

THE PASCHAL OFFICE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER FOR USE THROUGHOUT BRIGHT WEEK

- *From the Great and Holy Sunday of Pascha through Bright Saturday, we read the Paschal Office in place of Morning and Evening Prayers at our homes, as well as in place of Compline, Midnight Office, the Hours, and the Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion, three times in succession. It is also read on the leave-taking of Pascha. The instructions below account for when we say the Paschal Office privately at home.*

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

PASCHAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE (or Plain Reading)

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

IN THAT WE HAVE BEHELD (Plain Reading)

In that we have beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us bow down before the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. Thy Cross do we adore, O Christ, and Thy Holy Resurrection we praise and glorify: for Thou art our God, and we know none other beside Thee; we call upon Thy Name. O come, all ye faithful, let us adore Christ's Holy Resurrection. For lo, through the Cross is joy come into all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, let us sing His Resurrection: for in that He endured the Cross for us, He hath destroyed death by death. (THRICE)

HYPAKOE OF PASCHA IN TONE FOUR (or Plain Reading)

When they who were with Mary came, anticipating the dawn, and found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher, they heard from the Angel: Why seek ye among the dead, as though He were mortal man, Him Who abideth in everlasting light? Behold the grave-clothes. Go quickly and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath put death to death. For He is the Son of God, Who saveth the race of man.

KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT (or Plain Reading)

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

TROPARIA OF THE PASCHAL OFFICE (Plain Reading)

In the grave with the body but in Hades with the soul as God; in paradise with the thief, and on the throne with the Father and the Holy Spirit wast Thou, O Christ, filling all things, Thyself uncircumscribed.

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

As life-bearing, as more splendid than paradise and more radiant than any royal chamber, O Christ, is shown forth from Thy tomb the fountain of our Resurrection.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Rejoice, O thou hallowed, divine abode of the Most High, for through thee, O Theotokos, was joy given unto those who cry aloud to thee: Blessed art thou among women, O all-undefiled Lady.

Lord, have mercy. (FORTY TIMES)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

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

- *When the Paschal Office is said in place of Compline or Evening Prayers, we insert the following prayer:*

A PRAYER OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, Master Almighty, Who hast lightened the day with the light of the sun and hast illumined the night with flashes of fire, Who hast vouchsafed us to pass through the length of the day and to draw near to the beginning of the night; hearken to our prayer and to that of all Thy people; and, having pardoned us all our voluntary and involuntary sins, receive our evening supplications, and send down the multitude of Thy mercy and compassions upon Thine inheritance. Wall us in with Thy holy angels. Arm us with the armor of Thy righteousness. Make a bulwark about us with Thy truth. Guard us with Thy power. Deliver us from all oppression and every plot of the adversary. Grant us also that the present evening with the coming night and all the days of our life may be holy, perfect, peaceful and sinless, without stumbling-blocks and without fantasy, through the intercessions of the All-holy Theotokos and of all the saints, who in all ages have been well pleasing unto Thee. For Thine it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

PASCHAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE (or Plain Reading)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

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

(This concludes the Paschal Office when said privately at home.)