

# VESPERS ON SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021

✠ “LORD I CALL ...”

**Tone 8**

[Music on website]

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.  
Hear me, O Lord.  
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.  
Receive the voice of my prayer,  
when I call upon Thee.//  
Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise  
in Thy sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice.//  
Hear me, O Lord.

*Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!*

**Tone 8**

[Music on website]

We offer to Thee, O Christ,  
our evening song and reasonable service,  
for Thou didst will to have mercy on us//  
by Thy Resurrection.

*The righteous await me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Thy face!  
For Thou didst will to have mercy on us//  
by Thy Resurrection.

*Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Rejoice, O holy Zion:  
Mother of the churches, the abode of God,  
for thou wast the first to receive remission of sins//  
by the Resurrection.

*Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

The Word of God the Father,  
begotten before the ages,  
in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin  
and endured crucifixion unto death.  
He has saved mortal man//  
by His Resurrection.

*If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquity, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

We glorify Thee, O Lord  
Who voluntarily didst endure the Cross for our sake.  
We fall down in worship before Thee, O almighty Saviour.  
Do not cast us away from Thy face  
but hear us and save us, O Lover of man,//  
by Thy Resurrection!

*For Thy name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy Word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Glory to Thee, O Saviour Christ,  
Only-begotten Son of God, who wast nailed to the Cross//  
and resurrected from the tomb on the third day!

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

**Tone 6 (For the Sunday of Orthodoxy)**

[Music on website]

O Lord, Whom nothing can contain or grasp,  
from all eternity Thou didst shine forth from the Father  
before the morning star.  
The Prophets, inspired by the Holy Spirit,  
foretold that Thou wouldst take flesh and assume the form of a child,  
from her who is ever-virgin.  
Thou didst live among men;  
Thou wast seen by material creation.  
Through the prayers of the Prophets, O compassionate One,  
make us worthy to receive Thy light,//  
for we sing praises to Thy glorious Resurrection!

*For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption,  
and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

The Prophets bore the fruit of eternal life; [\[Music on website\]](#)  
they prepared the way of the Lord.  
By their words they proclaimed Thee; by their deeds they honoured Thee:  
they would not worship creation instead of Thee, the Creator.  
As Thy Gospel commands, they renounced the world.  
They foretold Thy Passion by suffering themselves.  
Through their prayers, O Lord, //  
enable us to pass over the battlefield of Lent without sin!

*Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

Thou art infinite in Thy divine nature, O Master; [\[Music on website\]](#)  
in these latter days Thou didst accept the limitations of the flesh.  
By assuming our body, Thou didst accept all its weaknesses.  
Therefore we make images of Thy form;  
we venerate them, having Thee in mind.  
We fall down before Thee in love;  
by so doing we follow the tradition of the Apostles //  
and are given the grace of healing.

*For His mercy is confirmed on us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*  
[\[Music on website\]](#)

Today the Church of Christ receives honourable adornment:  
the holy icons of Christ our Saviour, the Theotokos, and all the Saints.  
The Church exults in their grace!  
We lift them up with joy and gladness!  
We glorify God, the Lover of man, //  
Him Who patiently suffered for our sake!

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

**Tone 2** (*For the Sunday of Orthodoxy*) [\[Music on website\]](#)  
Grace and truth have shone forth.  
The predictions of old have been clearly fulfilled.  
Behold, the Church adorns herself with the form of Christ incarnate!  
The icons of the new creation transcend the adornments of the old.  
As the Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God,  
so now the icons reveal the presence of the One we adore.  
By honouring them we will never go astray.  
It is our glory to fall down and worship Christ in the flesh.  
Come, O faithful, venerate His image and cry out: //  
O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance!

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

**Tone 8** (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*) [\[Music on website\]](#)  
The King of heaven, because of His love for man,  
appeared on earth and dwelt with men.  
He took flesh from the pure Virgin;  
and after assuming it, He came forth from her.  
The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.  
Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,  
we confess Christ our God! //  
Entreat him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

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✘ **READINGS** – No readings are appointed for today

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✘ **APOSTICHA**

**Tone 8** [\[Music on website\]](#)  
Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,  
the eternal Life has come for death  
to raise those who are fallen;  
to enlighten those in darkness. //  
O Jesus, our Saviour and illuminator, glory to Thee!

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

We glorify Christ, who rose from the dead.  
He accepted the human body and soul,  
and freed both from suffering.  
His most pure soul descended to hell, which He spoiled.  
His holy body did not see corruption in the tomb. //  
He is the Redeemer of our souls.

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

In psalms and songs we glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, O Christ.  
By it, Thou hast freed us from the tortures of hell //  
and as God hast granted eternal life and great mercy.

*v. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

O Master of all, incomprehensible Creator of heaven and earth,  
by Thy suffering on the Cross Thou hast gained passionlessness for me.  
Accepting burial and arising in glory,  
Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself by Thine almighty hand.  
Glory to Thy rising on the third day!  
By it Thou hast granted us eternal life and cleansing of sins//  
as the only compassionate One.

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

**Tone 2 (For the Sunday of Orthodoxy)** [\[Music on website\]](#)

Advancing from false doctrine to true faith,  
illumined with the light of knowledge,  
let us clap our hands and offer grateful praise to God in song!  
With due honour let us venerate the holy icons of Christ,  
of the all-pure Virgin, and of all the saints,  
depicted on walls or panels or sacred vessels,  
rejecting the godless teaching of the heretics!  
For as Saint Basil says:  
“The honour shown to the image passes to its prototype.”  
By the prayers of Thy pure Mother and of all the saints,  
we beseech Thee, O Christ our God, to grant us great mercy,//  
that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

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

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

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!  
Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,  
who carried in her arms her Creator?  
This birth is the will of God!  
Since thou didst carry Him as an infant in thine arms, O most pure one,  
and since thou dost possess motherly boldness before Him,  
do not cease praying for us who honour thee,//  
that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

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## ✠ TROPARIA

**Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 8** [\[Music on website\]](#)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!  
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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

**Troparion of the Sunday of Orthodoxy in Tone 2** [\[Music on website\]](#)

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One;  
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God.  
Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh  
and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy.  
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee:  
“Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Saviour,//  
For Thou didst come to save the world.”

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

**Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 2** [\[Music on website\]](#)

All of thy mysteries, O Theotokos,  
Are beyond thought and glorification.  
Thou wast sealed in purity and preserved in virginity;  
thou wast revealed to be the true Mother who gavest birth to the true God.  
Entreat Him that our souls may be saved.