveness has come to us. ^[SD]

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

Christ the Sun of Righteousness has risen
* from you, Bride of God and shining Dawn.
* Rejoice, for as the dwelling place * of Him
who is the Light of the world, * you drove
away the night of sin, * and darkest demons
now fade away. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

The East Gate, through which the Prince
alone went, * prefigured your body; for the
Lord * alone came forth from you. Rejoice! *
Your Son has shattered Hades' gates. * Rejoice,
all-lauded and divine * gateway of those who
are being saved! [SD]

Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.

O Champion General, I your City now
inscribe to you
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my
gratitude,
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto
you
I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Second Stanza.

PRIEST

Gloriously extolling the incarnate
appearance of Christ did the shepherds hear the
Angels. And running as though to a shepherd,
they perceived Him to be as it were a blameless
lamb that had been pastured in the womb of
Mary whom they lauded saying:

Rejoice, O Mother of the Lamb and
Shepherd. Rejoice, O sheepfold of sheep with
reason.

Rejoice, who ward off invisible enemies.
Rejoice, who open the portals of Paradise.

Rejoice, for the things of heaven are now
exulting with the earth. Rejoice, for the things
of earth along with heaven dance for joy.

Rejoice, indefatigable voice of the
Apostles. Rejoice, undefeatable valiance of the
Martyrs.

Rejoice, the mighty foundation of faith.
Rejoice, the bright indication of grace.

Rejoice, through whom is Hades divested.
Rejoice, through whom we are vested in glory.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Having visibly sighted the star proceeding
Godward, the Magi followed after its
brightness; and thereto clinging as to a light
did they search thereby for a mighty King; and
reaching the Unreachable they rejoiced and
shouted to Him: Alleluia. [SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

In the hands of the Virgin saw the
Chaldeans' children Him who fashioned
mankind with His own hand; and perceiving
that He was the Lord, even though He had

taken the form of a slave, they hastened to pay tribute with gifts and salute the blessed Maiden:

Rejoice, O Mother of the unsetting Star.
Rejoice, O dawn of the mystical Day.

Rejoice, who extinguished the furnace of fallacy. Rejoice, who enlighten initiates of the Trinity.

Rejoice, for you have deposed the inhuman tyrant from his reign. Rejoice, for you have disclosed Christ the Lord who is humane.

Rejoice, O redeemer from Magian religion. Rejoice, who deliver from the clay of the burdens.

Rejoice, for the cult of fire you terminate. Rejoice, from the flame of passions you liberate.

Rejoice, the guide of believers to temperance. Rejoice, the gladness of all generations.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Keeping to the oracles that bore on You, the Magi, having now become God-bearing heralds, proclaimed to all that You are the Christ as they journeyed back to their own country Babylon, abandoning Herod as a babbling king who knew not how to sing, Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Lightening in Egypt the true illumination, You dispelled the darkness of delusion; O Savior, for the idols thereof, unable to endure Your might, tumbled down, while they who were delivered from them shouted to the Theotokos:

Rejoice, man's rehabilitation. Rejoice, the demons' ruination.

Rejoice, who crushed the delusion of fallacy. Rejoice, who uncovered the ruse of idolatry.

Rejoice, sea that caused the spiritual Pharaoh to drown. Rejoice, rock that gave those thirsting for life to drink.

Rejoice, pillar of fire that guides those in darkness. Rejoice, shelter of the world that is wider than the cloud was.

Rejoice, supplanting manna as edibles. Rejoice, supplying holy delectables.

Rejoice, for you are the land of promise. Rejoice, from you flow the milk and the honey.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Master, You were presented as a babe unto Symeon on the threshold of being transported out of this present beguiling age, but also perceived by him to be perfect God; for which

cause did he marvel at Your ineffable wisdom,
crying: Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

Ode iv. Heirmos.

He who sits in holy glory * on the throne
of divinity, * Jesus our most high God, * on a
swift and light cloud has come to us, * and by
the might of His undefiled hand has saved *
those who cry to Him: Glory to Your power, O
Christ.

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

David saw you as the Mountain, * in the
Spirit fertile and rich, * where God dwelt,
O Lady; * therefore we salute you and sing:
Rejoice! * The golden jar with the honey-
flavored manna of old * points to you who held
the sweetest heavenly Bread of life. ^[SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

We extol you, blameless Virgin, * Mercy
seat for the world: Rejoice! * Jacob's dreamt-
of ladder * points to you, for God came to earth
by you * and elevates all to heaven by an act
of grace. * You are likewise a bridge that has
conveyed us from death to life. ^[SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

You are higher than the heavens, * O
immaculate Maid. Rejoice! * Painlessly you
carried * in your womb the Lord who founded
the earth. * We call you Seashell: its dye was
used in royal cloth, * and your own blood dyed
the divine flesh of the King of Hosts. ^[SD]

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

God the Word is the Lawgiver * who blots
out the iniquities * of all people freely. * O
the depth and height of the love of Christ! *
Surpassing knowledge! And now we sing,
"Rejoice!" to you, * who gave birth to Him.
Lady, through you we were deified! ^[SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Crown of hope woven of glory * is your
Son, who is Lord of hosts. * So Isaiah said it. *
We say, you have woven it for the world. * To
you, O Virgin, the fortress and defense of all *
and protective wall and sacred refuge, we sing,
"Rejoice!" ^[SD]

Ode v. Heirmos.

Amazed was the universe by your divine
magnificence. * You who were perpetually
virgin * carried the heavenly God of all in your
womb * and gave birth to the eternal Son, *
who awards salvation to all who sing hymns of
praise to you.

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Rejoice, Virgin, Bride of God! You carried
in your womb the Way * and the Life. O
Mother of the Savior, * the world is saved from
the flood of sin through you. * Awe-inspiring
tidings and good news! * Rejoice! For the
Master of all creation abode in you. ^[SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Rejoice, mighty fortress of humanity, O spotless Maid! * Holy place of glory, as the Psalm says; * bright bridal chamber, from which your Son came forth * as the Sun of Righteousness! Rejoice! * Joy of Angels! Aid for all * who with faith pray to you! Rejoice!

[SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Rejoice, fiery chariot of God the Logos, whom you bore! * Paradise prefigured you, O Lady. * For in its midst was the tree of life; now the Lord, * the fruit of your womb, is giving life * to us who were subject once * to corruption and eat in faith. [SD]

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

Enabled by strength you give, we faithfully cry out: Rejoice! * Unhewn mountain, from which came the Stone, Christ. * Concerning you, City of the great King of all, * were glorious things indeed declared, * in the Psalms and Prophecies. * O immeasurable depth, rejoice! [SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O Mother of God, rejoice! You are the oyster that produced * Christ, the divine Pearl of great value. * You are the spacious, all-wondrous dwelling place * of the Word. O Virgin pure, rejoice! * We extol you every day, * and you pray to the Lord for us. [SD]

Ode vi. Heirmos.

O godly-minded believers, come * and celebrate this sacred and venerable feast and thus extol * the Theotokos, and clap our hands, * and glorify our God who was truly born of her. (2)

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

O bridal chamber of God the Word, * we credit the theosis of all to you. O Virgin pure, rejoice! * The Prophets' echoing prophecies, * fulfilled in you, adorned what Apostles then proclaimed. [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

The fleece upon which alone the dew * for Gideon dripped down once prefigured you, to whom we sing: Rejoice! * From you, O Virgin, did Christ come forth * as healing Dew, extinguishing pagan passions all. [SD]

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

Behold, we greet you and sing: Rejoice! * As we are tossed about on the stormy sea of life's adversities * and all the snares of our enemy, * become for us the port and Fair Haven we desire. [SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O cause of joy, you inspire us * to call you unconsumed burning bush and shining pillar of a cloud, * because the Lord was in you as well. * You always guard the faithful, who sing to you: Rejoice! [SD]

Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.

O Champion General, I your City now
inscribe to you
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my
gratitude,
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto
you
I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Third Stanza.

PRIEST

New creation was shown by the Creator
in showing himself unto us whom He created,
sprouting up from an unseeded womb, while
preserving it just as it was, inviolate, so that
beholding the miracle we might extol her,
exclaiming:

Rejoice, O flower of incorruptness.
Rejoice, O crown of laurel for continence.

Rejoice, for in you resurrection is typified.
Rejoice, for angelical life you exemplified.

Rejoice, fertile tree with luscious fruit, by
which believers are sustained. Rejoice, foliaged
tree beneath which are many sheltered in its
shade.

Rejoice, for you were pregnant with the
Guide for the errant. Rejoice, for of the Freer
of captives you are the parent.

Rejoice, who plead till the just Judge
surrenders. Rejoice, forgiveness for many
offenders.

Rejoice, the vesture of those stripped
of confidence. Rejoice, the tender love that
conquers every longing.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

On seeing the strange childbirth, let's be
estranged from the mundane, transporting
our mind unto heaven. For this purpose the
supernal God as a humble human being
appeared down on earth, intending to attract
unto the summit those who cry out to Him,
Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Present below completely and above
nowise absent was the uncircumscribable
Logos. For it was no migration through space,
but divine condescension that had taken place,
and childbirth from a God-possessed Virgin
who hears this that follows:

Rejoice, the uncontainable God's container.
Rejoice, the magnificent mystery's doorway.

Rejoice, for unbelievers a doubtful story.
Rejoice, for the believers the doubtless glory.

Rejoice, all-holy vehicle of Him who rides
the Cherubim. Rejoice, exquisite domicile of
Him who mounts the Seraphim.

Rejoice, who integrate in yourself a contradiction. Rejoice, who incorporate both virginity and parturition.

Rejoice, through whom the trespass was nullified. Rejoice, through whom was Paradise opened wide.

Rejoice, the opener to Christ's kingdom. Rejoice, the hope of eternal blessings.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Quite amazed by the great deed of Your incarnation was the entire nature of Angels. For the once inaccessible God they beheld accessible to all as a man, with us together sojourning while thusly hearing from everyone: Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Richly eloquent rhetors we see speechless as fishes when they contemplate you, O Theotokos. For at a loss are they to explain how you managed childbirth and a virgin yet remain. But we, in marveling at the mystery, cry out with conviction:

Rejoice, God's Wisdom's repository. Rejoice, His providence's depository.

Rejoice, who prove the philosophers wisdomless. Rejoice, who reprove the sophists as ridiculous.

Rejoice, for the fierce debaters becoming fools lost their taste. Rejoice, for the creators of the myths have faded away.

Rejoice, you who rend the webs of the Athenians. Rejoice, you who fill the nets of the Fishermen.

Rejoice, who drag out from the deep of ignorance. Rejoice, who illumine many with cognizance.

Rejoice, the barge for those seeking salvation. Rejoice, the harbor for life's navigators.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Set on saving the cosmos, He who set all things in order came down to it of His own volition. And though being the Shepherd as God, for us He appeared like us, as a man; and having called His own, like by like, as God He hears, Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

Ode vii. Heirmos.

Godly-minded three * did not adore created things in the Creator's stead; * rather, disdain the threat * of fire, they trampled it, and joyfully they sang: * "O supremely praised * and most exalted Lord and God * of the fathers, You are blessed."

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

We salute you: Rejoice! * You bore the Sun of Righteousness, and thus the mythical type * of chariot applies to you. * Old Testament images of vines and ripened grapes * point to you, who brought forth * the Lord whose blood now gladdens hearts * of the faithful who extol you. [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

In your womb you held * the One who heals humanity. Rejoice, O Bride of God! * Isaiah called you the rod * of Jesse, for you brought forth the flower that is Christ, * the unfading Word. * Rejoice! Through you we too rejoice * and inherit life, O Lady. [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Insufficient are * all languages for poetry and hymns extolling you, * for you, O Lady, were raised * higher than the Seraphim for bearing Christ the King. * Now entreat Him for us, * who honor you, to rescue us * from disasters that befall us. [SD]

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

From the ends of the earth * the faithful are extolling you, singing, "O Virgin, Rejoice!" * Isaiah called you a book, * on which by the Father's finger was the Word inscribed. * Pray Him earnestly * to write your servants in the Lamb's * book of life, O Theotokos. [SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

We your servants pray, * entreating you, and like Manasseh bend the knee of our hearts: * O Pure One, lend us an ear, * and save us, for we are drowning in adversities. * And preserve the Church * from schism and from heresy, * O all-holy Theotokos. [SD]

Ode viii. Heirmos.

Guiltless were those Servants in the furnace. * The Son of the Theotokos went and rescued them. * He who was prefigured then, * having been incarnate now, * is gathering the whole wide world into His Church to sing: * "O all you works of the Lord, to all ages * sing praises to the Lord and exalt Him beyond measure."

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

You welcomed into your womb the Logos. * You held in your arms the One who holds all things. * You, O Virgin, nursed the One * who by His divine command * gives food to all, O Maiden pure. And now we sing to Him: * "O all you works of the Lord, to all ages * sing praises to the Lord and exalt Him beyond measure." [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

The glorious mystery of your childbirth * did Moses perceive within the burning bush. * Servants of the Most High God * vividly prefigured this; * for standing in the fiery furnace, they remained unburnt, * O undefiled

and all-holy Virgin. * Therefore we sing
praises of you to all the ages. [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

We who were left naked through deception
* now wear an imperishable robe through
you, * who bore the immortal God, * holy
Virgin, house of the light; * and we who sat
in darkness of our sins have seen the light,
* as once foretold by the Prophet Isaiah. *
Therefore we sing praises of you to all the
ages. [SD]

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

Through you who gave birth to Life
in Person * were we who were dead in sin
brought back to life. * Through you those who
once were mute * have become most eloquent.
* Through you are those afflicted by disease
and cancer cured; * defeated are the hosts of
the demons. * Humanity is saved through your
childbirth, O Virgin. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

You gave birth to Christ, the world's
salvation. * Through you has humanity been
lifted up * from the earth to heaven. Rejoice!
* O all-blessed Virgin, rejoice, * O mighty
fortress and protection of the faithful who sing:
* "O all you works of the Lord, to all ages *
sing praises to the Lord and exalt Him beyond
measure." [SD]

Ode ix. Heirmos.

All you born on earth, * with festival
lamps in hand, in spirit leap for joy; * and all
you the heavenly angelic orders, join in and
celebrate; * and honoring the sacred feast of
the Mother of God, * sing the joyful salutation,
"O rejoice, * Theotokos, all-blest, ever-virgin
pure!"

Troparia.

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Rescue us, we pray, * from foreign
invasion and from every other scourge *
that we might experience * as a result of the
multitude of sins * committed by humanity,
so that we faithful, who share * the divine and
everlasting joy through you, * might salute
you, O Virgin, and sing: Rejoice! [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

We who are confirmed * in faith and
illumined through you, Lady, sing to you. *
Rejoice! O unsetting star: * you brought the
great Sun into the world. Rejoice! * O Pure
One, you reopened Eden that was closed of
old. * Fiery pillar, ushering humanity * out of
bondage to heavenly life, rejoice! [SD]

Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

In the house of God * let us stand with
reverence as we sing with sacred joy: * Queen
of all the world, rejoice! * Rejoice, O Mary, the
Lady of us all! * The only blameless and the
fairest among women, rejoice! * Living vessel,
that received the unemptied Word, * who like
ointment was poured into you, rejoice! [SD]

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

Only perfect dove, * who brought forth the Lord of mercy as an olive branch, * ever-virgin Mary, rejoice! * You are the boast of devout monastic Saints. * Rejoice! You are the glory of the holy Martyrs. Rejoice! * And the Righteous pride themselves in knowing you. * We the faithful have you as our rescuer. ^[SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Pity us, O God, * and spare Your inheritance by overlooking now * all of our iniquities, * for this accepting the fervent prayers of her * who without seed gave birth to You on earth, O Christ our God, * who in Your great mercy willed to take on flesh, * thus assuming the form that was not Your own. ^[SD]

Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude,
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you
I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Fourth Stanza.

PRIEST

Theotokos, O Virgin, you are the fortress for virgins and all who to you run for refuge. For the Maker of heaven and earth, O immaculate Maiden, thus constructed you. He

inhabited your womb and instructed all how to address you:

Rejoice, O pillar of the virgin station.

Rejoice, O portal of man's salvation.

Rejoice, initiator of interior renaissance.

Rejoice, administrator of God's beneficence.

Rejoice, for you regenerated those who were shamefully conceived. Rejoice, for you reeducated those whose intellects had been seized.

Rejoice, incapacitator of the deflowerer of sanity. Rejoice, procreator of the Sower of chastity.

Rejoice, of ungamitic union the bridal room. Rejoice, who unite believers to the Lord as Groom.

Rejoice, O beautiful nursemaid of virgins. Rejoice, O bridesmaid of souls that are holy.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Unsuccessful is every hymn that hastens to pay tribute to the multitude of Your tender mercies. For even if we offer You odes in number equal to the sands, O holy King, yet we do nothing worthy of what You have given us who cry to You: Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Viewing the holy Virgin, we see a light-bearing lantern that shone upon those who were in darkness. For she lit the immaterial light, and to divine knowledge thus conducts everyone, enlightening the intellect, and honored by such acclamations:

Rejoice, the ray of the intelligible daystar.
Rejoice, the beam of the unwaning luster.

Rejoice, flash of lightning that brightly illumines souls. Rejoice, who like thunder have stunned our enemies.

Rejoice, for you cause the rising up of the light that brightly glows. Rejoice, for you cause the gushing up of the stream that mightily flows.

Rejoice, who illustrate the baptismal font's image. Rejoice, who eliminate the stain of sin's stigma.

Rejoice, the laver washing out consciences. Rejoice, the krater serving what gladdens hearts.

Rejoice, the fragrance of Christ's aroma. Rejoice, the life of mystical feasting.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

Wishing to grant remission of ancient obligations, He who cancels the debts of all people came himself as a stranger and dwelt among those who were from His divine grace

estranged; and tearing up the bond of sin, He hears from everyone, Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

Extolling your birthgiving with songs, we all praise you as a live temple, O Theotokos. For the Lord who encompasses all in His hand, having made His abode in your womb, sanctified you and glorified you and taught all people to cry to you:

Rejoice, O tabernacle of God the Logos.
Rejoice, O holier than the holies.

Rejoice, ark that was gilt by the Spirit.
Rejoice, life's inexhaustible treasure.

Rejoice, exquisite diadem of kings with true beliefs. Rejoice, reverential pride of profoundly pious priests.

Rejoice, the Church's unshaken citadel.
Rejoice, the Empire's fortress that never fell.

Rejoice, through whom rise trophies of victory. Rejoice, through whom fall enemies utterly.

Rejoice, my bodily health's restoration.
Rejoice, my soul's everlasting salvation.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

PRIEST

You, all-laudable Mother who gave birth to the Logos Who is holiest of all who are holy: (3) O accept this offering now, and from

calamities all deliver everyone, and redeem from the future torments of hell those who cry out with zeal: Alleluia. ^[SD]

CHOIR

Alleluia.

PRIEST

An Angel of supreme rank was sent down from heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice. And perceiving You take bodily form at the sound of his bodiless voice, O Lord, he was astounded and he stood shouting to her such salutations:

Rejoice, through whom is the joy to shine forth. Rejoice, through whom is the curse to vanish.

Rejoice, restoration of Adam the fallen one. Rejoice, liberation of Eve from tears.

Rejoice, height to which the thoughts of men are hardly able to ascend. Rejoice, depth which for the Angels' eyes is very hard to apprehend.

Rejoice, for you are a throne for the King. Rejoice, for you hold the One who holds everything.

Rejoice, the star causing the Sun's manifestation. Rejoice, the womb of the divine incarnation.

Rejoice, through whom is creation re-created. Rejoice, by whom is the Creator procreated.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

CHOIR

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude,
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you
I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the 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. ^[GOA] glory; for blessed are You unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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 forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Kontakion.

O Champion General, I your City now ascribe to you * triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, * being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. * Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, * from all kinds of perils free me so that unto you * I may cry aloud: * Rejoice, O unwedded Bride. ^[SD]

Lord, have mercy. (40)

O Christ our God, who at all times and at every hour, both in heaven and on earth, are worshipped and glorified, long suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; who love the just and show mercy to the sinners; who call all men to salvation through the promise of the blessings to come: Do You, the same Lord, receive also our supplications at this present time, and direct our lives according to Your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set our minds right; clear up our thoughts, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and distress. Surround us with Your holy Angels so that being guarded and guided by their presence, we may arrive at the unity of the faith and the knowledge of Your ineffable

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

May God have compassion on us and bless us; may his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

READER

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

Save us, all-holy Theotokos.

Prayer to the Virgin

by Paul the Monk of the Monastery of Evergetis

O spotless, unstained, incorruptible, undefiled, pure Virgin, Lady Bride of God, who through your wondrous birth-giving united God the Word with mankind, and linked the fallen nature of our human race with the heavenly; the only hope of the hopeless and the help of the persecuted; the ready support of those who seek refuge in you, and the shelter of all the Christians: do not despise me, the wretched sinner who have defiled myself with shameful thoughts and words and

deeds, and through negligence of thought have become slave to the pleasures of life. But as the Mother of our compassionate God, and a friend of man, have compassion on me the sinner and prodigal, and accept this prayer from my impure lips; and using your motherly standing, entreat your Son and our Master and Lord to open unto me the depths of his loving goodness and, overlooking my innumerable faults, to return me to repentance and make me a worthy servant of his commandments. Stand by me forever; in this life as a merciful and compassionate and good and lovingly warm protector and helper, by repulsing the assaults of the adversary and leading me toward salvation; and at the time of my death, by embracing my miserable soul and driving far away from it the dark faces of the evil demons; and at the awesome day of judgment by redeeming me from eternal hell, and proclaiming me an heir of the ineffable glory of your Son and our God. May I enjoy such fate, my Lady, most-holy Theotokos, through your intercession and protection; through the grace and love for mankind of your only begotten Son, our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. To whom belong all glory, honor and worship, together with his beginningless Father, and the all holy and good and life giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [HC]

**Prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ
by Antiochus, Monk of Pandektos**

And grant to us, Master, as we depart for sleep, rest of body and soul, and preserve us from the gloomy slumber of sin, and from

every dark and nocturnal pleasure. Arrest the drives of passion; extinguish the burning arrows of the Evil One which insidiously fly in our direction; suppress the rebellions of our flesh, and calm our every earthly and material thought. And grant to us, O God, alert mind, prudent thinking, sober heart, light sleep free of any satanic fantasy. Awaken us at the time of prayer rooted in your commandments and having unbroken within us the remembrance of your ordinances. Grant that we may sing your glory through the night by praising and blessing and glorifying your most honorable and majestic name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [HC]

Most glorious, ever virgin, blessed Theotokos, bring our prayer before your Son and our God, and entreat him, through you, to save our souls. [HC]

The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my shelter, Holy Trinity, glory to you. [HC]

O Mother of God, I have committed my every hope wholly unto you. Keep me under your shelter. [SD]

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

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Father, bless!

PRIEST

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, (local patron saint); of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and merciful and loves mankind.

Let us pray for the peace of the world.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For the pious and Orthodox Christians.

For our our Archbishop (name).

For our nation.

For the armed forces.

For our absent fathers, brothers and sisters.

For those who help us and those who serve us.

For those who hate us and those who love us.

For those who have asked us, the unworthy, to pray for them.

For the release of the captives.

For those who are traveling.

For those laid up with illnesses.

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

And for all our fathers and brethren departed like life, those who lie here in peace, and the Orthodox everywhere.

Let us say for ourselves, also: Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

CHANTER

Mode 3.

Seeing how beautiful was your virginity, * and how your purity shone forth resplendently, * amazed was Gabriel who cried to you thus, O Theotokos: * "What shall I present to you * as a worthy encomium? * What shall I address you as? * At a loss and perplexed am I. * And therefore I, as ordered, cry out to you: * Rejoice, O Maiden full of grace!" ^[SD]

PRIEST

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

(Amen.)