

The Rite of the Mystery of Holy Unction



Holy Ascension Orthodox Christian Mission

For Use at Holy Ascension Orthodox Mission in Melbourne, Victoria.
Please Return this Book after the Service

**HOLY ASCENSION
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION**

www.ascensionorthodox.org

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This project is still in draft and continues as a work-in-progress.

Instructions for Clergy & Altar Servers in Blue.

Instructions for Choir & Faithful in Red.

The Rite of Holy Unction

Which is Chanted by a Bishop and Six Priests

The Priest vests with epitrachelion, cuffs and phelonion. Purple vestments if it is Great Lent.

A table is placed in the center of the church. On the table is a bowl with 7 candles. The bowl may be filled with flour (which is then used to make prosphora or artoclasia), or sand. Also on the table is a receptacle with sufficient oil and an anointing wand or brush.

The service starts in the center of the church.

Deacon: Bless, master.

There is a Great Censing starting at the center of the church.

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

Reader: Amen.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, present everywhere and filling all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, blot out our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (x 3)

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

Our Father in the Heavens, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your 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 Yours 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 to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Lord have mercy. (x 12)

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 142

Reader: O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear to my supplication in Your truth, answer me in Your

righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul; he humbled my life to the ground, he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, and my spirit was in anguish within me, my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works, I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me. Turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning; for I put my hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life, in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies, You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (x 3)

Small Litany

Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For to You is due all glory, honor and worship; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Alleluia
Tone 6

Deacon: In the 6th Tone: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. O Lord, do not reprove me in Your anger, Nor discipline me in Your wrath. (Psalm 6: 2)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak.
(Psalm 6: 3)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Penitential Troparia
Tone 6

People: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; /
for we are at a loss for any defence, /
we sinners offer this prayer to You as Master, //
have mercy on us.

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

People: O Lord, have mercy on us, /
for we have hoped in You; /
do not be greatly angered with us, /
neither remember our iniquities; /
but look upon us now since You are compassionate, /
and rescue us from our enemies; /
for You are our God, /
and we are Your people; /
all are the works of Your hands, //
and we call upon Your name.

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

People: O blessed Theotokos, /
open the door of compassion to us, /
for hoping in you, /
let us not perish; /
through you may we be rescued from adversities; //
for through you came the salvation of the Christian race.

Psalm 50

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

with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar.

Canon

Tone 4

Acrostic: The Prayer of Oil, the Hymn of Arsenius

Ode 1

Irmos

People: Having traversed the depths of the Red Sea with dryshod feet, / Israel of old vanquished the might of Amalek in the wilderness // by Moses' arms stretched out in the form of the Cross.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Master, You always console the souls and bodies of men with the oil of compassion, and preserve the faithful with oil: Have mercy on those who approach You with oil.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Master, the whole Earth is full of Your mercy. Therefore, we who are anointed today with Your divine and precious oil beseech You with faith, that we be given Your mercy which is past understanding.

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

Priest: O You who mercifully commanded Your apostles to perform Your sacred anointing upon Your ailing servants, by their entreaties have mercy upon all with Your seal.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O pure one who gave birth to the only Abyss of peace: By your supplications to God always rescue Your servants from infirmities and tribulations, that they may unceasingly magnify you.

Katavasia

People: Having traversed the depths of the Red Sea with dryshod feet, / Israel of old vanquished the might of Amalek in the wilderness // by Moses' arms stretched out in the form of the Cross.

Ode 3

Irmos

People: O Christ, Your Church rejoices in You, crying aloud: / You are my strength, O Lord, // my refuge and my consolation!

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O merciful Christ, You alone are wondrous in men of faith. Grant Your grace from above to those who are grievously ill.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Lord, You once showed an olive-branch as Your divine sign that the flood would be held back; by Your mercy save those who are suffering.

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

Priest: O Christ, as with a lamp of divine light, in Your mercy illumine with anointing those who now hasten to Your mercy with faith.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O Mother of the Creator of all, look down with good pleasure from above, and by your supplications lift the bitter affliction of those who are sick.

Katavasia

People: O Christ, Your Church rejoices in You, crying aloud: / You are my strength, O Lord, // my refuge and my consolation!

Sessional Hymn ***Tone 8***

People: O Compassionate One, You are like a divine river of mercy / and an abyss of great loving-kindness: / Reveal the divine streams of Your mercy, and heal all; / cause fountains of miracles to gush in abundance, and wash all clean: // for, always fleeing to You, we fervently ask for Your grace.

Another Sessional Hymn
Tone 4

People: O Physician and Helper of those in sickness, / Deliverer and Savior of the infirm: / O Master and Lord, / grant healing to Your ailing servants. / Take pity and have mercy upon those who have sinned exceedingly, / and deliver them from transgressions, O Christ, // that they may glorify Your divine power.

Ode 4
Irmos

People: Seeing You lifted up on the Cross, O Sun of righteousness, / the Church stood rooted in place, crying out as is right: // Glory to Your power, O Lord!

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Savior, like myrrh of incorruption which has poured forth through Your grace and cleansed the world, take pity and as God have mercy upon those who anoint the sores of their bodies with faith.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Master, having now signed the senses of Your servants with the serenity of the seal of Your mercy, forbid the adverse powers entry to all.

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

Priest: O You who loves mankind and commands the ailing to summon Your divine priestly servants to be saved by their prayers and the anointing of Your oil: By Your mercy save those who suffer.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O all-holy Ever-Virgin Theotokos, mighty protection and preserver, refuge and rampart, stairway and fortification: Have mercy and compassion on those who are sick, for to you alone have **we/they** fled for refuge.

Katavasia

People: Seeing You lifted up on the Cross, O Sun of righteousness, / the Church stood rooted in place, crying out as is right: // Glory to Your power, O Lord!

Ode 5 Irmos

People: O my Lord, You have come as a light into the world, / a holy light turning from the darkness of ignorance // those who praise You with faith.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Good One, You are the Abyss of mercy. In Your divine mercy have mercy upon those who suffer, as You are compassionate, O Merciful One.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Christ, having inexplicably sanctified our souls and bodies with the divine impression of Your seal from above, heal us all by Your hand.

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

Priest: O all-good Lord, in Your indescribable love You accepted the anointing with myrrh from the harlot: Have mercy on Your servants.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O most praised, pure, all-good Lady, have mercy on those who are anointed with divine oil, and save your servants.

Katavasia

People: O my Lord, You have come as a light into the world, / a holy light turning from the darkness of ignorance // those who praise You with faith.

Ode 6 ***Irmos***

People: I will sacrifice to You with a voice of praise, / the Church cries to You O Lord, / cleansed of the blood of demons / by the blood which, for mercy's sake, // flowed from Your side.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O You who loves mankind, You showed by Your words that anointing with oil is for kings and is consecrated by hierarchs: With Your seal save those who are suffering, as You are compassionate.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: Let no interfering act of the bitter demons touch the senses of those who are signed with divine anointing, but surround them with the protection of Your glory.

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

Priest: O You who loves mankind, extend Your hand from above, and having sanctified Your oil, O Savior, grant it to Your servants for health, and for deliverance from all infirmities.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O Mother of the Creator, you have appeared as a fruitful olive tree in the temple your God, through which the world is seen to be full of mercy. Therefore, by the touch of your supplications save those who are suffering.

Katavasia

People: I will sacrifice to You with a voice of praise, /
the Church cries to You O Lord, / cleansed
of the blood of demons / by the blood which,
for mercy's sake, // flowed from Your side.

Kontakion Tone 2

Special Melody: "Seeking the highest"

People: O All-good and Compassionate One, / You
are the fountain of mercy: / Deliver from
every affliction those who with fervent faith /
fall down before Your indescribable mercy; /
and taking away their infirmities, // grant
them divine grace from above.

Ode 7 ***Irmos***

People: The children of Abraham in the Persian
furnace, / afire with love of piety more than
with the flame, cried out: // Blessed are You
in the temple of Your glory, O Lord!

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O only God and Savior, in Your mercy and
compassion You heal the passions of the
soul and the bodily afflictions of all: Treat
those who suffer in infirmities, healing them
Yourself.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Christ, when the heads of all are anointed with the oil of unction, grant the joy of gladness to them, O Lord; and by Your rich mercy give the mercy of Your deliverance to those who seek it.

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

Priest: O Savior, Your seal is a sword against the demons, burning up the fire of the passions of the soul by the entreaties of Your priests. Therefore, we who receive healing praise You with faith.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O Theotokos, in godly manner you received within your womb Him who holds all things in the palm of His hand, and who inexplicably gave flesh to Him: We ask Him to have mercy upon those who are suffering.

Katavasia

People: The children of Abraham in the Persian furnace, / afire with love of piety more than with the flame, cried out: // Blessed are You in the temple of Your glory, O Lord!

Ode 8
Irmos

People: Stretching out his hands, Daniel shut the lions' mouths in the pit; / and the young lovers of piety clothed with virtue quenched the power of the fire, crying out: // Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord!

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Savior, have mercy upon all according to Your great and divine mercy; for it is for this that we have all assembled, mystically representing the direction of Your compassions, offering anointing with oil for Your servants with faith, whom You visit.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Christ our Lord, as You are full of loving-kindness, with the streams of Your mercy and by the anointing of Your priests, wash away the sicknesses, affliction and attacks of pain of those who are tormented in the violence of sufferings, so that by Your cleansing they may glorify You with thanksgiving.

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

Priest: Do not withdraw Your mercy from us who depict Your divine oil as a symbol of help and joy from on high, nor despise those who always cry out with faith: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord!

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O pure Lady, nature has received as a crown your divine Offspring, who crushes the hordes of the enemy and mightily vanquishes them. Therefore, crowned with the splendors of your joyful graces, we praise you, O all-praised Theotokos.

Katavasia

People: Stretching out his hands, Daniel shut the lions' mouths in the pit; / and the young lovers of piety clothed with virtue quenched the power of the fire, crying out: // Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord!

Ode 9

Irmos

People: Christ, the Chief Cornerstone uncut by human hands, / united the two disparate natures, / and was cut from you, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin. // Therefore, in gladness we magnify you, O Theotokos.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: O Compassionate Lord, look down from Heaven. Show Your mercy to all; and by the divine anointing of Your priests, grant now Your aid and strength to those who approach You, O You who loves mankind.

Refrain: Have mercy on me O Lord for I am weak.

Priest: We see with rejoicing the divine oil, O all-good Savior, which by Your divine condescension You have accepted on behalf of those who are about to partake, and which You have symbolically imparted to them who have shared in the divine font.

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

Priest: O Savior, take pity, have mercy, and rescue us from evils and pain. And as You are the merciful Lord, deliver the souls and bodies of Your servants from the shafts of the evil one, healing them with divine anointing.

Refrain: Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: O all-pure Virgin, accept the hymns and entreaties of your servants, and by your supplications deliver from cruel sufferings and pangs those who through us have recourse to your divine shelter.

Katavasia

People: Christ, the Chief Cornerstone uncut by human hands, / united the two disparate natures, / and was cut from you, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin. // Therefore, in gladness we magnify you, O Theotokos.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

People:

It is truly right to bless you, the Theotokos, / ever-blessed and most-blameless, and Mother of our God./

More honorable than the cherubim/
and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim;/
who without corruption gave birth to God the Word, //
the very Theotokos, we magnify you.

Exaposteilarion

Special Melody: "You have visited us"

People: O Good Lord, with the eye of Your mercy, / regard the entreaty of us who have assembled together in Your holy temple today, // to anoint Your ailing servants with divine oil.

The Praises

Tone 4

Spec. Mel.: "You have given a sign"

People:

By the apostles and through Your holy oil /
You have given Your grace to heal the diseases and
infirmities of all, /

O You who are readily placated and loves mankind; /
therefore those who approach Your oil with faith, /
now sanctify, treat with mercy, cleanse of every ailment, /
and grant Your incorrupt food, O Lord, as You are
compassionate.

People:

Look down from Heaven, as You are compassionate, O
unapproachable Lord, /
and having signed our senses with Your divine oil by Your
invisible hand, /

O You who loves mankind, /
grant remission of transgressions /
and healing of soul and body /
for those who flee to You with faith, /
that they may glorify You with love, magnifying Your might.

People:

With the anointing of Your oil and the touch of Your priests, /
O You who loves mankind, /
sanctify Your servants from above, /
free them from infirmities of soul, /
cleanse and purify them of defilement, /
and deliver them from greatly tangled temptations, /
put down their sicknesses, /
dispel evil circumstances, /
and do away with tribulations, /
as You are compassionate and full of loving-kindness.

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

People:

O greatly praised Lady, /
I entreat You as the most pure palace of the King: /
Purify my mind defiled by all manner of sins, /
and make it a pleasant dwelling-place of the all-divine Trinity, /
that being saved, I, your unprofitable servant, /
may glorify your power and boundless mercy.

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

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

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, blot out our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (x 3)

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

Our Father in the Heavens, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your 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 Yours 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 to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Troparion
Tone 4

People:

O Christ alone You are quick to help: /
quickly show Your visitation from above to Your suffering
servants, /
free them from diseases and bitter pains. /
Raise them up to praise and glorify You unceasingly, //
through the prayers of the Theotokos, only Lover of
mankind.

The Great Litany

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of them all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this holy temple, and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our great lord and father, His Holiness, Patriarch **N.**; for our lord the Most Reverend Metropolitan **N.**, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; for our lord the Most Reverend (Archbishop **or** Bishop **N.**); for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the people here present who are awaiting the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That this oil may be blessed by the descent, power, and operation of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the servants of God, and for the visitation of God, and that the grace of the Holy Spirit may come upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For to You is due all glory, honor and worship; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The senior Priest then says the Prayer of the Oil over the lamp and combines the wine and oil. The rest of the Priests read the same prayer along with him, though silently.

Be it known that in the Great Church [Haghia Sophia, in Constantinople], they pour wine instead of water into the lamp of the unction service.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer of the Oil

Priest: O Lord, by Your mercy and compassions You heal the afflictions of our souls and bodies: Sanctify this oil, that for those who are anointed with it may be for healing, for the removal of all suffering and defilement of flesh and spirit, and of every evil; that through it the holy name of You, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, may be glorified, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Troparia

Tone 4

People:

O Christ alone You are quick to help: /
 quickly show Your visitation from above to Your suffering
 servants, /
 free them from diseases and bitter pains. /
 Raise them up to praise and glorify You unceasingly, //
 through the prayers of the Theotokos, only Lover of
 mankind.

People:

Blinded in the eyes of my soul, /
 I come to You, O Christ, /
 like the man who was blind from birth; /
 and in repentance I cry out to You: //
 Be merciful to us, O You who alone are readily placated.

Tone 3

People:

As You once raised up the paralytic, O Lord, /
 by Your divine intercession /
 raise up my soul which is cruelly paralyzed /
 in all manner of sins and unseemly acts, /
 so that being saved I may cry out to You: //
 O Compassionate Christ, grant me healing!

Tone 2

People:

As a disciple of the Lord you received the Gospel, O just
 James; /
 as a martyr you possess what is infinite; /
 as the brother of God, you have boldness before Him; /
 and as a hierarch, you can intercede. //
 Beseech Christ God, that our souls be saved.

Tone 4**People:**

The Word of God, the Only-begotten of the Father, /
who came to us in latter times, /
showed you to be the first pastor /
and teacher of the people of Jerusalem, /
and a faithful servant of the mysteries of the Spirit, /
O godly James. //
Therefore, we all honor you, O apostle.

Tone 3**People:**

O holy Nicholas /
in Myra you were shown to be a performer of the sacred
mysteries, /
for fulfilling the Gospel of Christ, /
you layed down your life for your people, O venerable
one, /
and saved the innocent from death. /
Therefore, you have been sanctified //
as a great initiate of the grace of God.

People:

The whole world has found you to be a great champion in
dangers, /
O passion-bearer who conquered the pagans. /
Therefore as you destroyed the pride of Lyaeus /
by giving Nestor boldness when facing martyrdom in the
stadium; /
In the same way, O Demetrius, //
intercede to Christ our God to grant us great mercy.

People:

O holy Champion and Healer, Panteleimon, /
intercede with the merciful God //
to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Tone 8**People:**

O holy unmercenaries and wonder-workers, /
visit our infirmities. /
Freely you have received, freely give to us.

Tone 2**People:**

O virgin apostle John /
who can proclaim your mighty works? /
For you pour out miracles and make healings to flow
forth;/
and you pray for our souls, //
as a theologian and friend of Christ.

People:

O Lady Theotokos, /
we earnestly cry to you, /
our fervent entreaty and unassailable rampart, /
fountain of mercy and refuge of the world: /
Go before us, and deliver us from dangers, //
O you who alone are quick to intercede.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 1st Tone: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we hope in You.

People: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we hope in You.

Reader: Rejoice greatly in the Lord, O righteous ones; praise is fitting for the upright.

People: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we hope in You.

Reader: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

People: As we hope in You.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the General Epistle of the Holy Apostle James.

Deacon: Let us attend.

***The First Epistle
James 5: 1 - 16***

Reader: Brethren, consider as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call those who endure blessed. You have heard of the patience of Job and you have seen the Lord in the outcome, how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy. But above all things, my brethren, do not swear, either by Heaven or Earth, or by any other oath. Instead, let your “yes” be “yes,” and your “no,” “no,” so that you may not fall into hypocrisy. Are any among you

suffering? Let them pray. Are any cheerful? Let them sing praises! Are any among you sick? Let them call for the presbyters of the Church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the Name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will heal those who are sick and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed sins, they will be forgiven. Confess your offenses to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective!

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 8th Tone. O Lord, I will sing to You of mercy and judgment. (Psalm 100: 1)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The First Gospel

Luke 10: 25 - 37

Priest: At that time, an expert in the law stood up and put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?" The man answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Jesus said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live." But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered, "A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes and beat him. Then they went away, leaving him half dead. By chance, a certain priest was going down that way. But when the priest saw him, he passed by on the other side. In the same way, a Levite also came to the place, but when he saw the beaten man, he also passed by on the other side. Now a certain Samaritan was traveling and arrived at the spot where the man was. When the Samaritan saw the wounded man, he was moved with compassion, came to him, and wrapped his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He placed the man on his own animal and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day, when he was leaving, he took out two denarii and gave them to the host, saying to him, 'Take care of him. Whatever you spend beyond that, I will pay you back when I return.' Now which one of these three do you think seemed to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" The lawyer replied, "The one who showed mercy on him!" Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The First Prayer

Priest: O God without beginning, eternal, Holy of holies; You sent Your only-begotten Son, who heals every infirmity and every ailment of our souls and bodies: Send down Your Holy Spirit, and sanctify this oil, and make it to be for Your servants (names) who are to be anointed, for perfect deliverance from their sins, and for the inheritance of the heavenly kingdom. For You are God, great and

wondrous. You keep Your covenant and Your mercy for those who love You. You grant deliverance from sins through Your holy Son, Jesus Christ. You regenerated us from sin. You give light to the blind and set aright those who have been cast down. You love the righteous and have mercy on sinners. You lead us up again out of darkness and the shadow of death, saying to those in bonds: "Come forth," and to those in darkness, "Be unveiled!" Shine in our hearts the light of the knowledge of Your only-begotten Son, who for our sake was revealed on Earth and dwelt with men. To those who accepted Him, He gave the power to become children of God, and He has granted us sonship through the font of regeneration, causing us to have no part of the tyranny of the devil. For He was not pleased that we should be cleansed by blood, but has given, through holy oil, an image of His Cross, that we may become the flock of Christ, the royal priesthood, the holy nation, having cleansed us with water and sanctified us with the Holy Spirit. O Master and Lord, grant us the grace for this holy service, as You gave it to Moses Your favored one, to Samuel Your beloved, to John Your chosen one, and to all who have been well pleasing to You in every generation. Cause us also to be servants of Your new covenant over this oil which You have acquired for Yourself through the precious blood of Your Christ: that having cast off the lusts of the world, we may die to sin and live for righteousness, having put it on through the anointing of sanctification of the oil which we are about to apply. O Lord, may this oil be the oil of joy, the oil of sanctification, royal vesture, a breastplate of power, the dispelling of all the activity of the devil, a seal against snares, joy of the heart and eternal gladness. And may those who are anointed with this oil be fearful to their adversaries and shine in the brightness of Your saints, having neither spot nor wrinkle. And may they be received

into Your eternal places of rest and receive the honor of the heavenly calling. For Yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we send up glory; to Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 2nd Tone: The Lord is my strength and my song, and He became my salvation.

People: The Lord is my strength and my song, and He became my salvation.

Reader: The Lord chastened and corrected me, but He did not give me up to death.

People: The Lord is my strength and my song, and He became my salvation.

Reader: The Lord is my strength and my song.

People: And He became my salvation.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Second Epistle
Romans 15: 1 - 7

Reader: Brethren, we who are strong should bear the weaknesses of the weak, and not just please ourselves. Let each one of us please our neighbor for what is good, to be edifying to him. Even Christ did not please Himself. But, as it is written, "The insults of those who insulted you fell on me." For whatever things were written before were written for our instruction, so that through patience and the Scriptures' encouragement we might have hope. Now may the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to be together of the same mind according to Christ Jesus, so that with one accord, you may with one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, accept one another, even as Christ also accepted you, to the glory of God.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 5th Tone. O Lord, I will sing of Your mercies forever. (Psalm 88: 21)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Second Gospel

Luke 19: 1 - 10

Priest: At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. There was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, and could not because of the crowd, for he was short. He ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, He looked up, saw Zacchaeus, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house!" He hurried, came down, and received Jesus with joy. But when the people saw it, they all grumbled, saying, "He has gone in to stay with a man who is a sinner!" Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have wrongfully obtained money from anyone, I restore four times as much!" Then Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Second Prayer

Priest: O great and Most High God, You are worshipped by all creation, Fountain of wisdom, truly unfathomable Abyss of goodness and infinite Depth of compassion, O Master who loves mankind, God of eternal and wondrous things, whom no man is able to comprehend in thought: Look down, and hear us, Your unworthy servants; and where we offer this oil up in Your holy name, send down

Your gift of healing and the remission of sins, and heal them in the magnitude of Your mercy. Yes, O Lord who is easily reconciled, O only Merciful One who loves mankind and regrets our evils, You know that the mind of man is inclined toward wickedness from his youth, You do not desire the death of the sinner, but that he turn back and live. Being God You became man for the salvation of us sinners, and conformed Yourself to Your creation; You said: I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance: You are He who sought out the lost sheep; You are He who earnestly searched for the lost coin and found it; You are He who said, He who comes to me I will by no means reject; You are He who did not hinder the harlot from washing Your precious feet with her tears; You are He who said, "As many times as you fall, arise, and you shall be saved;" You are He who said that there is joy in Heaven over one repentant sinner. Look down Yourself, O compassionate Master, from Your holy height; and overshadowing us, Your sinful and unworthy servants, with the grace of the Holy Spirit at this time, cause it to dwell in Your servants, who have recognized their offenses and approached You with faith; and accepting and forgiving them in Your love for mankind, even though they have sinned in word, and deed, and thought, cleanse and make them pure of all sin; and always abiding in them, keep them walking in Your precepts for the remaining time of their life, that they may no longer be an object of mockery for the devil, and that Your all-holy name may be glorified in them. For Yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we send up glory; to Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 3rd Tone: The Lord is my Light and my Savior; whom, then, shall I fear? (Psalm 26:1)

People: The Lord is my Light and my Savior; whom, then, shall I fear? (Ps 26:1)

Reader: The Lord is the Defender of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid? (Ps 26:1)

People: The Lord is my Light and my Savior; whom, then, shall I fear?

Reader: The Lord is my Light and my Savior.

People: Whom, then, shall I fear?

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Third Epistle

1 Corinthians 12: 27 - 13: 8

Reader: Brethren, you are the body of Christ, and members individually. God has appointed some in the Church as follows: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then wonderworkers, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those with different kinds of tongues. However, are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all miracle workers? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. Moreover, I will show you a most excellent way. If I speak with the tongues of men and angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and know all mysteries and have all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but I do not have love, I am nothing. If I give out all my goods to feed the poor, and give my body so that I will burn but do not have love, it profits me nothing. Love is patient and is kind; love does not envy. Love does not brag, it is not proud, it does not behave inappropriately, it is not self-oriented. Love does not take offence and does not keep track of evil, it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 2nd Tone. In You, O Lord, I hope; may I not be ashamed forever. (Psalm 30: 1)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Third Gospel
Matthew 10: 1, 5 - 8

Priest: At that time, Jesus called to Himself His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and sickness. Jesus sent these Twelve out and gave them this instruction: "Do not go among the Gentiles and do not enter into any city of the Samaritans. Rather, go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, preach and say: 'The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and cast out demons. Freely you have received, give freely as well.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Third Prayer

Priest: O omnipotent Master, holy King, You chasten but do not kill. You support those who fall down and lift up those who have fallen. You set aright the bodily afflictions of men. We pray to You, O our God, that You instill Your mercy in this oil and upon those who are to be anointed with it in Your name, that it may be to them for the healing of soul and body, and for the cleansing and removal of

every passion and affliction and disease, and of all defilement of flesh and spirit. Yes, O Lord, send down Your healing power from Heaven, touch the body, quench the fever, subdue the passions and every hidden infirmity. Be a physician for Your servants (**names**), raise them up, whole and perfect, from the bed of sickness and the couch of affliction, and give them to Your Church as ones well-pleasing, who do Your will. For Yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we send up glory; to Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone: In the day when I call upon You, hear me quickly.
(Psalm 101:3)

People: In the day when I call upon You, hear me quickly.

Reader: Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come to You. (Ps 101:1)

People: In the day when I call upon You, hear me quickly.

Reader: In the day when I call upon You...

People: ... hear me quickly.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Fourth Epistle
2 Corinthians 6: 16 - 7: 2

Reader: Brethren, what agreement can there be between God's temple and idols? For you are a temple of the living God. Even as God said, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they will be my people." Therefore: 'Come out from among them and be separate,' says the Lord. 'Touch no unclean thing. I will receive you. I will be a Father to you. You will be to Me sons and daughters,' says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us purify ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, so that we may bring our holiness to completion in the fear of God. Open your hearts to us! We wronged no one, we corrupted no one, and we took advantage of no one.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 2nd Tone. I waited patiently for the Lord, and He heeded me. (Psalm 39: 2)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Fourth Gospel
Matthew 8: 14 - 23

Priest: At that time, when Jesus came into Peter's house, He saw Peter's mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. He touched her hand, and the fever left her. She got up and served Him. When evening came, many who were possessed with demons were brought to Him. He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick. Thus, what had been spoken through Isaiah the prophet was fulfilled: He took our infirmities, and bore our diseases. Now when Jesus saw great crowds around Him, He gave the order to depart to the other side. A scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go!" Jesus replied, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." Another of His disciples said to Jesus, "Lord, allow me first to go and bury my father." But Jesus replied, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead." When He got into the boat, His disciples followed Him.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Fourth Prayer

Priest: O Lord who loves mankind, You are good, compassionate and merciful. You are great in mercy and rich in loving-kindness. O Father of compassions and God of all consolation, through Your holy apostles You have empowered us to heal the infirmities of the people with oil and prayer: order that this oil be for the healing for those who are anointed with it, for the removal of every affliction

and every disease, for the deliverance from evils of those who await salvation from You. Yes, O Master, omnipotent Lord our God: We beseech You to save us all. You alone are the Physician of souls and bodies, sanctify us all; O You who heals every infirmity, heal also Your servants (**names**), raise them up from the bed of pain in the mercy of Your goodness; visit them with Your mercy and compassions; drive from them every sickness and disease, that having been raised up by Your mighty right hand, they may serve You with all thanksgiving, that we who now share in Your indescribable love for mankind may praise and glorify You who works things great and wondrous, glorious and excellent. For Yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we send up glory; to Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone: You shall guard us, O Lord; You shall preserve us from this generation forever. (Psalm 11: 8)

People: You shall guard us, O Lord; You shall preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for the holy man has ceased. (Ps 11:2)

People: You shall guard us, O Lord; You shall preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: You shall guard us, O Lord...

People: ... You shall preserve us from this generation forever.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Fifth Epistle
2 Corinthians 1: 8 - 11

Reader: Brethren, we do not desire to have you uninformed, concerning our affliction which happened to us in Asia: we were extremely oppressed, beyond our power, so much that we even despaired of life. Yes, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we should not trust in ourselves but only in God who raises the dead. He who delivered us from such a great death and continued to deliver, we hope that He will also deliver us. You also help by your supplication on our behalf, so that thanksgiving will be offered for the gift bestowed on us by means of many.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 5th Tone. O Lord, I will sing of Your mercies forever. (Psalm 88: 21)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Fifth Gospel
Matthew 25: 1 - 13

Priest: At that time, Jesus spoke this parable, "The Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps but brought no oil along with them, whereas the wise ones brought oil in their vessels along with their lamps. Now since the bridegroom was late, they all became tired and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Behold! The bridegroom is coming! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish virgins said to the wise

ones, 'Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.' But the wise virgins answered: 'What if there is not enough for us and you? But go rather to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' While they went away to buy oil, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and then the door was shut. Afterwards, the other virgins also arrived and said: 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' But he answered, 'Amen, I tell you that I do not know you!' Watch therefore, for you do not know the day or the hour that the Son of Man is coming.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Fifth Prayer

Priest: O Lord our God, You chasten and heal again. You raise the poor man from the Earth and lift up the beggar from the dung-heap. O Father of orphans, Haven of the storm-tossed and Physician of the sick, without toil You bear our infirmities and accept our afflictions. You show mercy in gentleness. You overcome our iniquities. You do away with our injustices. You are quick to help and slow to anger. You breathed upon Your disciples and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them." You accept the repentance of sinners and have the power to forgive many and grievous sins. You give healing to all who are in affliction and long illness. You have called me, Your lowly, sinful and unworthy servant, who am entangled in many sins and wallow in passionate pleasures, to the holy and most majestic rank of priest, and to enter behind the inner veil, into the Holy of holies where the holy angels desire to go and hear the voice of the Lord God in the Gospel, and to behold with their own eyes the sight of the holy Offering, and to delight in the divine and sacred Liturgy. You have counted me worthy to serve Your heavenly Mysteries, to offer You gifts and sacrifices for our sins and the ignorances of the people, and to mediate for Your reason-endowed sheep, that with Your great and indescribable love for mankind You may cleanse them of their transgressions. O all-good King, listen to my prayer at this hour and on this day, and at every time and place; and attend to the voice of my supplication; and grant healing to Your servants (**names**), who are afflicted in soul and body,

granting them remission of sins and forgiveness of offenses, voluntary and involuntary. Cure their incurable wounds, and every illness and every disease; grant them healing of soul, O You who touched the mother of Peter's wife and removed her fever, so that she arose and served You. O Master, impart healing to Your servants (**names**), and grant them healing and the removal of every corrupting illness. Remember Your rich compassions and Your mercy. Remember that the mind of man ardently inclines to evils from his youth, and there is no one on Earth who is sinless. For You alone are without sin. You came and saved the human race, and have freed us from slavery to the enemy. For if You enter into judgment with Your servants, no one will be found pure of defilement; but every mouth will be stopped, lacking any answer: for like a discarded rag is our every righteousness in Your eyes. Therefore, do not remember the sins of our youth, O Lord, for You are the hope of the hopeless, the rest of those who are weary and are heavy-laden with iniquities, and we send up glory to You, and Your Father who is without beginning, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 6th Tone: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy. (**Psalm 50: 3**)

People: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy.

Reader: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. (Ps 50: 12)

People: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy.

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God...

People: ... according to Your great mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Sixth Epistle
Galatians 5: 22 – 6: 3

Reader: Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law! Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit! Let us not become arrogant, challenging and envying one another. Brethren, even if someone is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a person in a spirit of gentleness. But watch out for yourself in order not to be tempted. Bear each other's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks

that he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 6th Tone. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; he will delight exceedingly in His commandments. (Psalm 111: 1)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Sixth Gospel
Matthew 15: 21 - 28

Priest: At that time, Jesus withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon. Behold, a Canaanite woman came out from those borders and cried out, "Have mercy on me, Lord, son of David! My daughter is severely demonized!" But Jesus did not answer her a word. His

disciples came and begged Him, saying, "Send her away! She is shouting after us!" However, Jesus answered, "I was not sent to anyone but the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Still, the woman came forward and worshipped Him, saying, "Lord, help me." But He answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." But she replied, "Yes, Lord, but even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done to you even as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that hour.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Sixth Prayer

Priest: We thank You, O Lord our God, O Good One who loves mankind, Physician of our souls and bodies. You bear our infirmities without pain, by whose wounds we have all been healed. O good Shepherd, You have come to search for the lost sheep. You give consolation to the faint-hearted and life to the contrite. You heal the woman with the issue of blood which had flowed for twelve years. You freed the daughter of the Canaanite woman from the cruel demon. You forgave the debts of the two debtors, and gave remission to the sinful woman. You cured the paralytic and forgave him his sins. You justified the tax-collector by a word, and accepted the robber at the time of his ultimate confession. You have taken away the sins of the world and nailed them to Your Cross. We pray and entreat You in Your goodness: absolve, remit and forgive the iniquities, sins and offenses of Your servants, voluntary and involuntary, in knowledge and in ignorance, whether committed at night or during the day; whether they have been placed under ban by a priest, or have been cursed by their parents; whether by the sight of their eyes, indulged their sense of smell, been seduced by touch or fornicated by taste, or by whatever movement of flesh and spirit have become estranged from Your will and from Your holiness. And even though they have sinned, as we have also, forgive them, as You are a good God who are not mindful of evils and loves mankind, and do not leave them and us to fall into a vile way of life, nor to tread the ways of destruction. Yes, O Master and Lord, listen to me, a sinner, at this hour, as I pray for Your servants; and

as You are a God who are not mindful of evils, overlook all their offenses; free them from eternal torments; fill their mouth with Your praise; open their lips to the glorification of Your name; extend their hands to the doing of Your commandments; and direct their feet to the course of Your Gospel, strengthening all their members and thoughts with Your grace. For You are our God who through Your holy apostles has commanded us, saying: "Whatever you bind on Earth, shall be bound in the heavens; and whatever you loose on Earth, shall be loosed in the heavens." And again: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; and if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." And as You heard Hezekiah amid his anguish of soul, at the hour of his death, and did not disdain his entreaty, so hear me, Your lowly, sinful and unworthy servant, at this time. For in Your goodness and love for mankind You, O Lord Jesus Christ, commanded the seventy apostles to forgive seven times those who fall into sins; and You regret our evils and rejoice over the conversion of those in error. For as great as You are, so great also is Your mercy. And we send up glory to You, and Your Father who is without beginning, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone: O Lord, do not reprove me in Your anger, nor discipline me in Your wrath. (Psalm 6: 2)

People: O Lord, do not reprove me in Your anger, nor discipline me in Your wrath.

Reader: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. (Ps 6: 3)

People: O Lord, do not reprove me in Your anger, nor discipline me in Your wrath.

Reader: O Lord, do not reprove me in Your anger ...

People: ... nor discipline me in Your wrath.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Thessalonians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Seventh Epistle
1 Thessalonians 5: 14 – 23

Reader: Brethren, we exhort you, admonish the disorderly, encourage the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient toward all. See that no one returns evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good, both for one another and for all. Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in everything because this is God's will in

Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test all things, and hold firmly to what is good. Abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: Alleluia in the 2nd Tone. May the Lord hear you in the day of affliction; may the name of the God of Jacob defend you. (Psalm 19: 2)

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Seventh Gospel

Matthew 9: 9 - 13

Priest: At that time, as Jesus was passing by, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax collection office. Jesus said to him, "Follow Me," and the man got up and began to follow Him. It so happened that as Jesus was sitting in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came in and sat down with Jesus and His disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard it, He told them, "Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick do. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' for I did not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins of the servants of God (names), and that he / she / they may be forgiven every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For You are a merciful God and the Lover of mankind, and to You we send up glory: to

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

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Seventh Prayer

Priest: O Master, Lord our God, Physician of souls and bodies, You cure our temporal sufferings, You heal every disease and every sickness among men, You desire that all men be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth, You do not desire the death of the sinner, but that he turn back and live. O Lord, in the old covenant You appointed repentance for sinners: for David, and the Ninevites, and for those before them, and when You came in the flesh You not call the righteous, but sinners to repentance, and received the robber and the blasphemous persecutor, the great Paul, like the tax-collector and the harlot, through repentance. And You likewise received through repentance Your pre-eminent Apostle Peter, who had denied You three times, and promised him, saying: You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it; and I will give to you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, O Good One who loves mankind, we also, relying on Your true promises, entreat and beseech You at this hour: Listen to our supplication, and accept it as incense offered to You; and forgive Your servants; and if they have in any way sinned in word, or deed, or thought, either at night, or during the day; or have fallen under the ban of a priest, or have incurred their own anathema; or have embittered themselves by an oath and cursed themselves: We

beseech You and pray to You: Absolve, remit and forgive them, O God, overlooking their iniquities and sins, and the things they have done in knowledge and in ignorance; and if they have broken any of Your commandments, or committed some offense, either because they are fleshly beings, or live in the world, or were prompted to do so by the activity of the devil, forgive them, as You are the good God who loves mankind. For there is no man who lives and does not sin. For You alone are without sin, and Your righteousness is and eternal righteousness, and Your word is truth. For You did not create man for destruction, but for the keeping of Your commandments and the inheritance of eternal life. And we send up glory to You, and the Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The senior priest, taking the Holy Gospel, opensh it so that the words are facing the people, and he hands it to the other priests, so that they may also hold it while he says this prayer aloud:

The Prayer with the Gospel

Sr Priest: O holy King, compassionate Lord Jesus Christ, You are great in mercy, Son and Word of the living God, You do not desire the death of the sinner, but that he turn back and live: It is not my sinful hand which I lay upon the heads of those who have come to You in sins and through us ask of You the remission of their sins, but rather Your mighty and powerful hand, which is in this Holy Gospel which **we/my fellow priests** hold over the heads of Your servants. And I pray with them, and ask Your merciful love for mankind, which is not mindful of evils, O God our Savior, who through Your Prophet

Nathan gave the remission of offenses to the penitent David, and accepted the entreaty of Manasses for repentance. In Your customary love for mankind You also accepted Your servants, who repent of their offenses, overlooking all their transgressions. For You are our God, who has commanded us to forgive seventy times seven times those who have fallen into sins. For as great as You are, so great also is Your mercy; and to You is due all glory, honor and worship, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Prayer of Anointing

Priest: O holy Father, Physician of souls and bodies, You sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who heals every infirmity and delivers from death: Heal also Your servants (**names**) of the bodily and spiritual afflictions which beset them; and grant them life through the grace of Your Christ, through the supplications of our all-holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, through the intercession of the honorable and bodiless powers of Heaven, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious and most praised apostles, of the holy, glorious and right victorious martyrs, of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, of the holy unmercenary healers Cosmas and Damian, Cyrus and John, Panteleimon and Hermolaus, Samson and Diomedes, Photius and Anicetus, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints. For You are the

Fountain of healings, O our God, and to You we send up glory, and to Your only-begotten Son, and Your consubstantial Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Those who are to receive Unction, if able, approach each priest in turn (but if they are not able to do so, the priests go to them).

Then each priest takes up a wand, and dipping it also into the holy oil, anoints each person on brow, nostrils, cheeks, mouth, breast, and on both sides of the hands, saying:

Priest: The servant of God (name), is anointed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, for the healing of soul and body.

The people chant the following in Sticheron Tone 4 as people line up to be anointed:

Sticheron Tone 4

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

Holy Unmercenaries, /
 you possess a fount of healings, /
 as you have been counted worthy /
 of the greatest gifts from the eternal Fount, our Saviour, /
 grant healings to all who ask. /
 For the Lord says to you, as equal in zeal to the Apostles: /
 "See, I have given you authority against unclean spirits, /
 to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every
 sickness." /
 And so, as you lived well by His commandments, /
 freely you received, freely give, //
 healing the passions and sufferings of our souls and
 bodies.

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

Theotokion Tone 4

Attend to the entreaties of your supplicants, /
 O All-blameless Theotokos, /
 putting an end to the assaults of dire evils upon us /
 and freeing us from every affliction. /
 For we have you as our only safe and sure anchor, /
 and we have gained your protection. /
 May we who call upon you, O Sovereign Lady, not be put
 to shame. /
 Hasten to the entreaty of those who cry out to you with
 faith: /
 Rejoice, O Sovereign Lady, //
 the help, joy and protection of all and the salvation of our
 souls.

When all the faithful have received Holy Unction, the priest intones the dismissal:

Priest: Glory to You, O Christ our God and our
 hope, glory to You.

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the
 supplications of His all-pure Mother, by the
 power of the precious and life-creating
 Cross, through the prayers of the holy,
 glorious and most praised Apostle James,
 first Bishop of Jerusalem, the Brother of
 God, and of all the saints, have mercy on us
 and save us, as You are good and the Lover
 of mankind.

People: Amen.

Those who have made the Unction make a prostration and say:

Priests: Bless, holy Fathers, and forgive me, a sinner. (x 3)

When they have received their blessing and forgiveness they depart giving thanks to God.

General Confession

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord, my God, I confess before You all my sins which I have committed by word, deed, thought and all my senses.

I have sinned before You, O Lord:

By little faith: doubts often overcome my soul and my life and I rely more on people and on myself, than on You, O Lord my God.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by my passionate attachment to worldly goods, joys and pleasures. Worldly and sinful things are dearer and sweeter to my heart than heavenly, spiritual and holy things.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by laziness in praying and by forgetting all about You, O Lord my God! I pray unwillingly and distractedly and for hours and even days on end I do not remember You, my heavenly Father.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by missing church services: as soon as I am to go to church I find all sorts of allegedly urgent matters needing attention

and preventing me from attending the service.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by irreverent standing in church: during the Divine Service it is often only my body present in the church; my soul does not listen to the prayers, does not converse with God, but is carried far away to the cares, affairs and preoccupations of the world.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by failing to observe feast days and church fasts: often I spend feast days as I would ordinary days, without praying and given to worldly affairs and pastimes; on fast days I am given to intemperance.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by being ungrateful to You, O Lord: when I do not receive from You what I ask, I grumble, and when I do receive, I fail to thank You.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by despondency: I am impatient in my sorrows and misfortunes. I lose reliance on Your help, O Lord, and often succumb to despondency and even despair.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by idle talking and laughing, by indecent jokes unbecoming a Christian, and even by foul language.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by lack of restraint in food and drink, by eating a lot and enjoying sweet things; sometimes by over-eating and drunkenness.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by self-love, vanity and pride. I always consider myself better than anyone else and I like to be praised and thought of higher than others.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by being envious when another person lives better than I do.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by being greedy: whatever I have does not seem to be enough. I want to acquire more and more, and I do not feel like sharing my goods with those in need.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by remembering wrongs: it takes me a long time to forget and forgive when someone has offended me.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by ill-will: I often wish evil to my enemies and rivals.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by experiencing malicious joy: I gloat over misfortunes or accidents of an enemy, or someone who has offended me.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by being wrathful and irritable towards both strangers and those who are close and dear to me.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by judging and condemning my neighbors and by deriding them.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by having a sinful pleasure in spreading spiteful rumors, censures and even slander directed at my neighbors.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by deceiving my neighbors, by telling them lies and flattery with self-interest in mind; by making and breaking promises, by appropriating other people's possessions, goods, money and food.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by offending people close to me in so many ways. I have offended my parents, my father, mother, brothers, sisters,

husband, wife, children, other relatives, friends and strangers. I have offended them by rude and harsh words, by deeds and acts. I offended them at home, on the road, intentionally, consciously and unconsciously.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by impure, foul, lustful thoughts, looks of my eyes, words and deeds.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by defiling my body and all my senses with indecent, sinful acts which I am ashamed even to name.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by disrespect to my parents, particularly in my youth.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by failing to care for my relatives and people close to me.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by being uncharitable towards the destitute and poor; by lack of compassion for those who needed help.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned by being cruel to animals and other creatures of God.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!

Priest: I have sinned countlessly, O Lord, by words and deeds, in knowledge and in ignorance, consciously and unconsciously, by day or night, and every hour.

O merciful Lord, have mercy on me and forgive all my countless sins, both those that I remember this day and hour, and those which I have forgotten and did not recall, but which I now repent with grief and ask to be forgiven.

People: Lord, have mercy and forgive me!