

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES FOR SUNDAY OF GREAT AND ALL-HOLY PASCHA

- *The Priest begins Divine Liturgy with “Blessed is the Kingdom” and the choir responds “Amen.” Bearing the Paschal Candle, the Priest then leads the singing of the Paschal Apolytikion and censes the Altar as follows:*

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Choir: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (TWICE)

- *Censing the west side of the Altar:*

Priest: Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Refrain: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

- *Censing the south side of the Altar:*

Priest: As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (**Refrain**)

- *Censing the east side of the Altar:*

Priest: So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (**Refrain**)

- *Censing the north side of the Altar:*

Priest: This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (**Refrain**)

- *Censing the Prothesis and the remainder of the Sanctuary:*

Priest: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. (**Refrain**)

- *Censing the Iconostasis from the Royal Doors:*

Priest: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. (**Refrain**)

- *The Priest completes the censing while singing:*

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs...

Choir: ...bestowing life!

REFRAINS OF THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

REFRAINS OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the people give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the people give thanks to Thee. (*Refrain*)

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

REFRAINS OF THE THIRD ANTIPHON

+ Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Refrain: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

+ As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (*Refrain*)

+ So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (*Refrain*)

+ This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (*Refrain*)

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE FEAST

In the congregations bless God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

- *After the Little Entrance (Eisodos), sing these Apolytikia in the following order.*

PASCHAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

HYPAKOE OF PASCHA IN TONE FOUR

They who were with Mary came before the dawn, found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher, and heard the angels say unto them: Why seek ye Him as man with the dead, Who dwells in light eternal? Behold the grave wrappings; make haste and declare to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath caused death to die; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind.

- *Do NOT sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (THRICE)

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

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Dynamis!

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

THE EPISTLE

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein!

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endureth forever.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (1:1-8)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, "You heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to His own home, and His own people received Him not. But to all who received Him, who believed in His Name, He gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to Him, and

cried, “This was He of Whom I said, ‘He Who comes after me ranks before me, for He was before me.’”) And from His fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

MEGALYNARION FOR PASCHA IN TONE ONE

The angel spake to her that is full of grace, saying, O pure Virgin, rejoice; and I say also, Rejoice; for thy Son is risen from the tomb on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem; for the glory of the Lord hath risen upon thee. Rejoice and exult now, O Zion, and thou, O pure one, Theotokos, rejoice at the Resurrection of thy Son.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Receive ye the body of Christ; taste ye the Fountain of immortality. Alleluia.

- *Instead of “We have seen the true light,” sing “Christ is Risen” ONCE.*
- *Instead of “Blessed be the Name of the Lord,” sing “Christ is Risen” THRICE.*
- *Then, the clergy and altar servers gather on the solea in front of a table where flesh-meats, eggs and cheese have been placed. The priest leads “The Blessing of Flesh-meats, Eggs and Cheese” (cf. Liturgikon, P. 466-467). When finished, the clergy and altar servers return to the sanctuary.*
- *Following that Blessing (or following the Doxasticon in Orthros), the priest recites the Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom (cf. Liturgikon, P. 391-392). Afterwards, the choir sings the Apolytikion of St. John Chrysostom.*

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN TONE EIGHT

Grace hath shown forth from thy mouth like fire, illuminating the inhabited world. Thou hast treasured for the world the treasures of silver-hating and revealed to us the sublimity of humility. Wherefore, O educator, by thy words, O John the golden-mouthed, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

THE GREAT DISMISSAL

Priest: May He Who is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Christ is risen! (THRICE)

People: Truly He is risen! (THRICE)

Priest: Glory to His Holy Third-day Resurrection!

People: We adore His Holy Third-day Resurrection!

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs...

People: ...bestowing life!

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