Matins of Saturday in the 5th Week of Great Lent

“Akathist Saturday”
Online note concerning the Canon of this Matins service: up to the end of Ode 5, we sing the Canon to the Patron Saint of the church or monastery (*St. Symeon the New Theologian, in our case*), and then the Akathist Canon to the Theotokos. [If the church or monastery is dedicated to the Theotokos, only the Akathist Canon is used.] If you would like the editable Microsoft Word document or would like assistance changing the Patron’s Canon portion of this document to the Patron Saint of your church, please email Reader Alexander at alfec55@yahoo.com. God bless you.
The Matins of Saturday in the 5th Week of Great Lent

“Akathist Saturday”

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest 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! (3)

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. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name’s sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

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. In the name of the Lord, give the blessing, Father.

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-Creating, and Undivided Trinity always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, good will to men. [3X]

O Lord, open Thou my lips and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. [2X]
The Great Litany

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

Lord, have mercy. To Thee, O Lord. Amen.

(then, go page 5 for “God is the Lord” - Tone 8)
The Great Litany

Pochaev Monastery Chant - arr. Dcn S. Trubachev
SATB Version

~#2~

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Great Litany - Pochaev Monastery Chant - arr. Dcn. S. Trubachev - continued

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

To Thee, O Lord.

A- men.

“God is the Lord” - next page!
Deacon: In the Eighth Tone: God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!

Deacon: All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them!

CHOIR: God is the Lord...

Deacon: I shall not die, but live, and recount the works of the Lord!

CHOIR: God is the Lord...

Deacon: The Stone which the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is wonderful in our eyes!

CHOIR: God is the Lord...

Note: during the singing of the Troparion and Kontakion, the priest and deacon perform a FULL CENSING.
The Troparion (Avtomelon - The Original Melody) - Tone 8

Troparion Tone 8 - Obikhod (Plain) Chant

When the bod-i-less Arch-an-gel understood the mys-te-ri-ous com-mand,

he came to the house of Jo-seph with haste and proclaimed to the un-

wed-ded Maid-en: "The One Who bowed the heav-ens by His con-de-scen-sion is con-tained whol-ly and with-out change with-in thee!"
CHOIR: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

CHOIR: THE KONTAKION: (see page 14 for version #2)

Note: the Sixteenth Kathisma and Little Litany, which would usually take place in between the Troparion and the Kontakion, have been omitted.

Text pointed for Troparion Tone 8 - Obikhod (Plain) Chant

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! / We thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! / As thou possessest invincible might, set us free from every calamity, /// so that we may sing: Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!

The Kontakion is sung MULTIPLE TIMES if necessary, until the Full Censing has been completed.

(then, go page 15 for the beginning of The Akathist Hymn)
Deacon: In the Eighth Tone - God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!
Deacon: All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them!

Deacon: I shall not die, but live, and recount the works of the Lord!
Deacon: The Stone which the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is wonderful in our eyes!

God is the Lord and hath revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord!
The Troparion (Avtomelon) - Tone 8, The Original Melody

Troparion Tone 8 - The Original Melody
Kiev-Pechersk Lavra Chant Version (with inversion)

When the bodiless Archangel understood

the mysterious command, he came to the house of Joseph with haste and proclaimed to the Unwedded Maiden:

Note: during the singing of the Troparion and Kontakion, the priest and deacon perform a FULL CENSING.
"The One Who bowed the heavens by His con‐descen‐sion is con‐tained whol‐ly and with‐out change with‐in thee!

Regular SATB!
As I behold Him in thy womb, taking the form of a servant, in awe and wonder I cry out to thee: ‘Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!’"
The Kontakion (Avtomelon) - Tone 8, The Original Melody

Troparion Tone 8 - The Original Melody
Neo-Byzantine Chant Version - arr. F. Karam

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! We
thy servants, delivered from evil, sing
our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! As
thou possesest might invincible, set
...us free from every calamity,
The Akathist Hymn

Then the priest, standing in the center of the church, reads the first section of the Akathist Hymn:

Ikos 1

The priest begins:

❖ A Prince of the Angels was sent from Heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice!
❖ A Prince of the Angels was sent from Heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice!
❖ A Prince of the Angels was sent from Heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice!

And seeing Thee, O Lord, take bodily form at the sound of his bodiless voice, filled with amazement he stood still and cried aloud to her: Rejoice! For through thee joy shall shine forth:

CHOIR!
Rejoice! For through thee joy shall shine forth! Rejoice! For through thee the curse shall cease! Rejoice! Recalling of fallen Adam:

Rejoice! Deliverance from the tears of Eve! Rejoice! Height hard to climb for the thoughts of men:

Rejoice! Depth hard to scan even for the eyes of Angels! Rejoice! For thou art the Throne of the King;
Rejoice! For thou holdest Him Who upholds all! Rejoice! Star causing the Sun to shine! Rejoice! Womb of the Divine Incarnation!

Rejoice! For through thee the creation is made new; Rejoice! For through thee the Creator becomes a new-born Child!// Rejoice! O Unwedded Bride!

The priest continues:
The Holy Maiden, seeing herself in all her purity, said boldly unto Gabriel: “Strange seem thy words and hard for my soul to accept. From a Conception without seed how dost thou speak of Childbirth, crying: ‘Alleluia!’?”

Seeking to know what passes knowledge, the Virgin said to the ministering Angel: “From a maiden womb how can a Son be born? Tell me.” And to her in fear he answered, crying: Rejoice! Initiate of God’s secret Counsel:

“Rejoice! Faith in that which must be guarded by silence. Rejoice! Beginning of Christ's wonders;”
won ders;  Re-joice! Crown and Fulfillment of His teach ings!

Re-joice! Heavenly Ladder by which God came down;  Re-joice! Bridge

lead-ing men from earth to Hea ven!  Re-joice! Marvel greatly re-nowned

a-mong the An-gels;  Re-joice! Wound bitterly lamented by the
de-mons!  Re-joice! For ineffably thou shalt bear the Light;  Re-

“...-joice! For thou hast revealed the Mystery to none!”
Kontakion 3

Then the power of the Most High overshadowed her that knew not wedlock, that she might conceive: and He made her fruitful womb as a fertile field for all who long to reap the harvest of salvation, singing: Alleluia!

The priest continues:
Ikos 3

Bearing God within her womb, the Virgin hastened to Elizabeth; whose unborn child, knowing at once the salutation of the Theotokos, rejoiced and, leaping up as if in song, cried out to her: Rejoice! Vine whence springs a never-withering Branch:

Rejoice! Vine whence springs a never-withering Branch; Rejoice!

Orchard of pure Fruit! Rejoice! For thou tendest the Husbandman Who loves mankind; Rejoice! For thou hast borne the Garden-er Who cultivates our life! Rejoice! Earth yielding a rich Harvest

“...of compassion;”
Rejoice! Table laden with Mercy in abundance!

Rejoice! For through thee the fields of Eden flower again; Rejoice!

For thou makest ready a Haven for our souls! Rejoice! Acceptable Incense of intercession; Rejoice! Propitiation for the whole world! Rejoice! Loving-kindness of God unto mortal man; Rejoice! Freedom of approach for mortals unto God!!
Kontakion 4

Tossed inwardly by a storm of doubts, prudent Joseph was troubled: knowing thee to be unwedded, O Blameless Virgin, he feared a stolen union. But when he learnt that thy Conceiving was from the Holy Spirit, he said: Alleluia!

Note: if the Kathisma will be omitted, then during the singing of the Kontakion, the deacon performs a Lesser Censing.

Troparion Tone 8 - The Original Melody
Neo-Byzantine Chant Version - arr. F. Karam

O Victo-ri-ous Lead-er of tri-um-phant hosts! We thy serv-ants, de-liv-ered from e-vil, sing "our grateful thanks to thee."
our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! As thou possessest mighty invincible, set us free, set us free from every calamity, so that we may sing:

Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!
Note: the Seventeenth Kathisma, Little Litany, and 2nd singing of the Kontakion, which would usually take place now (with the Lesser Censing being performed during the 2nd singing of the Kontakion, not during the 1st), have been omitted.

Priest:

Ikos 4

The shepherds heard the Angels glorify Christ's coming in the flesh. Quickly they ran to the Shepherd, and beheld Him as a Lamb without spot, that had been pastured in the womb of Mary; and they sang praises to her, saying: Rejoice! Mother of the Lamb and Shepherd:

CHOIR:
Rejoice! For things on earth rejoice with the Heavens! Rejoice! Never-

Silent Voice of the Apostles; Rejoice! Unconquered Courage of

the victorious Martyrs! Rejoice! Firm Foundation of the Faith;

Rejoice! Shining Revelation of Grace! Rejoice! For through thee

hell is stripped bare; Rejoice! For through thee we are

"...clothed in Glory!//"
Kontakion 5

Seeing the star pointing to God, the Magi followed its radiance. Keeping it before them as a beacon, with its help they sought the Mighty King; and attaining the Unattainable, they rejoiced and cried to Him: Alleluia!

CHOIR:

The children of the Chaldeans saw the Virgin holding in her hands Him Who with His hands fashioned mankind. Though He had taken the form of a servant, yet they knew Him as their Master. In haste they knelt before Him with their gifts and cried out to the Blessed Virgin: Rejoice! Mother of the Star that never sets:

Rejoice! O Unwedded Bride!

Rejoice! Mother of the Star that never sets;

Rejoice! Bright Dawn

“...of the Mystical Day!”

Priest:

Ikos 5

The children of the Chaldeans saw the Virgin holding in her hands Him Who with His hands fashioned mankind. Though He had taken the form of a servant, yet they knew Him as their Master. In haste they knelt before Him with their gifts and cried out to the Blessed Virgin: Rejoice! Mother of the Star that never sets:
of the Mystical Day! Rejoice! For thou hast quenched the furnace of deception; Rejoice! For thou dost illumine all who love the Mystery of the Trinity! Rejoice! For thou hast cast down from his dominion the tyrant that hates man; Rejoice! For thou hast made known the Lord Christ Who loves mankind! Rejoice! Deliverance from "...the worship of pagan idols;"
the worship of pagan idols; Rejoice! Liberation from the filth of sin! Rejoice! For thou hast quenched the worship of fire; Rejoice! For thou hast released us from the flames of passion! Rejoice! Guide of the faithful to chastity; Rejoice! Joy of all generations! Rejoice! O Unwedded Bride!

The priest continues:
Becoming God's messengers, the Magi returned to Babylon. Having fulfilled the prophecy concerning Thee, and preaching Thee to all as Christ, they left Herod to his raving, for he knew not how to sing: Alleluia!

Shining upon Egypt with the Light of Truth, Thou hast dispelled the darkness of falsehood; for the idols of that land fell down, unable to endure Thy power, O Savior, and all who were delivered from them cried unto the Theotokos: Rejoice! Restoration of men:

Rejoice! For thou hast trampled on the delusion of error;
Rejoice! For thou hast exposed the snares of the idols!

Rejoice! Sea that has drowned the invisible pharaoh;

Rejoice! Rock that gives Drink to all who thirst for life!

Rejoice! Pillar of Fire guiding those in darkness;

of Fire guiding those in darkness; Rejoice! Protection of the world,

wider than the cloud in the wilderness! Rejoice! Food that takes

"...the place of manna;"
Akathist Saturday Matins - page 32

The choir then sings the Kontakion again, followed by the reading of Psalm 50:

As Simeon drew near to the time of his departure from this world of error, he received Thee as an Infant in his arms, but he knew Thee to be Perfect God; and, struck with wonder at Thine ineffable wisdom, he cried: Alleluia!
KONTAKION - TONE 8

Text pointed for Troparion Tone 8 - Obikhod (Plain) Chant

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! / We thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! / As thou possesest invincible might, set us free from every calamity, /// so that we may sing: Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!

Reader:

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 put a new and 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. Then shall I 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, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth 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 Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. /// Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

Then the CANON begins (next page).
Note: up to the end of Ode 5, we sing the Canon to the Patron Saint of the church or monastery (St. Symeon the New Theologian, in our case), and then the Akathist Canon to the Theotokos, including the Irmos, which is repeated as the Katavasia at the end of each Ode. [If the church or monastery is dedicated to the Theotokos, only the Akathist Canon is used. Consult the Typicon for further instruction.] Concerning the Canon to St. Symeon the New Theologian, it is a local practice on this day to sing it in the 6th Tone using the Irmoi of Holy Week, “Of old Thou didst bury…” Otherwise, it would be sung in the 4th Tone with the Irmoi, “I shall open my mouth…”

**The Canon - Tone 6**

**Ode 1**

*Irmos: ( Patron Saint)*

Canon Tone 6 - Lesser Znamenny Chant

Of old Thou didst bury the pursuing tyrant beneath the waves of the sea. Now the children of those who were saved bury Thee beneath the earth, but like the maidens let us sing “...to the Lord.”
O most sacred Symeon, thou wast shown forth as an instrument and harp of the Spirit, being sounded by Divine Grace. A harp of Grace, O Father, that, filled with God’s Grace, I may fittingly hymn thy Grace!

The luminous mind of theology hath been made manifest; the heavenly thunder hath on this day sounded its voice! He hath thundered forth the doctrines of God’s Wisdom! Thus, hearken, all men, and receive ye enlightenment!

What man hath the strength to contemplate that Height which cannot be scaled, that Depth unattainable, the indiscernible Length and unfathomed Breadth of mystic, Divine Knowledge Which thou wast vouchsafed, O thou all-wise and Godly one?!
O Pure One, who wast the Royal Garment of the Incarnate Word, by thy mediations and sure intercessions with God, do thou robe me in the garment of Divine Grace, yea, in that same God-woven garment which I have lost!

The Akathist Canon

Irmos I

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

REFRAIN:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!
O Pure Virgin, thou living book of Christ, sealed by the Spirit, beholding thee the great Archangel said to thee: "Rejoice, O Vessel of Joy!" /// Through thee shall we be loosed from the curse of our first mother!

1.1

REFRAIN:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

1.2

Rejoice, O Virgin Bride of God, Restoration of Adam and Death of hell! Rejoice, O Undefiled, the Pavilion of the King of All! /// Rejoice, O Fiery Throne of the Almighty!

1.3

Rejoice, O thou who alone hast blossomed forth the unfading Rose! Rejoice, for Thou hast borne the sweet-smelling Apple! Rejoice, O Maiden Unwedded, /// Bouquet of the only King and Preservation of the world!

1.4

Rejoice, O Lady, Treasure-house of purity, raising us from our fall! Rejoice, O Lily whose sweet scent is known to all the faithful! /// Rejoice, O fragrant Incense and precious Oil of Myrrh!

CHOIR, GO! Katavasia I, “I shall open my mouth...”
Katayasia I

Katavasia I

Ode III

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

Irmos: (Patron Saint)

Canon Tone 6 - Lesser Znamenny Chant

Thou didst suspend the earth immovably upon the waters.
Thou wast a divinely hallowed temple: thy mind offered sacrifice to God; thy prayer served as the sacrifice; the altar was thine upright heart. // Thus, thou, O holy Symeon, becamest God’s sacred dwelling-place!

REFRAIN
As once the fair countenance of Moses, who spake with the Most High face to Face, was glorified with the brilliant Light, thus did thy face, O Symeon, shine like the sun with Godly Light, /// for thou didst dwell in God’s Holy Place!

REFRAIN:

O ven’rable Fa-ther Sy-me-on, pray un-to God for us!

Thy writings, O Symeon our Father, have come to us in these last times, as though they were a ladder which doth lead us from the things of earth unto the things of Paradise! /// They are a bell rousing us from sleep!

Most Ho-ly The-o-to-kos, save us!

A World in the world in small didst thou prove to be, O Virgin, great Daughter of the Lord Who hath established all the world and fashioned it from what was not! /// For He Whom all the world could not contain was wholly contained in thee!

Theotokion:

Akathist Canon - Irmos 3

Tone 4 - Solovki Monastery Chant
arr. Dcn. S. Trubachev

O The-o-to-kos, thou liv-ing and plen-ti-ful fount,
From Thee, the Field untilled, has grown the divine Ear of corn! Rejoice, O living Table that has held the Bread of Life! /// Rejoice, O Lady, never-failing Spring of The Living Water!
Rejoice, O Mother who has borne for the faithful the sacrificial Victim without blemish! Rejoice, Ewe that hast brought forth the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world! Rejoice, O Mercy-seat, our fervent intercessor!

Rejoice, O radiant Dawn who alone beareth Christ the Sun! Rejoice, O Dwelling-place of the Light! Thou hast dispersed all gloom and utterly destroyed the demons of the darkness!

Rejoice, O only Gate through which the Word alone has passed! By Thy Birthgiving, O Lady, Thou hast broken the bars and gates of hell! Rejoice, O Bride of God, divine Entry of the saved!

Katavasia III

O The-o-to-kos, thou liv-ing and plen-ti-ful fount,
The Little Litany

The priest uses the following exclamation:

Priest: For Thou art our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOR: Amen.

***CHOR, “O VICTORIOUS…,” next page! ⏯️

The choir then sings the Kontakion, followed by the third section of the Akathist Hymn:

During the singing of the Kontakion, the deacon performs a Lesser Censing.
The Kontakion (ство) - Tone 8, The Original Melody

Troparion Tone 8 - The Original Melody
Neo-Byzantine Chant Version - arr. F. Karam

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! We
thy servants, delivered from evil, sing

our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! As

thou possessest might invincible, set us free, set

“...us free from every calamity,”
The priest then begins the second section of the Akathist Hymn:

Priest:

Iкос 7

A new creation has the Creator revealed, manifesting Himself unto us His creatures. From a Virgin's womb He came, preserving it inviolate as it was before: that, beholding the Miracle, we might sing her praises, crying: Rejoice!

Flower of incorruption:

CHOIR:

Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!

us free from every calamity, so that we may sing:

Rejoice! Flower of incorruption; Rejoice! Crown of chastity!

Rejoice! Bright Foreshadowing of the Resurrection Glory;
Rejoice! Mirror of the Angels' life! Rejoice! Tree of Glorious Fruit on Which the faithful feed; Rejoice! Wood of Shady Leaves where many shelter! Rejoice! For thou hast conceived a Guide for the wanderers; Rejoice! For thou hast borne a Deliverer for the captives! Rejoice! Intercessor with the Righteous Judge; Rejoice! Forgiveness for "...many who have stumbled!"
The Word Uncircumscribed was wholly present here below, yet in no wise absent from the realm on high: God descended to earth, yet underwent no change of place. He was born of a Virgin, overshadowed by Divine Power, and unto her we sing: Rejoice! Enclosure of God Whom nothing can enclose:
Rejoice! Enclosure of the God Whom nothing can enclose; Rejoice!

Gate of the Hallowed Mystery! Rejoice! Tidings doubted by unbelievers; Rejoice! Undoubted Glory of the faithful!

Rejoice! Most-Holy Chariot of Him Who rides upon the Cherubim;

Rejoice! Best of all Dwellings for Him Who is above the Seraphim!
Re-joice! For thou bringest opposites to harmony; Re-joice!

thou hast joined in one Childbirth and Virginity! Re-joice!

For through thee our sin is remitted; Re-joice! For through thee Par-

- adise is op¬ened! Re-joice! Key of Christ's Kingdom; Re-joice!

Hope of eternal blessings!! Re-joice! O Un-wed-deed Bride!
Kontakion 9

All the ranks of Angels marveled at the great work of Thine Incarnation! For they saw God, Whom none can approach, as a Man approachable by all, dwelling in our midst, and hearing from our lips: Alleluia!

Ikos 9

Eloquent orators we see dumb as the fishes in Thy presence, O Theotokos, for they are at a loss to say how Thou remainest Virgin and yet hast power to bear a Child. But we, marveling at the Mystery, cry aloud with faith: Rejoice! Casket of God’s Wisdom:

Rejoice! Casket of God's Wisdom; Rejoice! Treasury of His providence! Rejoice! For thou revealest lack of wisdom in the lovers of wisdom;”
ers of wisdom; Rejoice! For thou provest devoid of reason those skilled in reason's art! Rejoice! For the cunning disputants are shown to be fools; Rejoice! For the myth-makers have withered into silence! Rejoice! For thou hast torn asunder the tangled webs of the Athenians; Rejoice! For thou hast filled the nets of the fishermen!
Wishing to save the world, the Fashioner of all things came to it of His own free choice. As God He is our Shepherd, yet has He appeared for our sake as a Man like us; and calling like by means of Like, as God He hears our cry: Alleluia!

**Kontakion 10**

CHOIR!
KONTAKION - TONE 8

Text pointed for Troparion Tone 8 - Obikhod (Plain) Chant

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! / 
We thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! / 
As thou possessest invincible might, set us free from every calamity, /// 
so that we may sing: Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!

Then we sing the Kathisma (Sessional Hymn) - Tone 1: 
Note: Kathisma (Sessional) Hymns should always be sung in Troparion Tones, if possible.

Com- ing to the cit-y of Naz-a-reth, the mighty leader of the spir-
it-ual An-gels pro-claimed to thee, O Un-de-filed, the Incarnation of
Akathist Saturday Matins - page 54

Music Version #2 of the Kathisma (Sessional) Hymn is on the following page.

~#2~ Kathisma (Sessional) Hymn - Tone 1

Troparion Tone 1 - Special Melody - “The Soldiers Standing Guard” “Afonskoye” (“Mt. Athos”) Chant (also known as Bulgarian Chant) - after D. Yaichkov’s “It Is Truly Meet”
Coming to the city of Nazareth, the mighty leader of the spiritual Angels proclaimed to thee, O Unformed, the Incarnation of the King and Lord of filed, the Incarnation of the King and Lord of
the a-ges, say-ing un-to thee: Re-joice, Bless-ed Mar-y,
the a-ges, say-ing un-to thee: Re-joice, Bless-ed Mar-y,
the a-ges, say-ing un-to thee: Re-joice, Bless-ed Mar-y,
In submitting to the laws of our Good Master, O righteous one, thou in truth didst practice every wise commandment enjoined by Him. In these injunctions thou mettest with thy hidden Christ! /// In this wise thou didst grow rich in Heavenly Grace, O Saint!

REFRAIN

O venerable Father Symeon, pray unto God for us!
Any tongue which taketh pride in vain rhetorical expertise is in no wise able to extol the gifts which thou wast vouchsafed, those gifts which Heaven bestowed on thee abundantly and which wholly surpass human thought, O wise Symeon!

Righteous Symeon our Father, whom the Lord rightly glorified, thou didst reach that summit which men of all times have found hard to reach: Namely, to transport thy mind from earth to Heaven's heights and by Grace to be deified! O tidings strange to hear!

As thou didst foretell, O Lady, thou Immaculate Bride of God, all generations call thee Blesséd, since thou hast given birth unto the Blesséd God, Who with Deifying Grace hath made mortal men and holy Angels supremely blest!

---

REFRAIN:

O ven'ráble Fa-ther Sy-me-on, pray un-to God for us!

Most Ho-ly The-o-to-kos, save us!

Theotokion:

As thou didst foretell, O Lady, thou Immaculate Bride of God, all generations call thee Blesséd, since thou hast given birth unto the Blesséd God, Who with Deifying Grace hath made mortal men and holy Angels supremely blest!
With voices of song in faith we cry aloud to thee, O Virgin worthy of all praise:
Rejoice, O rich Mountain flowing with the milk of the Spirit!
Rejoice, O Candlestick and Vessel of Manna, sweet to the taste of the Godly!
Rejoice, O Mercy-seat of the world, O Lady undefiled! Rejoice, O Ladder raising all men from the earth by grace!
Rejoice, O Bridge that in very truth has brought from death to life all those who sing thy praises!
Rejoice, O Undefiled, higher than the Heavens, who without birth-pangs hast held within thy womb the Foundation of the earth! Rejoice, O Seashell that with thy blood hast dyed a robe of divine purple for the Lord of Hosts!

REFRAIN:
Most Ho-ly The-o-to-kos, save us!

4.1
With voices of song in faith we cry aloud to thee, O Virgin worthy of all praise:
Rejoice, O rich Mountain flowing with the milk of the Spirit! Rejoice, O Candlestick and Vessel of Manna, sweet to the taste of the Godly!

REFRAIN

4.2
Rejoice, O Mercy-seat of the world, O Lady undefiled! Rejoice, O Ladder raising all men from the earth by grace! Rejoice, O Bridge that in very truth has brought from death to life all those who sing thy praises!

REFRAIN

4.3
Rejoice, O Undefiled, higher than the Heavens, who without birth-pangs hast held within thy womb the Foundation of the earth! Rejoice, O Seashell that with thy blood hast dyed a robe of divine purple for the Lord of Hosts!

CHOIR, “Glory…”!
Rejoice, O Lady that in truth has borne the Lawgiver, Who freely washes clean the transgressions of all! O Maiden who hast not known wedlock, Depth unsearchable, Height above all speech, through thee we are made Godlike!

Thou hast woven for the world a Crown not made by hand of man, and we sing Thy praises, crying: Rejoice to thee, O Virgin, the Guardian of all men, Fortress and Stronghold and sacred Refuge!

He Who sits in glory up-on the throne of the God-head, Jesus the True God, is come in a swift cloud and with His sin-less Hand

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.

He has saved those who cry: // Glory to Thy power, O Christ!

I-sa-iah saw the never-set-ting Light of Thy compassionate Mani-fes-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
Since thy heart was all aflame with ardent love for things Divine, thou wast rapt away in contemplation and wast united to the Divinity! On Him was thy longing firmly fixed; thus didst thou, O sacred one, become one spirit with the Lord!

Behold now, the Light of Godly Grace doth dawn forth like the sun; lo, we are invited to partake of the sweet ambrosia and manna from on high! This nectar is Symeon the blest! Come, all ye that long for life; take your fill of the lavish fare!

More eloquent than the rhetoricians didst thou prove to be, and turning thy mind to Godly teachings, thou hast addressed us with God-befitting words, revealing to us matters divine! God's New Theologian wast thou accordingly named, O Saint!

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!
The whole world was amazed at thy divine glory: for thou, O Virgin who hast not known wedlock, hast held in thy womb the God of all and hast given birth to an eternal Son, Who rewards with salvation all who sing thy praises!

Theotokion:

Tone 4 - Solovki Monastery Chant arr. Dcn. S. Trubachev

CHOIR, GO!
5.1
From thee was born the Way that leads to life! Rejoice, All-blameless, who has saved the world from drowning in the flood of sin! Rejoice, O Bride of God, Tidings fearful to tell and hear! // Rejoice, O Dwelling-place of the Master of Creation!

5.2
Rejoice, O Undefiled, the Strength and Fortress of mankind, Sanctuary of the Glory! Rejoice, O Slayer of hell, Bridal Chamber full of light! Rejoice, O Joy of the Angels! // Rejoice, O Helper of those who call on thee in faith!

5.3
Rejoice, O Lady, Fiery Chariot of the Word, living Paradise, holding in thy midst the Lord, the Tree of Life! His sweetness vivifies all who partake of Him with faith, // although they were enslaved to corruption!

5.4
Strengthened by thy might, we raise our cry to thee with faith: Rejoice, O City of the King of All! Glorious things, worthy to be heard throughout the world, are plainly spoken of thee! Rejoice, O Mountain not cut by hand of man, // Depth that none can fathom!

CHOIR, “Now and ever…”!
Rejoice, O Undefiled, spacious Tabernacle of the Word, Shell from which has come the Divine Pearl! Rejoice, O Theotokos Full of Wonders, who dost reconcile with God /// all those who in every age call thee Blesséd!

Katavasia V


The whole world was amazed at thy di- vine glo-ry: for thou,

O Vir-gin who hast not known wed- lock, hast held

in thy womb the God of all and hast giv-en birth to an e-ter-nal Son,
Note: we now begin to use the 2 Four-Canticle Canons of the Lenten Triodion; the Canon to the Patron Saint is omitted (both in parish use and otherwise). We chant the Akathist Canon to the Theotokos first, followed by the 2 aforementioned Four-Canticle Canons from the Lenten Triodion.

The Akathist Canon - Ode VI

Irmos VI

Who re-wards with sal-va-tion// all who sing thy prai-s-es!

As we cele-brate this sa-cred and sol-emn feast of the Moth-er of God,

let us come, clap-ping our hands, O peo-ple of the Lord,//

and give glo-ry to God Who was born of her!

REFRAIN!
O Spotless Bridal Chamber of the Word! Through thee, all can become Godlike! Rejoice, All-Undefiled, the Prophets' song! /// Rejoice, O Adornment of the Apostles!

From thee has come the Dew that quenched the flame of idolatry! We therefore cry out to thee: Rejoice, O Virgin, Fleece wet with dew /// that Gideon saw in prophecy!

Behold, O Virgin, we cry to thee "Rejoice!" Be thou our Haven as we toss upon the deep, our Refuge from the troubled waters of affliction /// and from all the snares of the enemy!

O Cause of Joy, endue our thoughts with Grace that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, O Bush Unconsumed; Cloud of Light that without ceasing /// overshadows the faithful!

Note: for parish use, we have omitted the 1st Four-Canticle Canon’s Irmos (which is sung according to the Russian Typicon); the Irmos of the 2nd Four-Canticle Canon is not sung regardless. We go straight to the refrain and then chant the first troparion of the 1st Four-Canticle Canon. The Irmos of the 2nd Four-Canticle Canon is sung at the end of each Ode as the Katavasia.

REFRAIN: Most Holy The-o-to-kos, save us!

REFRAIN 6.1

REFRAIN 6.2

REFRAIN 6.3

REFRAIN 6.4

Note: "Beholding the sea of life…” - see Appendix]
Through their sufferings the Martyrs became like chosen stones, which roll across the earth and overturn every building of the Enemy; /// and they were made into temples of God!

We pray to you, O Martyrs who have completed the course of holiness: give us strength to run the race of the Fast, /// endued with glory through our perfect practice of the virtues!

O Lord, supreme in love, grant to Thy servants departed from this earth that they may be partakers in Thy Kingdom, /// at the holy intercessions of Thy divine Martyrs, O Most Merciful One!
O Mother and Virgin, alone worthy of all glory, intercede with the Most Holy Word, that we who sing Thy praises with faith may be granted remission of sins and a share in God’s gifts of Grace!

As we celebrate today the memory of the Martyrs, let us with holy joy offer hymns of praise to the Lord!

Not dismayed by sword and fire, O victorious Martyrs, but made bold by your faith, ye filled the tyrants with fear and amazement!

**The 2nd Four-Canticle Canon - Tone 5**

**REFRAIN:**

Saints of God, pray for us!

**Canon Tone 5**
Znamenny Chant
arr. B. Ledkovsky

**REFRAIN:**

Saints of God, pray for us!

**REFRAIN:**

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.

**READER!**
I praise Thee as Trinity in Persons and I worship Thee as Unity in Essence, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Now and ever and unto ages. Amen.

Thou art the praise of Angels and men, O Virgin, for Thou hast borne Christ the Savior of our souls!

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Israel!

Receiving life in exchange for death, O glorious Martyrs of Christ our God, ye dwell in Heaven with great joy!

Their souls shall dwell with the blessed.

For the Departed:

O Christ, the Lord of death and life, give rest with Thy Saints to those who have departed from this world in faith!

CHOIR, KATAVASIA!
The Little Litany

The priest uses the following exclamation:

Priest: For Thou art our the King of Peace and the Savior of our souls, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHORUS: Amen.

***CHORUS, “O VICTORIOUS...,” next page! ⬇

The choir then sings the Kontakion, followed by the fourth and final section of the Akathist Hymn:

**During the singing of the Kontakion, the priest and deacon perform a FULL CENSING.**
The Kontakion (Ävtomelon) - Tone 8, The Original Melody

Troparion Tone 8 - The Original Melody
Neo-Byzantine Chant Version - arr. F. Karam

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! We
thy servants, delivered from evil, sing
our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! As
thou possessest might invincible, set
"...us free from every calamity,"

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! We
The priest then begins the fourth and final section of the Akathist Hymn:

**Ikos 10**

For virgins and for all who flee to thee thou art a Wall, O Virgin Theotokos Undefiled: for the Creator of Heaven and earth has made thee ready and adorned thee, dwelling in thy womb, and teaching all to sing to thee: Rejoice! Pillar of Virginity:

**CHOIR:**

Rejoice! Pillar of Virginity; Rejoice! Gate of Salvation!

Rejoice! Beginning of the new and spiritual creation; Rejoice!

The Kontakion is sung MULTIPLE TIMES if necessary, until the Full Censing has been completed.

"...Provider of God’s mercy!"
Provider of God’s mercy! Rejoice! For Thou hast given new birth to those conceived in shame; Rejoice! For Thou hast given good counsel to those robbed of understanding! Rejoice! For Thou bringest to naught the corrupter of man’s mind; Rejoice! For Thou bringest to birth the Sower of purity! Rejoice! Bridal Chamber...

...of a Marriage without seed;
Kontakion 11

No hymn can recount the multitude of Thy many mercies! For though we offer unto Thee, O Holy King, songs numberless as the sand upon the seashore, yet we do nothing worthy of the blessings Thou hast given us, who cry unto Thee: Alleluia!
We see the Holy Virgin as a Lamp of Living Light, shining upon those in darkness! Kindling the Immaterial Fire, she guides all men to divine knowledge; she illumines our mind with radiance, and we sing these praises in her honor:
Rejoice! Beam of the Spiritual Sun:
Rejoice! Ray of the Moon that never wanes!
Rejoice! Lightning Flash that shines upon our souls;
Rejoice! Thunder that brings terror to our enemies!
Rejoice! Dawn
"...that makest the manifold Splendor to arise;"
that makest the manifold Splendor to arise; Rejoice! Spring that makest the River with many streams to flow! Rejoice! For thou dost prefigure the baptismal font; Rejoice! For thou takest away the filth of sin! Rejoice! Water washing clean the conscience; Rejoice! Cup wherein is mixed the Wine of Mighty Joy!
Kontakion 12

Wishing to grant release from ancient debts, the Redeemer of all men came of His own will to those who were exiled from His Grace; He has torn up the record of our sins, and from all He hears the cry: Alleluia!

Ikos 12

We all sing in honor of thy Son, O Theotokos, and praise thee as a Living Temple! For the Lord Who holds all things in His hand made His Dwelling in thy womb; He hallowed and He glorified thee, teaching all to cry to thee: Rejoice! Tabernacle of God the Word:
Re-joice! Tabernac-le of God the Word; Re-joice! Greater Ho-ly of Ho-
pires! Re-joice! Ark made Golden by the Spir- it; Re-joice! Never-emp-
ty Treas-ure House of Life! Re-joice! Precious Crown of Or-tho-dox
kings; Re-joice! Honored Boast of God-ly priests! Re-joice! Un-
sha-ken For-tress of the Church; Re-joice! Unconquered Ram-part
“…of the Kingdom!”
The priest then reads the thirteenth and final Kontakion:

Rejoice! For through thee the standards of Victory are raised on high; Rejoice! For through thee our enemies are cast down! Rejoice! Healing of my body; Rejoice! Salvation of my soul! Rejoice! O Unwedded Bride!
✠ O Mother worthy of all praise, who hast borne the Word, the Holiest of All Holies:
✠ O Mother worthy of all praise, who hast borne the Word, the Holiest of All Holies:
✠ O Mother worthy of all praise, who hast borne the Word, the Holiest of All Holies:
Accepting this our offering, deliver from every ill and from the punishment to come all those who cry aloud to thee: Alleluia!

The priest then reads the First Ikos again:

**Ikos 1**

A Prince of the Angels was sent from Heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice! And seeing Thee, O Lord, take bodily form at the sound of his bodiless voice, filled with amazement he stood still and cried aloud to her: Rejoice! For through thee joy shall shine forth:

**CHOIR:**

Rejoice! For through thee joy shall shine forth!
Rejoice! For through thee the curse shall cease!
Rejoice! Recalling of fallen Adam:
Rejoice! Deliverance from the tears of Eve! Rejoice! Height hard to climb for the thoughts of men: Rejoice! Depth hard to scan even for the eyes of Angels! Rejoice! For thou art the Throne of the King; Rejoice! For thou holdest Him Who upholds all! Rejoice! Star causing the Sun to shine! Rejoice! Womb of the Divine Incarnation!
O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts! / We thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos! / As thou possessest invincible might, set us free from every calamity, /// so that we may sing: Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!
The holy children bravely trampled up on the threatening fire, "yer"

refusing to worship created things in place of the Creator,

and they sang in joy: "Blessed art Thou and praised above all,/

O Lord God of our Fathers!"
We sing Thy praises, crying: Rejoice! O Chariot of the Spiritual Sun; true Vine that has produced the ripe Cluster of grapes, from Which there flows a Wine making glad /// the souls of the faithful, as they give thee glory!

Rejoice, O Bride of God, who has given birth to the Healer of All; Mystical Staff that has blossomed with the Unfading Flower! Rejoice, O Lady, for through thee we are filled with joy /// and made inheritors of life!

No tongue, however eloquent, has power to sing Thy praises! Above the Seraphim art thou exalted, O Lady, for thou hast given birth to Christ the King! Entreat Him now to deliver from all harm /// those that venerate thee in faith!

The ends of the earth praise thee and call thee Blesséd, and they cry to thee with love: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin, Scroll on which the Word is written by the Father's Hand! Pray to Him, O Theotokos, /// to enroll thy servants in the book of life!

We thy servants pray to thee, and bend the knee of our hearts: incline thine ear and save us, O Theotokos, for we are drowning in affliction, /// and preserve thy city from all conquest by the enemy!

CHOIR, GO!

The 1st Four-Canticle Canon - Tone 6

[Irmos: “An Angel made the furnace moist with dew…” - see Appendix]
O Christ Most-Merciful, the glorious company of Thy divine Martyrs dwells now in Thy Light that knows no evening! At their intercessions, /// grant to all of us enlightenment and cleansing from our sins!

**REFRAIN**

How beautiful is this season of abstinence that Thou hast given us, O Lord! As we pass through it, do Thou in Thy goodness take pity on our souls, at the prayers of Thy holy Martyrs /// who loved the beauty of Thy Sacred Passion!

**REFRAIN**

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Is-ra-el!

Through the Martyrs, for the Departed:

O Master of Life, bring to anchor in a safe harbor those Thy servants who have passed through the storm of this life with its many sorrows. May they cry aloud with all Thine elect: /// Blessed art Thou, O God of our Fathers!

**REFRAIN**

Most Ho-ly The-o-to-kos, save us!
O Ever-Virgin who hast borne the Giver of the Law, pray to Him that in this season He may uproot all wickedness from the hearts of those who seek to keep the Holy Fast with zeal and strictness!

Theotokion:

REFRAIN: Saints of God, pray for us!

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast given courage to the Martyrs who suffered for Thy sake: for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

REFRAIN

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast given to us Thy victorious Martyrs as our intercessors in Thy Presence: for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

REFRAIN

Blessed art Thou, O God, One by Nature yet made known in Three Persons: for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

READER!
Blessed art Thou, O God, Who wast born without seed and hast kept Thy Mother ever a Virgin: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

Through all the Saints that are on His earth, the Lord has made manifest His wonders!

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast tamed the wild beasts and quenched the fire to the glory of Thy Saints: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

Blessed are they whom Thou hast chosen and taken to Thyself, O Lord.

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast translated from death unto life without end /// all who in this world served and worshipped Thee with faith!

CHOIR, GO!  Katavasia VII, "Blessed art Thou, O God..."
Katavasia - Ode VII

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who beholdest the depths and sit-
test upon the Cherubim://

for Thou art praised and glorified

above all!

Ode VIII

The Offspring of the Theotokos

saved the holy children in the furnace! He

"...Who was then prefigured"
Thou hast received the Word within thy womb, and thou hast carried Him Who carries all things! Thou hast fed with milk Him Who by His will alone feeds all the inhabited earth; and unto Him, O Pure Virgin, do we sing: O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord/// and exalt Him above all forever!

REFRAIN:

Most Holy The-o-to-kos, save us!

8.1

Thou hast received the Word within thy womb, and thou has carried Him Who carries all things! Thou hast fed with milk Him Who by His will alone feeds all the inhabited earth; and unto Him, O Pure Virgin, do we sing: O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord/// and exalt Him above all forever!

REFRAIN
Moses perceived in the burning bush the great mystery of thy Childbearing, O Virgin Holy and Inviolate; and the Children prefigured this most clearly as they stood in the midst of the fire and were not burnt! Therefore, we sing Thy praises forever!

We who once through falsehood were stripped naked have by Thy Childbearing been clothed in the robe of incorruption; and we who once sat in the darkness of transgression have seen the Light, O Maiden, Dwelling-place of Light! Therefore, we sing Thy praises forever!

Through thee the dead are brought to life, for thou has borne Him Who is Himself the Life; the dumb are made to speak, lepers are cleansed, diseases are driven out; the hosts of the spirits of the air are conquered, O Virgin, the Salvation of mortal men!

Thou hast borne Salvation for the world, O Pure Virgin, and through thee we are raised from earth to Heaven! Rejoice, All-Blessed, Protection and Defense, Rampart and Stronghold of those who sing: O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever!

At this time, the deacon begins a small censing, as usual.
The Powers of Heaven marveled at the victory of the holy Martyrs! At their prayers, O Compassionate Master, /// bestow upon us the rich wonders of Thy mercy!

O Martyrs of the Lord, worthy of our wonder, in dew sent from God ye trampled down the fire! Through your fervent intercessions to the Master, /// deliver us from the fire of punishment!

O Word Supreme in Love, to the Orthodox departed from us grant heavenly life and holy radiance, /// at the prayers of the victorious Martyrs!

At the prayers of Thy Mother, O Compassionate Lord, and of Thy holy Martyrs and Apostles, give light to our souls, /// that with rejoicing we may glorify Thee forever!
O holy choirs of Martyrs, remember us who sing your praises with love, exalting Christ above all forever!

REFRAIN

Beheaded with the sword, the Martyrs rejoiced, singing in praise of Christ and exalting Him above all forever!

In a strange manner the Trinity is Divided, while yet remaining Undivided as God! Him do we exalt above all forever!

REFRAIN
Theotokion:

A Virgin has borne a Child, for God has become Man from her! /// Let all flesh sing His praises forever!

God is wonder-ful in His Saints, the God of Is - ra-el!

The Martyrs were made pillars of courage, triumphing over the fall of the devil; /// and they sing in praise of Christ forever!

Their souls shall dwell with the bless - ed.

For the Departed:

Grant a place with Abraham, O Lord, to Thy servants /// who have gone to dwell with Thee in faith and hope!

CHOIR, GO!

The choir then sings “We praise, bless, and worship the Lord...,” followed by the Katavsia of Ode VIII (next page).
The deacon then exclaims:

The Theotokos and Mother of the Light, let us honor and magnify in song!

And the choir sings “More Honorable” with its verses, as usual (next page).
Akathist Saturday Matins - page 96

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

REFRAIN: (sung after each verse)

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word, true Theotokos, we magnify thee!

For He hath regarded the lowliness of His hand-maiden, for behold...
3. hence-forth all generations will call me blessed! For He Who is

His mighty hath done great things for me and holy is His name and

His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation!

4. He has shown strength with His arm, He has scattered their

their proud in the imagination of their hearts! He has put down the migh-

5.
ty from their thrones and ex-alt-ed those of low de-gree, He has filled

the hun-gry with good things and the rich He hath sent emp-ty a-way!

He has helped His serv-ant Is-ra-el in re-mem-brance of His mer-cy

as He spoke to our Fa-thers: to A-bra-ham and to his pos-ter-

After the final refrain of “More Honorable…,” the Ninth and final Ode of the Canon is sung (next page).
Let every mortal born on earth, radiant with light, in spirit leap for joy; and let the Hosts of the Angelic Powers celebrate and honor or the holy feast of the Mother of God, and let them cry:

Rejoice! Pure and Blessed! Ever-Virgin Theotokos!

REFRAIN:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

READER!
Enable us the faithful to cry to thee, “Rejoice,” for through thee, O Maiden, we have become partakers of everlasting joy! Deliver us from temptation, from capture by the enemy, and from every other ill that befalleth sinful mortals because of the multitude of their transgressions!

Thou hast been made our Light and Confirmation, and so we cry to thee: Rejoice, O Never-Setting Star that brings into the world the Mighty Sun! Rejoice, O Pure Virgin that hast opened the closed gates of Eden! Rejoice, O Pillar of Fire leading mankind to the life above!

Let us stand with reverence in the house of our God, and let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O Queen of the world! Rejoice, O Mary, Sovereign over all of us! Rejoice, O Thou Who alone art blameless and fair among women! Rejoice, O Vessel that hast received the Myrrh Inexhaustible, emptied out upon thee!

Rejoice, O Ever-Virgin! Rejoice, O Dove that has given birth to the Lord of Mercy! Rejoice, O Glory of all the Saints and Crown of the Martyrs! Rejoice, O Divine Adornment of all the Righteous and Salvation of us the faithful!

Spare Thine inheritance, O God, and pass over all our sins! For as Intercessor in Thy sight, O Christ, there stands before Thee she that on earth conceived Thee without seed, when in Thy great mercy Thou didst will to be shaped in a Form that was not Thine own!

CHOIR, GO! 1st Four-Canticle Canon, next page!
Dawning as light, as the rising sun, the Martyrs have illumined all the earth with the rays of the True Faith and with the radiance of their miracles, and they have destroyed the darkness of pagan idolatry. /// At their prayers, O Lord, have mercy on us!

**REFRAIN**

O invincible army of Martyrs, strengthen all of us to fight the good fight and complete the course of the Fast, that performing acts of holiness /// we may with joy become partakers of Life!

**REFRAIN**

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Is-ra-el!

For the Departed:

O Lord, may Thy love accompany those who have departed from us at Thy dread command! Surround them with Thy mercies and guide them to the dwellings /// that are made radiant with the Light of Thy Countenance!
At the voice of the Angel, O Theotokos, ineffably thou hast conceived the Angel of the Father’s Counsel! Accept then the voices of us thy servants and the prayers that we offer in this season of the Fast, /// and bring them before God as incense!

Celebrating a feast today in honor of the Martyrs, O ye peoples, let us dance for joy, singing to Christ Who set the contest and gave them victory over their enemies: /// with our hymns we magnify Him!

Torn with nails and cut in pieces with the sword, ye were united to Christ in love, O Martyrs worthy of all praise! /// Now that ye rejoice in Heaven, intercede for all of us!

O Honored Trinity, Consubstantial, without beginning, Source of Life, O Undivided Unity, I sing Thy praises: Father Unbegotten, Word and Son Begotten, and Holy Spirit, /// save us all who glorify Thee!
Beyond our understanding is Thy Childbearing, O Mother of God! For without a man thou hast conceived, and in Virginity thou hast given Birth; and the Child that thou hast borne is God! Him we magnify, O Virgin, and we call thee Blesséd!

The noble army of the King and God of All, the Martyrs, let us crown with songs, ye peoples: for openly they have defeated the demonic hosts! We sing their praises and we magnify the Master!
For the Departed:

When Thou shalt raise for judgment all that Thou hast fashioned, have mercy on Thy faithful servants whom Thou now hast taken to Thyself, O Christ; forgive them all their sins in this life, /// and grant them rest with Thy Saints forever!

Katavasia IX

Rejoice, O Isaiah, a Virgin is with Child and shall bear a Son: Emmanuel. He is both God and Man, and O-

...Blesséd!
The Little Litany

The priest uses the following exclamation:
Priest: For all the Powers of Heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR: Amen.

A-men. The Mys-ter-y hidden from all a- ges is made known to-day!

God from God, the Word becomes in His com-pas- sion Son of the

Vir-gin Mar-y, and Ga-bri-el pro-claims the Gos-pel of Joy!

With him let us all cry a- loud:// Re-joice! O Moth-er of the Lord!

Go to page 108 and begin The Praises!
The Mystery hidden from all ages is made known today! God from God, the Word becomes in His compassion Son of the Virgin Mary, and Gabriel proclaims the Gospel of Joy!
The choir then immediately begins The Praises (next page!)
The Praises - Tone 4 - with four stikhera

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the Heavens! Praise Him in the highest!// To Thee, O God is due a song!
Praise Him, all you Angels of His! Praise Him, all His hosts!// To Thee,
O God is due a song!

Note: the Stikhologia (the rest of Psalms 148-150 that are usually read here) have been omitted.
Reader: Praise Him for His mighty deeds:

Praise Him according to His exceeding greatness!

A mystery hidden, unknown to the Angels, is entrusted to the Angel Gabriel! Coming now to thee, the Dove alone stainless and pure, the Restoration of mankind, he shall greet thee, O Most-Ho-

"...-ly, with the salutation://"
Re-joice! Make ready to receive, through a word, God the Word within thy womb!"  

Reader: Praise Him with trumpet sound:

And again:

Praise Him with lute and harp! A mystery hidden, unknown to the Angels, is entrusted to the Archangel Gabriel!  

Coming now to thee, the Dove alone stainless and pure, the Restoration of mankind,
he shall greet thee, O Most-Holy, with the salutation: // "Re-
- joice! Make ready to receive, through a word, God the Word within
thy womb!" Praise Him with strings and pipe! A Pavilion

full of light is prepared for Thee, O Master: the undefiled womb of
the child of God! Come down and enter it, taking pity on Thy crea-

Reader: Praise Him with timbrel and dance:
Akathist Saturday Matins - page 112

- tures, whom the avenging spirit in his envy has attacked and holds in bondage. They have lost their former beauty, and await Thy descent for their salvation!

Reader: Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals:

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Gabriel the Archangel shall come to thee openly, O All-blameless Virgin, and shall cry to thee:
"Rejoice, thou who alone wast chosen by God; Rejoice, O Living Cloud of the Sun! Receive Him that has no body,"!

Whose will it is to dwell within thy womb!"

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. The Theotokos heard a voice she knew not,

when the Archangel brought her the glad tidings of the Annunciation;
The priest then exclaims:

Glory to Thee Who hast shone us the Light!

And the choir begins The Great Doxology (next page!)
Glo-ry to God in the high-est and on earth peace, good-will to men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, we glo-ri-fy Thee,

we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glo-ry: O Lord, Heav-en-ly King,

God the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty; O Lord, the Only-Begot-ten Son, Je-sus

Christ; and the Ho-ly Spi-rit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son
of the Father, that taketh away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Thou that taketh away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest on the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou alone art holy, Thou alone art Lord, Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every day
will I bless Thee, and praise Thy name forever and ever.

Vouch-safe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statute.

O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.
And again:

- Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes!

Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes! O Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said, "Lord, have mercy on me! Heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee!"

O Lord, I flee unto Thee! Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou
art my God. For with Thee is the fountain of life, and in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy mercy unto those who know Thee. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages.
Then we sing the Troparion of the day:

The Troparion (Prosomoiôn) - Tone 8

When the bod-i-less Arch-an-gel understood the mys-te-rious com-mand,
he came to the house of Joseph with haste and proclaimed to the unwedded Maiden: “The One Who bowed the heavens by His condescension is contained wholly and without change within thee!

As I behold Him in thy womb, taking the form of a servant, in awe and wonder I cry out to thee: ‘Rejoice, O Unwedded Bride!’”
The Augmented Litany

The Morning Litany

The Dismissal

Priest: Wisdom!

Choir: Father bless!

Priest: HE WHO IS: Christ our God, is Blesséd always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Confirm, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages!
Priest: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word, True Theotokos, we magnify thee!

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!

Choir: 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 (3). Father bless!

*And the priest makes the dismissal of the day.*

Choir: Amen! (2x)
APPENDIX

Contents:

1. The Six Psalms (RSV translation)

2. The Irmoi of the 2nd Four-Canticle Canon (from Odes 6-9), Obikhod Canon Tone 6

3. Canon Odes 6b, 7b, 8, and 9 for a LARGE CHOIR – after B. Ledkovsky, Wide Harmony SSATTBB; the Refrain for the Magnificat, Znamenny Chant for a LARGE CHOIR – after D. Yaichkov, Wide Harmony SSSATTTBBBB (appendix section 3, pg. 21)

4. The Verses for the Magnificat, Znamenny Chant for a LARGE CHOIR – arr. D. Yaichkov (SSSAATT)
Verses Before the Six Psalms

- Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will to men! *(three times)*

- O Lord, open Thou my lips and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise! *(two times)*

Psalm 3

Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me. Many are saying of me, there is no help for him in God. But Thou, O Lord, art a shield about me, my glory and the lifter of my head. I cry aloud to the Lord and He answers me from His holy hill. I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me. I am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God! For Thou dost smite all my enemies on the cheek; Thou dost break the teeth of the wicked. Deliverance belongs to the Lord; Thy blessing be upon Thy people.

*And again:*

- I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.

Psalm 37

Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath! For Thine arrows have sunk into me, and Thy hand has come down on me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of...
Thine indignation. There is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me. My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart. Lord, all my longing is known to Thee, my sighing is not hidden from Thee. My heart throbs, my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me. My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my kinsmen stand afar off. Those who seek my life lay their snares, those who seek my hurt speak of ruin and meditate treachery all the day long. But I am like a deaf man, I do not hear, like a dumb man who does not open his mouth. Yea, I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes. But for Thee, O Lord, do I wait; it is Thou, O Lord my God, Who wilt answer. For I pray, "Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!" For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever with me. I confess my iniquity, I am sorry for my sin. Those who are my foes without cause are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully. Those who render me evil for good are my adversaries, because I follow after good. Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

And again:

* Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

**Psalm 62**

God, Thou art my God, I seek Thee, my soul thirsts for Thee. My flesh faints for Thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is. So I have looked upon Thee in the sanctuary, beholding Thy Power and Glory. Because Thy steadfast love is better than life my
lips will praise Thee. So I will bless Thee as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on Thy Name. My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises Thee with joyful lips, when I think of Thee upon my bed, and meditate on Thee in the watches of the night; for Thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of Thy wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to Thee, Thy right hand upholds me. But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth; they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals. But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by Him shall glory; for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

And again:

I meditate on Thee in the watches of the night; for Thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of Thy wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to Thee, Thy right hand upholds me.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (three times)

Lord, have mercy. (three times)

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

(If the Six Psalms are to be split between two readers, they switch at this point.)

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Psalm 87

Lord my God, I call for help by day; I cry out in the night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, incline Thine ear to my cry! For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol. I am reckoned among those who go down to the Pit; I am a man who has no strength, like one forsaken among the dead,
like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom Thou dost remember no more, for they are cut off from Thy hand. Thou hast put me in the depths of the Pit, in the regions dark and deep. Thy wrath lies heavy upon me, and Thou dost overwhelm me with all Thy waves. Thou hast caused my companions to shun me; Thou hast made me a thing of horror to them. I am shut in so that I cannot escape; my eyes grow dim through sorrow. Every day I call upon Thee, O Lord; I spread out my hands to Thee. Dost Thou work wonders for the dead? Do the shades rise up to praise Thee? Is Thy steadfast love declared in the grave or Thy faithfulness in Abaddon? Are Thy wonders known in the darkness, or Thy saving help in the land of forgetfulness? But I, O Lord, cry to Thee. In the morning my prayer comes before Thee. O Lord, why dost Thou cast me off? Why dost Thou hide Thy face from me? Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer Thy terrors; I am helpless. Thy wrath has swept over me, Thy dread assaults destroy me. They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in upon me together. Thou hast caused lover and friend to shun me; my companions are in darkness.

And again:

* O Lord my God, I call for help by day; I cry out in the night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, incline Thine ear to my cry!

**Psalm 102**

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless His holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Who forgives all your iniquity, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the Pit, Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, Who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He
made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. For as the Heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear Him. And His righteousness to children’s children, to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments. The Lord has established His Throne in the Heavens, and His Kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, O you His Angels, you mighty ones who do His word, hearkening to the voice of His word! Bless the Lord, all His hosts, His ministers that do His will! Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

*And again:*

*In all places of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul!*

**Psalm 142**

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for no man living is righteous before Thee. For the enemy has pursued me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled. I remember the days of old, I meditate on all that
Thou hast done; I muse on what Thy hands have wrought. I stretch out my hands to Thee; my soul thirsts for Thee like a parched land. Make haste to answer me, O Lord! My spirit fails! Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the Pit. Let me hear in the morning of Thy steadfast love, for in Thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to Thee I lift up my soul. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies! I have fled to Thee for refuge! Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God! Let Thy Good Spirit lead me on a level path. For Thy Name’s sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In Thy righteousness bring me out of trouble. And in Thy steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am Thy servant.

And again:
- In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness, enter not into judgment with Thy servant! *(two times)*
- Let Thy Good Spirit lead me on a level path!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
- Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! *(three times)*
- O Lord, our Hope, glory to Thee!
Resurrection Matins Canon Irmoi - Tone 6

Note: these are also four of the Irmoi of the Full Panakhida Canon and are the Irmoi of MANY of the Canons of the Octoechos, Menaion, Lenten Triodion, etc.

Canon Tone 6 - Obikhod Version
Compiled by the kliros of St. Symeon Orthodox Church - Birmingham, AL

ODE 6

Be-hold-ing the sea of life surg-ing with the storm of temp-ta-tions,

and tak-ing refuge in Thy calm ha-ven I cry un-to Thee: Raise up

my life from cor-rup-tion,// O Great-ly Mer-ciful One!
An angel made the furnace moist with dew for the Godly Children,

but the command of God consumed the Chaldeans with fire, so that the tyrant cried aloud:// Bless-ed art Thou, O God of our Fa-

thers!
Out of the flames Thou didst drop dew on the God-ly ones, and with wa-
- ter didst kindle the sacrifice of the right-eous one, for Thou dost do all
things as Thou dost will, O Christ!/

We ex-alt Thee through-out all

a-ges!
It is not possible for men to see God, upon Whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze. But through thee, O all-pure one, was The Lord Incarnate revealed unto men: Whom magnifying, together with the heavenly hosts, we call thee blessed!
AKATHIST SATURDAY MATINS CANON
ODES 6b, 7b, 8, and 9

Canon Tones 6 and 5

WIDE HARMONY

after B. Ledkovsky
Through their sufferings the Martyrs became like chosen stones, which roll across the earth and overturn every building of the Enemy; and they were made into temples of God!

We pray to you, O Martyrs who have completed the course of holiness: give us strength to run the race of the Fast, endued with glory through our perfect practice of the virtues!

Reader:

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Is-ra-el!
O Lord, supreme in love, grant to Thy servants departed from this earth that they may be partakers in Thy Kingdom, /// at the holy intercessions of Thy divine Martyrs, O Most Merciful One!

O Mother and Virgin, alone worthy of all glory, intercede with the Most Holy Word, that we who sing Thy praises with faith may be granted remission of sins /// and a share in God's gifts of Grace!

As we celebrate today the memory of the Martyrs, /// let us with holy joy offer hymns of praise to the Lord!
Not dismayed by sword and fire, O victorious Martyrs, but made bold by your faith, /// ye filled the tyrants with fear and amazement!

I praise Thee as Trinity in Persons and I worship Thee as Unity in Essence, /// Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

**CHOIR, “Now and ever…”!**
Thou art the praise of Angels and men, O Virgin, for Thou hast borne Christ the Savior of our souls!

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Israel!

Receiving life in exchange for death, O glorious Martyrs of Christ our God, ye dwell in Heaven with great joy!
O Christ, the Lord of death and life, give rest with Thy Saints to those who have departed from this world in faith!

Katavasia - Ode VI

Thou hast delivered the Prophet from the whale: lead me up, O Lord, //

For the Departed:

slightly slower
The priest uses the following exclamation:

Priest: For Thou art our the King of Peace and the Savior of our souls, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR: Amen.

***CHOIR, “O VICTORIOUS…,” GO TO BOOK PAGE 72!

During the singing of the Kontakion, the priest and deacon perform a FULL CENSING.

**SWITCH BACK TO THE NEXT PAGE OF THIS PACKET AFTER BOOK PAGE 85!**
O Christ Most-Merciful, the glorious company of Thy divine Martyrs dwells now in Thy Light that knows no evening! At their intercessions, /// grant to all of us enlightenment and cleansing from our sins!

REFRAIN

How beautiful is this season of abstinence that Thou hast given us, O Lord! As we pass through it, do Thou in Thy goodness take pity on our souls, at the prayers of Thy holy Martyrs /// who loved the beauty of Thy Sacred Passion!

Reader:

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Is-ra-el!

REFRAIN

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Is-ra-el!

READER!
Through the Martyrs, for the Departed:

O Master of Life, bring to anchor in a safe harbor those Thy servants who have passed through the storm of this life with its many sorrows. May they cry aloud with all Thine elect: /// Blessed art Thou, O God of our Fathers!

Theotokion:

O Ever-Virgin who hast borne the Giver of the Law, pray to Him that in this season He may uproot all wickedness from the hearts /// of those who seek to keep the Holy Fast with zeal and strictness!

The 2nd Four-Canticle Canon - Tone 5

REFRAIN:

Saints of God, pray for us!
Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast given courage to the Martyrs who suffered for Thy sake: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast given to us Thy victorious Martyrs as our intercessors in Thy Presence: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

Blessed art Thou, O God, One by Nature yet made known in Three Persons: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

CHOIR, “Now and ever…”!
Blessed art Thou, O God, Who wast born without seed and hast kept Thy Mother ever a Virgin:
for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

Now and ever-
and unto a-
ge-
ages.
Amen.

Theotokion: Blessed art Thou, O God, Who wast born without seed and hast kept Thy Mother ever a Virgin: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!

Through all the Saints that are on His earth, the Lord has made man-
i-fest His won-
ders!

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast tamed the wild beasts and quenched the fire to the glory of Thy Saints: /// for Thou art praised and glorified above all!
Blessed are they whom Thou hast chosen and taken to Thyself,

Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast translated from death unto life without end /// all who in this world served and worshipped Thee with faith!

For the Departed:

O Lord.

Katavasia - Ode VII

NEXT PAGE!
Blessed art Thou, O God, Who beholdest the depths and sit-test upon the Cherubim://
for Thou art praised and glorified
above all!

Ode 8a

Irmos VIII - The Akathist Canon

Tone 4 - Solovki Monastery Chant - arr. Dcn. S. Trubachev
saved the holy children in the furnace! He

Who was then prefigured has since been born on earth,

and He gathers all creation to sing: O all ye works of

the Lord, praise ye the Lord! and exalt Him above all forever!

REFRAIN:

Most Holy The-o-to-kos, save us!

READER!
8.1
Thou hast received the Word within thy womb, and thou has carried Him Who carries all things! Thou hast fed with milk Him Who by His will alone feeds all the inhabited earth; and unto Him, O Pure Virgin, do we sing: O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord /// and exalt Him above all forever!

REFRAIN:

8.2
Moses perceived in the burning bush the great mystery of thy Childbearing, O Virgin Holy and Inviolate; and the Children prefigured this most clearly as they stood in the midst of the fire and were not burnt! /// Therefore, we sing Thy praises forever!

REFRAIN

8.3
We who once through falsehood were stripped naked have by Thy Childbearing been clothed in the robe of incorruption; and we who once sat in the darkness of transgression have seen the Light, O Maiden, Dwelling-place of Light! /// Therefore, we sing Thy praises forever!

REFRAIN

8.4
Through thee the dead are brought to life, for thou has borne Him Who is Himself the Life; the dumb are made to speak, lepers are cleansed, diseases are driven out; the hosts of the spirits of the air are conquered, O Virgin, /// the Salvation of mortal men!

REFRAIN

8.5
Thou hast borne Salvation for the world, O Pure Virgin, and through thee we are raised from earth to Heaven! Rejoice, All-Blessed, Protection and Defense, Rampart and Stronghold of those who sing: O all ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord /// and exalt Him above all forever!

REFRAIN
Reader:
The Powers of Heaven marveled at the victory of the holy Martyrs! At their prayers, O Compassionate Master, /// bestow upon us the rich wonders of Thy mercy!

REFRAIN
O Martyrs of the Lord, worthy of our wonder, in dew sent from God ye trampled down the fire! Through your fervent intercessions to the Master, /// deliver us from the fire of punishment!

Through the Martyrs, for the Departed:
O Word Supreme in Love, to the Orthodox departed from us grant heavenly life and holy radiance, /// at the prayers of the victorious Martyrs!

CHOIR!
At the prayers of Thy Mother, O Compassionate Lord, and of Thy holy Martyrs and Apostles, give light to our souls, /// that with rejoicing we may glorify Thee forever!

Theotokion:

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

The 2nd Four-Canticle Canon - Tone 5

REFRAIN: Saints of God, pray for us!

Reader: O holy choirs of Martyrs, remember us who sing your praises with love, /// exalting Christ above all forever!

REFRAIN

Beheaded with the sword, the Martyrs rejoiced, singing in praise of Christ /// and exalting Him above all forever!

CHOIR! “Let us bless”
In a strange manner the Trinity is Divided, while yet remaining Undivided as God! /// Him do we exalt above all forever!

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion:

A Virgin has borne a Child, for God has become Man from her! /// Let all flesh sing His praises forever!

CHOIR!
The Martyrs were made pillars of courage, triumphing over the fall of the devil; /// and they sing in praise of Christ forever!

Their souls shall dwell with the blessed.

For the Departed:

Grant a place with Abraham, O Lord, to Thy servants /// who have gone to dwell with Thee in faith and hope!

The choir then sings the WIDE HARMONY “We praise, bless, and worship…,” followed by the Katavsia of Ode VIII (next page).
We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages!
Sing, O ye peoples,
sing in praise of the Maker of creation, before
“Whom Angels tremble, //”
The Deacon then exclaims:
“The Theotokos and Mother of the Light, let us honor and magnify in song!”
And the choir sings “More Honorable” with its verses.

~A~

>For REGULAR HARMONY “More Honorable,” go to BOOK PAGE 96.

~B~

>For the WIDE HARMONY (Yaichkov) Refrain, go to the NEXT PAGE! (see stand-alone sheet music for verses)
The Magnificat - WIDE HARMONY REFRAIN - Znamenny Chant

More hon'ra-ble than the Cher-u-bim, and more glo-ri-ous be-yond com-

More hon'ra-ble than the Cher-u-bim, and more glo-ri-ous be-yond com-

More hon'ra-ble than the Ser-a-phim, with-out cor-rup-tion thou gav-est

More hon'ra-ble than the Ser-a-phim, with-out cor-rup-tion thou gav-est

birth to God the Word: True The-o-to-kos, we mag-ni-fy thee!

birth to God the Word: True The-o-to-kos, we mag-ni-fy thee!

The Canon (Ode 9a) continues on the next page.
Let every mortal born on earth, radiant with light, in spirit leap for joy; and let the Hosts of the Angelic Powers cel-ebrate and hon-
or the ho-ly feast of the Moth-er of God, and let them cry:

Re-joice! Pure and Bless-ed// Ev-er-Vir-gin The-o-to-kos!

Most Ho-ly The-o-to-kos, save us!
Enable us the faithful to cry to thee, “Rejoice,” for through thee, O Maiden, we have become partakers of everlasting joy! Deliver us from temptation, from capture by the enemy, and from every other ill that befalleth sinful mortals because of the multitude of their transgressions!

Thou hast been made our Light and Confirmation, and so we cry to thee: Rejoice, O Never-Setting Star that brings into the world the Mighty Sun! Rejoice, O Pure Virgin that hast opened the closed gates of Eden! Rejoice, O Pillar of Fire leading mankind to the life above!

Let us stand with reverence in the house of our God, and let us cry aloud: Rejoice, O Queen of the world! Rejoice, O Mary, Sovereign over all of us! Rejoice, O Thou Who alone art blameless and fair among women! Rejoice, O Vessel that hast received the Myrrh Inexhaustible, emptied out upon thee!

Rejoice, O Ever-Virgin! Rejoice, O Dove that has given birth to the Lord of Mercy! Rejoice, O Glory of all the Saints and Crown of the Martyrs! Rejoice, O Divine Adornment of all the Righteous and Salvation of us the faithful!

Spare Thine inheritance, O God, and pass over all our sins! For as Intercessor in Thy sight, O Christ, there stands before Thee she that on earth conceived Thee without seed, when in Thy great mercy Thou didst will to be shaped in a Form that was not Thine own!

CHOIR, GO!

1st Four-Canticle Canon WIDE HARMONY, next page!
Ode 9b - The 1st Four-Canticle Canon - Tone 6

Reader:

Dawning as light, as the rising sun, the Martyrs have illumined all the earth with the rays of the True Faith and with the radiance of their miracles, and they have destroyed the darkness of pagan idolatry. /// At their prayers, O Lord, have mercy on us!

REFRAIN

O invincible army of Martyrs, strengthen all of us to fight the good fight and complete the course of the Fast, that performing acts of holiness /// we may with joy become partakers of Life!

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Is-ra-el!

REFRAIN

READER!
Reader:
O Lord, may Thy love accompany those who have departed from us at Thy
dread command! Surround them with Thy mercies and guide them to the
dwellings /// that are made radiant with the Light of Thy Countenance!

For the Departed:

At the voice of the Angel, O Theotokos, ineffably thou hast conceived the
Angel of the Father's Counsel! Accept then the voices of us thy servants and
the prayers that we offer in this season of the Fast, /// and bring them before
God as incense!

The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Four-Canticle Canon - Tone 5

REFRAIN: Saints of God, pray for us!

READER!
Celebrating a feast today in honor of the Martyrs, O ye peoples, let us dance for joy, singing to Christ Who set the contest and gave them victory over their enemies: /// with our hymns we magnify Him!

Torn with nails and cut in pieces with the sword, ye were united to Christ in love, O Martyrs worthy of all praise! /// Now that ye rejoice in Heaven, intercede for all of us!

O Honored Trinity, Consubstantial, without beginning, Source of Life, O Undivided Unity, I sing Thy praises: Father Unbegotten, Word and Son Begotten, and Holy Spirit, /// save us all who glorify Thee!
Beyond our understanding is Thy Childbearing, O Mother of God! For without a man thou hast conceived, and in Virginity thou hast given Birth; and the Child that thou hast borne is God! Him we magnify, O Virgin, and we call thee Blesséd!

"-i-fest His wonders!"

Through all the Saints that are on His earth, the Lord has made man-

"-i-fest His wonders!"

...
The noble army of the King and God of All, the Martyrs, let us crown with songs, ye peoples: for openly they have defeated the demonic hosts! /// We sing their praises and we magnify the Master!

Blessed are they whom Thou hast chosen and taken to Thyself,

For the Departed:
When Thou shalt raise for judgment all that Thou hast fashioned, have mercy on Thy faithful servants whom Thou now hast taken to Thyself, O Christ; forgive them all their sins in this life, /// and grant them rest with Thy Saints forever!

Katavasia - Ode IX

CHOIR!
Rejoice, O Isaiah, a Virgin is with Child
and shall bear a Son: Emmanuel. He is both God and Man,
and O-ri-ent is His name!// Mag-ni-fy-ing Him, we call the Vir-
and O-ri-ent is His name!// Mag-ni-fy-ing Him, we call the Vir-

- gin Bless-ed!
- gin Bless-ed!

- gin Bless-ed!
- gin Bless-ed!
The Magnificat - Znamenny Chant

arr. D. Yaichkov

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

For He hath regard ed the lowliness of His hand maid en,

for be hold, hence forth all gen er a tions will call me bless ed!
For He Who is mighty hath done great things for me, and Holi is His name, and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation!

He hath shown strength with His arm, generation!

REFRAIN

REFRAIN
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts!

He hath put down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of low degree,

He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich low degree,

"...He has sent empty away."
He has sent empty away!

He has helped His servant Israel

in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever!

He has sent empty away!

He has helped His servant Israel

in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever!