

Vespers texts for Saturday 10th April 2021

✠ “LORD I CALL...”

Tone 3

[[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 3

[[Music on website](#)]

By Thy Cross, O Christ our Saviour,

death's dominion has been shattered;

the devil's delusion destroyed.

The race of man, being saved by faith,//

always offers Thee a song.

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

All has been enlightened by Thy Resurrection, O Lord.

Paradise has been opened again.//

All creation, praising Thee, always offers Thee a song.

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

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.

I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:

the undivided, uncreated Godhead,//

the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

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

We bow down in worship before Thy precious Cross, O Christ,
and we glorify and praise Thy Resurrection,//
for by Thy wounds we have all been healed.

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

We praise the Saviour incarnate of the Virgin,
for He was crucified for our sake and resurrected on the third day,//
granting us great mercy.

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.

Christ descended to hell proclaiming the glad tidings:

“Behold! Now I have triumphed!

I am the Resurrection, I will lead you out,//

for I have shattered the gates of death!”

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

Standing unworthily in Thy most pure house, O Christ God,

we offer our evening song, crying from the depths:

Thou Who didst enlighten the world,

by Thy Resurrection on the third day,//

O Lover of man, deliver Thy people from the hand of Thine enemies!

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

Tone 8 (*For St John of the Ladder*)

[[Music on website](#)]

The Lord's praises were always on thy lips, O holy Father John.

With deep wisdom thou didst search the Scriptures,

which teach us to deny ourselves.

Thou becamest rich in the blessings of grace,//

overthrowing the craftiness of the devil.

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

Thou didst wash thy soul in a fountain of tears, O most glorious Father John,
keeping vigil for God and gaining His mercy.
Upborne on the wings of prayer, thou flewest to divine love and beauty.
Now, together with thy fellow soldiers, O holy one, //
thou dwellest in His spiritual light and unending joy.

For His mercy is confirmed on us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

On the wings of faith thou didst raise thy mind to God, O holy Father John.
Hating the world's confusion and vanity,
thou didst take up thy cross and didst follow Him Who sees all things.
Thou didst submit thy rebellious flesh to His guidance,
through the discipline of self-denial, //
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Tone 5 (*For St John of the Ladder*) [Music on website]

O holy Father,
hearing the Lord's voice in the Gospel,
thou didst spurn the riches and glory of the world.
Thou didst cry out to all:
"Love God and find eternal grace!
Set nothing higher than His love;
thus, thou wilt find rest with all the saints, when He comes in glory!" //
Through his prayers guard and save our souls, O Christ!

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

Tone 3 (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*) [Music on website]

How can we not wonder
at thy mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?
For without receiving the touch of man,
thou gavest birth to a Son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin.
The Son born of the Father before eternity
was born of thee at the fullness of time, O honoured Lady.
He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,
but preserved the fullness of each nature.
Entreat Him to save the souls, O Lady and Virgin and Mother,
of those who confess thee in the Orthodox manner //
to be the Theotokos.

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

✘ **APOSTICHA**

Tone 3

[Music on website]

The sun was darkened by Thy Passion, O Christ,
but all creation was enlightened by the light of Thy Resurrection. //
Accept our evening song, O Lover of man!

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

Thy life-bearing Resurrection, O Lord,
enlightened the whole universe, recalling Thy creation.
Delivered from Adam's curse, we sing: //
O Almighty Lord, glory to Thee!

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

Thou art the changeless God,
Who, suffering in the flesh, wast changed.
Creation could not endure seeing Thee on the Cross.
It was filled with fear while praising Thy patience.
By descending to hell and rising on the third day, //
Thou hast granted to the world life and great mercy.

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

Thou didst endure death, O Christ,
to deliver race of men from death.
Thou didst rise from the dead on the third day,
raising with thyself those who knew Thee as God //
and enlightening the world. Glory to Thee!

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

Tone 2 (*For St John of the Ladder*)

[Music on website]

Let us honour John!
He is an earthly angel and a heavenly man,
the adornment of the world, the joy of the virtuous,
the glory of ascetics.
He was planted in the house of God,
and blossomed with the flower of sanctity.
He flourished in the desert like a cedar of Lebanon. //
Through him the sheep of Christ's flock grow in holiness and righteousness.

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!

✠ **TROPARIA**

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 3

[[Music on website](#)]

Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world //
great mercy.

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

Troparion of St John of the Ladder in Tone 1

[[Music on website](#)]

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,
thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.
Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer,
healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith.
Glory to Him Who gave thee strength!
Glory to Him Who granted thee a crown! //
Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion - Tone 1

[[Music on website](#)]

When Gabriel announced to thee, O Virgin, "Rejoice!"
the Master of all became incarnate within thee, O holy Ark.
When thou didst bear thy Creator
as the righteous David said,
thy womb became more spacious than the heavens,
Glory to Him Who took abode in thee!
Glory to Him Who came forth from thee! //
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of thee.