

# READER'S SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 3 MAY 2020

## For use at home during the Coronavirus pandemic

*When this Service is used in Church, there will normally be a Reader and Choir, as is usual in Church services. If you are using the service at home, the 'Reader' may be the most senior person present – e.g. a parent or grandparent, according to the situation – or simply the most confident reader or singer. The parts marked for the 'Choir' can be read or sung by everyone together, or by one person alone. Music for some parts may be found on the website: [www.orthodoxcommunityrugby.com/choir/](http://www.orthodoxcommunityrugby.com/choir/) If no one present is a confident singer, the service can be chanted on one note, or simply read. You may prefer to use parts of the service in your own language. If so, please make sure that the prayers are read from an Orthodox prayer book or service book.*

### Before the Service

*If possible, the Service should be said in front of the household icons – e.g. in the family icon corner. If practical, and if they are available, a Cross and a Book of the Gospels (or a copy of New Testament, or a Bible) should be placed on a table in front of the icons. A lamp or candle, and incense, if available, should be lit before the Service begins.*

**Reader:** Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.

**All:** Christ is risen from the dead, )  
trampling down death by death, ) *Three times*  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! )

*In place of the GREAT LITANY, the choir sings:  
Lord, have mercy. (x 12)*

### FIRST ANTIPHON

[Music on website]

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise!

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!*

Say to God: "How awesome are Thy deeds! So great is Thy power that Thine enemies cringe before Thee!"

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!*

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy name, O most High!

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!*

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

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us!*

*In place of the LITTLE LITANY, the choir sings:*

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

### SECOND ANTIPHON

[Music on website]

God be bountiful and bless us! Show the light of Thy countenance upon us and have mercy on us!

*O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!*  
That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations.

*O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!*  
Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to Thee!

*O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!*

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

O only-begotten Son and Word of God. O Thou Who art Immortal, yet for our salvation didst deign to be incarnate of the holy Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary; and without change wast made man; Who also wast crucified for us; and by death didst overcome death: save us, O Christ, our God; one Person of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

*In place of the LITTLE LITANY, the choir sings:*

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

### THIRD ANTIPHON

**Reader:** Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

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

**Reader:** As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

**All:** Christ is risen from the dead ...

**Reader:** So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad!

**All:** Christ is risen from the dead ...

**Reader:** This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**All:** Christ is risen from the dead ...

### ENTRANCE HYMN

In the Churches bless God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. O Son of God, Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

### TROPARIA

**Tone 2** [\[Music on website\]](#)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,  
Thou didst slay hell with the splendour of Thy Godhead.  
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out:  
"O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

**Tone 2** [\[Music on website\]](#)

The noble Joseph,  
when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the Tree,  
wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,  
and placed it in a new tomb.  
But Thou didst arise on the third day, O Lord,  
granting the world great mercy.

**Tone 2** [\[Music on website\]](#)

The Angel came to the myrrh-bearing women at the tomb and said:  
"Myrrh is meet for the dead;

but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!

So proclaim: "The Lord is risen,  
granting the world great mercy."

**Reader:** Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.

### THE TRISAGION

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

### PROKEIMENON

**Reader:** The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone.

**Reader:** O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance!

**Choir:** O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance!

**Reader:** To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

**Choir:** O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance!

**Reader:** O Lord, save Thy people

**Choir:** and bless Thine inheritance!

### EPISTLE

**Reader:** The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles [Acts 6:1-7]

**Reader:** In those days: When the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and

Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

### **ALLELUIA**

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Reader:** O Lord, Thou hast been gracious to Thy land; Thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob.

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Reader:** Mercy and truth have met, righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### **THE GOSPEL**

*All stand for the reading of the Gospel. In these exceptional circumstances, the Gospel may be read by the most senior person present – e.g. a parent or grandparent – according to the situation.*

**Reader:** The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark [15:43-16:8]

**Choir:** Glory be to Thee, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

**Reader:** At that time: Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where he was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone

was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.  
**Choir:** Glory be to Thee, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

*Instead of the AUGMENTED LITANY, the Choir sings:*  
Lord, have mercy. (x 12)

### **PRAYER TO THE LORD OF HOSTS**

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

Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom. *(All make a deep reverence)*

Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom. *(Reverence)*

Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom. *(Reverence)*

The heavenly choir sings to Thee, and cries: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Come unto Him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed.

The heavenly choir sings to Thee, and cries: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

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

The choir of holy Angels and Archangels, with all the Powers of heaven, sing Thy praises and do cry: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

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

## **THE CREED (SYMBOL OF FAITH)**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made; of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Ghost and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father;

Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets.

In One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.

And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS**

**Reader:** O God, remit, pardon and forgive our sins, whether voluntary or involuntary, whether by words or deeds, whether in knowledge or ignorance, whether by day or night, whether in mind or thought; forgive us all these, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.

**Reader:** Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us. Amen.

## **KONTAKIA**

### **Tone 2**

[Music on website]

Thou didst command the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ.

By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, O God.

Thou didst command Thine Apostles to preach:

“The Saviour is risen!”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

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

### **Tone 8**

[Music on website]

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,

Thou didst destroy the power of death.

In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God,

proclaiming “Rejoice!” to the myrrh-bearing women;

granting peace to Thine apostles,

and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

**Reader:** Lord, have mercy. (x 12)

All-holy Trinity, Mighty one in essence, Kingdom undivided, origin of all good things, be graciously inclined also to me, a sinner. Establish me; give understanding to my heart, and purge away all my vileness. Enlighten my mind, that I may glorify, sing praises, and adore Thee, and say:

**Choir:** One is Holy,/ One is Lord, Jesus Christ,/ to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Choir:** Blessed be the Name of the Lord, from this time forth and for evermore.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, from this time forth and for evermore.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, from this time forth and for evermore.

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

### PSALM 33

**Reader:** I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to Him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good! Happy is the man who takes refuge in Him! O fear the Lord, you His saints, for those who fear Him have no want. The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. Come, O sons, listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is there who desires life, and covets many days, that he may enjoy good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and his ears toward their cry. The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the broken-hearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers him out of them all. He kept all his bones; not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked; and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

### THE ZADOSTOYNIK

**Choir:** [\[Music on website\]](#)

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:  
"Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,  
thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!  
With Himself He has raised all the dead."  
Rejoice, O ye people!  
Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on thee.  
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the Resurrection of thy Son!

### THE DISMISSAL

**Choir:** 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. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Bless, O Lord.

**Reader:** Lord Jesus Christ, Who rose again from the dead, trampling down death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, through the intercessions of Thy most pure Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honourable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplications of our Holy, Venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of our Father among the Saints, Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Patron and Protector of this Community; of the holy Myrrh-bearing Women; of the Pious Joseph of Arimathea; of the Holy and Righteous Nicodemus, and of all Thy Saints, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

*All kiss the Gospel Book (or New Testament, or Bible) and the Cross placed on the table. When all have done so, the reader or choir sings slowly:*

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

**All:** Christ is risen from the dead, )  
trampling down death by death, ) *Three times*  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! )