

*23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Nov 15/28)*  
*Commemoration of the Holy Martyrs & Confessors Gurias, Samonas & Abibus*

VESPERS: Tone 6

P. Regular Beginning

C. Lord I have cried...

1. O Christ, triumphant **over** hell,/ Thou hast ascended **upon** the Cross,/ to raise up with Thyself those dwelling in the **darkness** of death./ Free **among** the dead,/ Thou pourest forth life from **Thine** own light:// O almighty Saviour, have mercy **upon** us.
2. Christ, having trampled upon **death** today,/ according to His word, rose up bestowing **joy** upon the world,/ that all of us shouting this **hymn** might say:/ O Fount of life, O Light that no **man** can approach,// O almighty Saviour, have mercy **upon** us.
3. Whither shall we sinners fly from **Thee**, O Lord,/ Who art everywhere in the creation?/ Into heaven? Thy **abode** is there./ Into hell? Thou hast trampled **upon** death./ Into the uttermost **parts** of the sea?/ Thy hand reaches thither, O **Master**./ We run to Thee and falling before **Thee** we pray:// O Thou, risen from the dead, have mercy **upon** us.
4. We exult in Thy **Cross**, O Christ,/ and we praise and glorify Thy Resurre**ction**./ For **Thou** art our God;// we know no other **Lord** but Thee.
5. Ever **blessing** the Lord,/ we praise His Resurre**ction**./ For **enduring** the Cross,// He destroyed **death** by death.
6. Glory be unto Thy **might**, O Lord,/ for thou hast destroyed the **power** of death;/ and Thou hast renewed us **through** Thy Cross// bestowing upon us life and incorru**ption**.
7. Thy **burial**, O Christ,/ burst the bonds of hell **asunder**;/ Thy Resurrection from the dead gave new light **unto** the world.// Unto Thee, O Lord, be **glory**.

Stichera for the Martyrs (Tone 4)

8. The most wise **Abibus**, the wondrous Samonas and the glorious **Gurias**,/ the passionbearers who have formed a common choir for the **faithful**,/ now join **chorus** with us in joy and are glad, for it hath been **given** by God/ to the souls of the **martyrs**// to behold noetically things that are **taking** place.
9. Having endured **pangs** and unbearable **torments**,/ and suffered valiantly, O ye who are equal in number to the **Trinity**,/ Samonas, Abibus and Gurias the **divinely** wise,/ ye now enjoy eternal and beautiful delight, Christ presenting to you the reward for your **labors**:// Him do ye fervently entreat, that our **souls** be saved.

10. Having put **in** at the calm **haven**,/ life untroubled and right tranquil serenity, O blessed passionbearing **martyrs**,/ ye have now **exchanged** that which is below for an abiding sojourn in **dispassion**,/ receiving honours from God, **as** is meet,// as reward for your **labors** and pangs.

Glory... (Tone 2)

Edessa rejoiceth, for it hath been enriched by the shrine of the holy Gurias, Samonas and **Abibus**,/ and, summoning the Christ-loving flock, it **crieth** out:/ Come, ye who love the martyrs, and illumine yourselves on their splendid **memorial**!/ Come and rejoice, ye who love the **feasts** of the Church!/ Come and behold the heavenly luminaries who **lived** on earth!/ Come and hear what a bitter death the valiant and steadfast ones endured for the sake of **everlasting** life!/ Wherefore, as guarantors **of** the Truth,/ they saved the virgin cast **alive** into the grave,/ and committed to damnation, as a pitiless murderer, the vile one who **reviled** them./ And they pray earnestly to the Holy **Trinity**,/ that those who with faith celebrate their **memory**/ be delivered from corruption and **temptations**,// and from all manner of tribulations.

Both now & ever... Dogmatikon Tone 6

Who does not call thee **blessed**,/ O all-hallowed **Virgin**?/ Who does not sing the praises of thy **giving** birth,/ which was not according to the laws of **nature**;/ for the only-begotten **Son** Himself,/ timelessly having shone out of the **Father**,/ came forth from thee who **art** pure;/ and having been ineffably made flesh, He, Who by **nature** is God,/ for our sakes became also by **nature** man,/ not in two divided **persons**,/ but in two natures without **confusion** is He known./ O thou, honoured and greatly **blessed**,// beseech Him to have **mercy** on our souls.

- P. Wisdom. Aright!
- C. O Joyful Light...
- P. Prokimenon. The Lord is King...
- P. Wisdom! (And readings, if any)
- P. Augmented Litany
- R. Vouchsafe...
- P. Litany of Fervent Supplication

APOSTICHA: (Tone 6)

1. Angels in heaven sing the **praises**/ of Thy Resurrection, O Christ our **Saviour**./ Vouchsafe that we **too** on earth// may from pure hearts give Thee **glory**.

V. The Lord is King,/ and hath put on glorious apparel.

2. After breaking in pieces the **gates** of brass/ and crushing the bolts and **bars** of hell,/ Thou, being almighty God, didst raise **fallen** man./ Therefore, with one **accord**, we cry:// Glory unto Thee, O Lord, **risen** from the dead.

V. He hath made the world so sure/ that it cannot be moved.

3. Wishing to lift us out of the ancient **corruption**,/ Christ was nailed upon the Cross and **laid** in the tomb./ As in tears the women bearing myrrh **searched** for Him,/ they said, lamenting: Woe are we, O **Saviour** of all:/ How comes it that Thou wast pleased to  **dwell** in the tomb?/ How comes it, if that was Thy wish, that Thou hast now been **stolen**?/ How comes it that Thou hast been taken **elsewhere**?/ In what place have they laid Thy life-bearing **Body**?/ But, O Master, as Thou hast **promised**,/ appear to us and dry up the **fountain** of our tears./ Upon which, as they wept, an angel **came** to them and cried:/ Cease your weeping and tell the apostles that the Lord is **risen**// giving the world purification and great **mercy**.

V. Holiness becometh Thine house/ O Lord, forever.

4. Crucified according to Thy **Will**, O Christ,/ despoiling death by Thy **entombment**,/ Thou hast risen up on the third day as God in **glory**,// granting the world life without end and great **mercy**.

Glory... (Tone 2)

Come, all ye who love the **martyrs**,/ let us honour with hymns the warriors of Christ, Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, who all-gloriously work **miracles**;/ for they did not **refuse** to respond to the oath of the **maiden**,/ but, fulfilling her petition, saved the **virgin**,/ wreaking vengeance upon the all-**iniquitous** Goth.// Through their supplications, O Christ God, save us, in that Thou art good and **lovest** mankind.

Both... (Tone 2)

Here is a new wonder greater than all the **miracles** of old,/ for who has ever known a mother bear a child without the **help** of man?,/ and **hold** in her arms Him Who encompasseth the whole creation?/ It was the will of God to be **born** and thou,/ O all-pure Virgin, hast carried Him, an **infant** in thine arms./ The boldness of a mother is **therefore** thine./ Do thou then pray to Him without ceasing for us who **honour** thee,// and entreat Him to save our souls and have mercy upon us.

C. St. Symeon's Prayer

R. Trisagion

C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos x3

Blessed be the Name of the Lord... x3

Psalm 33:1-10

MATINS: Tone 6

P. Regular Beginning

P. Great Ectenia

C. God is the Lord...

C. Sunday Troparia (Tone 6) x2

The angelic powers were at thy tomb;/ the guards became as dead men./ Mary stood by Thy grave,/ seeking Thy most pure Body./ Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it./ Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life./ O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead:// Glory to Thee.

Glory... Troparion for the Martyrs (Tone 5)

O Christ God, Thou hast given us an impregnable rampart/ in the miracles of Thy holy martyrs./ Through their supplications destroy Thou the councils of the heathen/ and strengthen the scepters of kingdoms,// in that Thou art good and lovest mankind.

Both... (Tone 5)

Rejoice! Thou impassable **gateway** of the Lord;/ Rejoice! Thou wall and protection of those who take **refuge** in Thee;/ Rejoice! Thou haven **untroubled** by storms;/ Rejoice! Thou who hast not known **wedlock**/ and who hast borne Thy Son and Maker and **God** in the flesh./ Fail **not** in thy intercession **on** behalf// of those who sing the praises of and **worship** thy Son.

Lord Have Mercy 3x  
Glory...

R. Now...  
R. Kathisma II  
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

When the tomb was opened and hades wept, Mary cried out to the apostles, who had hidden themselves: "Come forth, ye laborers of the vineyard! Proclaim the tidings of the resurrection! The Lord hath risen, granting the world great mercy."

V. Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high; forget not Thy paupers to the end.

O Lord, Mary Magdalene stood before Thy tomb and wept aloud; and supposing Thee to be the gardener, she said: "Where hast Thou hidden our eternal Life? Where hast Thou laid Him Who sitteth upon the throne of the cherubim? For those who guarded Him have become as dead through fear. Either give me my Lord, or cry out with me: O Thou Who wast among the dead and hast raised up the dead, glory to Thee!"

G/B... He Who called thee Mother and blessed went up of His own will to suffer, and wishing to search out Adam, He made light shine with the Cross, saying unto the angels: Rejoice with Me, for I have found the lost piece of silver. Glory unto Thee, O God, Who hast ordered all things wisely.

R. Kathisma III  
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

Life lay in the tomb, and a seal was affixed to the stone. Soldiers guarded Christ as they would a sleeping king, and the Lord arose, invisibly smiting His enemies.

V. I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, I will tell of all Thy wonders.

Jonah prefigured Thy tomb, and Symeon told of Thy divine resurrection, O immortal Lord; for Thou didst descend into the tomb as one dead, demolishing the gates of hades, and didst arise as Master, without corruption, for the salvation of the world, O Christ our God, Who hast enlightened those in darkness.

G/B... O Virgin Theotokos, entreat thy Son, Christ our God, Who of His own will was nailed to the Cross and arose from the dead, that our souls be saved.

C. Polyeleos  
 C. Evlogitaria (Blessed art Thou, O Lord...)  
 P. Small Ectenia

R. Ypakoe:  
 Having, as God broken down the gates of hades by Thy voluntary and life-creating death, O Christ, Thou didst open ancient paradise unto us; and rising from the dead, Thou hast delivered our life from corruption.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)

I lift up mine eyes to heaven, to Thee, O Word. Have pity, that I may live in Thee.

Have mercy upon us who are downcast, O Word, making us vessels useful to Thee.

G/B... The Holy Spirit is the Cause of all salvation. And if He blow upon anyone as is meet, He quickly taketh him away from among the things of earth: He giveth him wings, maketh him grow and setteth him on high.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)

If the Lord were not among us, none of us would be able to combat the warfare of the enemy; for they who conquer are lifted upon from hence.

Let not my soul be seized like a bird by the teeth of the enemy, O Word. Woe is me! How shall I, who love sin, escape them?

G/B... From the Holy Spirit come deification, goodwill, understanding, peace and blessing for all; for He worketh equally with the Father and the Word.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)

They that hope in the Lord are fearsome to the enemy and wondrous to all; for they direct their gaze on high.

He who hath Thee, O Saviour, as his Helper, the Portion of the righteous, doth not stretch out his hands toward iniquities.

G/B... The dominion of the Holy Spirit is over all. Him do the armies on high worship, as doth every creature here below.

P. Prokimenon:  
 O Lord, stir up Thy might/ and come to save us.  
 V. O Shepherd of Israel, attend, Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

C. Let every breath praise the Lord.  
 P. GOSPEL #1

C. Having Beheld the Resurrection of Christ...

- R. Psalm 50  
 C. Glory... Now... Have mercy on me... Jesus having risen...  
 P. Save, O God, Thy People...  
 Anointing.

### Canticle One

Irmos: Traversing the deep on foot/ as though it were dry land,/ and  
 seeing the tyrant Pharaoh drowned,/ Israel cried aloud://  
 Let us chant unto God a hymn of victory.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Jesus the Good, by Thine arms outspread upon the Cross, Thou hast  
 filled all things with the good pleasure of the Father. Therefore shall we  
 all sing Thee a triumphal song.

For fear of Thee, the end that is death became like a servant and was  
 ordered to approach the Master of Life, whereby He awarded us life without  
 end and the Resurrection.

### Theotokion

Having received thine own Creator incarnate of thy seedless womb in  
 manner past understanding, O pure one, as He Himself desired, thou wast  
 truly shown to be the Mistress of creation.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou hast spread Thy divine hands on Thine undefiled and life-bearing  
 Cross, O Saviour, and thereby led all nations unto knowledge of Thee,  
 Master, as they worship, O Lord, Thy glorious Crucifixion.

The Judge, willingly condemned to a lawless sentence, stands before the  
 judgment seat of Pilate, and God Whom the earth and heavens fear is buffeted  
 in the face by the hands of injustice.

### Theotokion

Pouring forth streams of tears, the all-immaculate one stood by Thy  
 Cross, O Saviour, beholding the drops of blood which poured forth from Thy  
 side, O Christ, and glorifying Thine incomparable mercy.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Eve partaking of the forbidden fruit of the garden brought in the  
 curse. But thou, O Pure, hast loosed it by bearing Christ, first-fruit of  
 blessing.

O pure Virgin, who hast borne Christ the pearl from the divine  
 lightning, do thou disperse by the light of thine own brightness the gloom  
 of my passions and the tumult of my faults.

Jacob secretly foresaw with the eyes of the mind, God, the hope of the  
 Gentiles, made flesh of thee and delivering us at thine intercession.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

Theologizing worshipfully concerning the monarchy of the Trinity, O saints, ye easily destroyed the inconstant darkness of polytheism, shining forth like stars of great radiance from the East.

O ye three confessors who are manifestly illumined by the grace of the ruling Trinity, showing forth your opposition with endurance ye destroyed the falsehood of polytheism.

Glory... Making you sons by adoption through love, O glorious ones, He Who is the essential Son hath shown you forth as co-heirs to the inheritance now manifestly given Him, and sharers in His kingdom, in that He is compassionate.

Both... Thou wast the tabernacle of the all-wise Wisdom, O most immaculate one; for it was His good pleasure to make for Himself a temple of thine all-pure blood, O pure one, for the salvation of our souls.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

**I** shall open my mouth/ and the Spirit will inspire it,/ and **I** shall utter the words of my song to the Queen and **Mother**:/ I shall be seen radiantly **keeping** feast// and joyfully praising her **wonders**.

Canticle Three

Irmos: There is none as holy as Thee,/ O Lord my God,/ Who hast uplifted the horn of Thy faithful/ and established us// on the rock of the confession of Thee, O Good One.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The creation, looking upon God crucified in the flesh was dissolved by fear but was strongly held together by the firm hand of Him Who was crucified for us.

Death having been destroyed by death, the wretch lay lifeless; For, not able to bear the divine assault, he who was strong was put to death and the Resurrection was bestowed upon all.

Theotokion

The miracle of thy divine birthgiving transcendeth every order of nature, O pure one; for thou didst supernaturally conceive God in thy womb, and having given birth thou dost ever remain a virgin.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Having lain in the tomb for three days, Thou hast raised by Thy life-bearing Rising those who had been put to death in former times and who, loosed from their sentence, greatly rejoiced in sweet accord, crying: Behold the deliverance hath come, O Lord.

Glory to Thy Rising, O our Saviour, for as all-powerful, hast Thou plucked us from hell and the corruption of death, and we say as we sing: There is none holy save Thee, O Lord, Who lovest mankind.

Theotokion

Thou didst see Him Who was born of thee pierced by a spear, and wast wounded in heart, O all-holy and most immaculate one; and filled with horror, thou didst say: How hath the all-iniquitous nation rewarded Thee, O my Child?

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Ineffably taking upon Himself my changing and mortal flesh from thee, O all-pure Mother of God, He Who is Good, after making it incorruptible, joined it eternally to Himself.

Looking at God, made flesh from thee, O Virgin, the choirs of angels were stricken with fear and wonder and they honour thee as Mother of God in hymns that are never still.

The prophet Daniel was stricken with amazement on beholding thee, thou living Mountain, from which a stone was cut without hand of man and broke with its might the altars of devils, O Mother of God.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

The confessors and favorites of Christ willingly gave their bodies over to tortures and cruel wounds.

O holy ones, pray ye that those who celebrate your memory with faith may be delivered from evil thoughts of sin.

Glory... Suspended upon a tree, with endurance the honoured witnesses most piously preserved their confession inviolate.

Both... He Who entered into thy womb hath shown thee to be a wellspring of healings, O all-pure Mother of God; wherefore, heal thou my soul.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

O **M**other of God,/ thou living and **p**lentiful fount,/ give **s**trength to those united in spiritual **f**ellowship,/ who sing hymns of **p**raise to thee:/ And in thy divine **g**lory// vouchsafe unto them crowns of **g**lory.

## P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion for the Martyrs (Tone 2)

Having received grace from on high, O most lauded martyrs,/ ye intercede for those amid temptations;/ wherefore, ye delivered the maiden from a bitter death, O holy ones:// for ye are truly the glory of Edessa and the joy of the world.

R. Ikos for the Martyrs

Entreated by the supplications of Thine athletes, deliver me from bondage to the enemy, O Jesus, Bestower of life, that, acquiring a soul and body unenslaved by the passions, I may praise their speedy assistance: for they quickly delivered from death the maiden enclosed in a tomb by the

wickedness of her husband, anticipating her need, and she cried: Ye are the glory of Edessa and the joy of the world!

R. Sessional Hymns

Armed with the Cross of Christ, as champions of the Faith ye manfully felled all the might of the tyrants therewith, and denounced all the ungodliness of the idols, O holy ones, fervently confessing the Trinity. Wherefore, ye have worthily received crowns of victory therefrom, in that ye suffered lawfully, O most glorious athletes. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who with love celebrate your holy memory.

Glory... Serving Christ in martyrdom, possessed of an unenslaved soul and wisdom, ye enslaved the falsehood of the tyrants; for, wounded by faith in the Trinity, O all-lauded ones, ye denounced the inglorious fame of polytheism. Wherefore, like stars ye shine forth radiantly in the world with the brilliance of miracles, O blessed and most lauded athletes. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who with love honour your holy memory.

Both... All of us, the generations of men, call thee blessed, as the Virgin who, alone among women, gave birth without seed to God in the flesh; for the fire of the Godhead dwelt within thee, and thou gavest suck to the Creator and Lord as a babe. Wherefore, we, the generation of angels and of men, glorify thine all-holy birthgiving as is meet, and together we cry out to thee: Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of offenses unto those who with faith worship thine all-holy birthgiving.

Canticle Four

Irmos: Christ is my power, my God and my Lord,/ the honoured Church doth sing,/ crying out in godly manner/ with a pure mind,// keeping festival in the Lord.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The Wood made life truly flower, O Christ. For the Cross set up and watered by the Blood and Water from Thy spotless side, put forth life for us.

The serpent no more whispers falsely to me that I should be God; for Christ, the divine Maker of the nature of man hath now unfolded unto me, without hindrance, the path of life.

Theotokion

Truly ineffable and unapproachable to those on earth and in heaven are the mysteries of thy divine birthgiving, O Ever-virgin.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

We honour Thy precious Cross, O Christ, and the nails and the sacred lance with the reed and the crown of thorns through which we have been plucked from the corruption of hell.

The tomb, O Saviour, received Thee Who of Thine own will hast appeared dead for us. But in no wise could it hold Thee fast, O Word, for as God hast Thou risen, saving our kind.

Theotokion

O Ever-virgin Theotokos who gavest birth unto Christ, the Saviour of men, from misfortunes and torments deliver us who with faith flee to thy divine protection.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

We praise thee, undefiled and without blemish, through whom we have been saved and singing with reverence we cry: Blessed art thou, O ever-Virgin, who hast given birth to God.

Thou, O most blessed Virgin, hast borne the Light that never sets, Who shone through the flesh unto those in the darkness of life and thou hast poured forth joy unto those who sing thy praises, O ever-Virgin.

Through thee, All-holy, grace flowered and the law hath ceased to be. For thou, O Pure, hast borne the Lord Who hath granted us remission, O ever-Virgin.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

The crowned ones, equal in number to the Trinity, illumined with thrice-radiant light those who now celebrate their most sacred memory, granting healing unto them all.

O ye divinely wise, let us hasten with reverence to the radiant and splendid shrine of the martyrs; for it poureth forth healings upon those who cry out with faith: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Glory... Confessing the divine dispensation and the mystery which passeth understanding with tongues of theology, the godly and most wise confessors trampled all the ungodliness of the tyrants underfoot.

Both... In manner past understanding, O Virgin, thou wast shown to be a virgin even after giving birth. Wherefore, with unwavering faith, O Mistress, we unceasingly cry out: Rejoice!

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

**He** Who sits in glory upon the throne of the **Godhead**,/ Jesus the **true** God,/ is **come** in a **swift** cloud,/ and with His pure hand He has saved **those** who cry:// Glory to Thy **power**, O Lord.

Canticle Five

Irmos: With Thy divine light/ illumine the souls of those who with love/ rise at dawn unto Thee, I pray Thee, O Good One,/ that they may know Thee, O Word of God, to be the true God// Who calleth all forth from the darkness of sin.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The cherubim now withdraws from me and the flaming sword turns its back on me, O Master, after beholding Thee, O Word of God Who art God indeed, making for the thief a way in Paradise.

I shall no more fear my return to the earth, O Master Christ, for through much compassion hast Thou by Thy Resurrection led me, forgotten, from the earth to the height of immortality.

Theotokion

Save those who with all their soul confess thee to be the Theotokos, O good Mistress of the world, for we have thee, the true Theotokos, as an invincible intercession.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Enticed by eating of the tree in Eden, the founder of our kind slipped into corruption, after disobeying Thy command, O most good Lord, but Thou hast led him back again to his primal beauty through the Cross by being obedient to the Father, O Saviour.

O Good One, by Thy death, the power of death was wiped out and the fountain of life gushed forth for us and immortality was bestowed upon us. We therefore venerate in faith Thy tomb and Thy Resurrection, whereby Thou, as God, hast enlightened the world.

Theotokion

The Lord and Creator of all, Who dwelleth in the heavens, ineffably made His abode within thy womb, O most immaculate one, and hath glorified thee as more exalted than the heavens and holier than the immaterial ranks. Wherefore, we on earth now call thee blessed.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Shining radiantly with purity, thou, whom all men sing, hast become the divine dwelling-place of the Master. For only thou hast been shown forth as Mother indeed of God, and hast carried Him as a babe in thine arms.

Wearing the spiritual beauty of thy most fair soul, thou hast become the Bride of God, sealed with holy virginity and shining upon the world the joyful light of purity.

Let the congregation of the ungodly who proclaim thee not expressly Mother of God lament; for thou hast been shown forth to us as the gateway of God, Who hath dispersed the deep gloom of sin.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

Shining manifestly with the radiance of their struggles, the champions of the Faith put to shame the savage character of the tyrants.

The miracles of the martyrs have been manifestly proclaimed to all the ends of the world, and have made all steadfast through faith.

Glory... Receiving the seed of grace like good earth, the blessed ones produced riches industriously by their manner of life.

Both... He Who alone is good, Who sustaineth all things by the depths of His goodness, O Mother of God, deigned to be held in thine arms.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The whole **world** was amazed at thy divine **glory**,/ for **thou**, O Virgin who hast not known **wedlock**,/ hast **held** in thy womb the **God** of all,/ and hast given birth to an **eternal** Son,// Who rewards with salvation all who sing thy **praises**.

Canticle Six

Irmos: Beholding the sea of life/ surging with the tempest of temptations,/ fleeing to Thy calm haven I cry unto Thee:/ Lead up my life from corruption,// O greatly Merciful One.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O Master, crucified with nails, Thou hast wiped out the curse against us while pierced in Thy side by the lance, Thou hast torn up the handwriting against Adam and set the world free.

Tripped up by the heel through beguilement, Adam hath been led down towards the pit of hell. But God Who is compassionate by nature, descended to seek him and carrying him on His shoulders, He raised him up with Himself.

Theotokion

O all-pure Mistress who for men gavest birth to Christ, the Helmsman, allay the inconstant and grievous tumult of my passions, and grant serenity to my heart.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

The multitude of the Hebrews were slayers of Christ and of the Prophets for as they were not afraid in times of old to kill prophets who were secret rays of truth, so have they now, pushed forward by jealousy, killed the Lord Whom these same Prophets then proclaimed. But His being put to death hath been life for us.

Thou wast compassed but not held by the tomb, O Saviour. For although Thou hast willingly tasted death, O Word, yet art Thou risen as immortal God, having raised up with Thyself those held in bondage by hell and given the Women joy in exchange for the grief that was theirs before.

Theotokion

At the time of Thy suffering, the appearance of Thy flesh was ignoble and poor beyond that of men, though through the Essence of the divinity it was shown unto David as comely in beauty. Yet by the rod of Thy kingdom the might of the enemy was shattered; and the pure one said: O my Son and God, arise from the tomb!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Moses, great among the Prophets, wrote proclaiming thee beforehand as being a Tabernacle and Table, and Candlestick and Jar, symbolically signifying the Incarnation of the Most High from thee, O Mother Virgin.

Death is put to death and the corruption from the condemnation of Adam is abolished by its coming into conflict with thy Fruit, O Lady, for thou hast given birth to the Life Who delivers from corruption all those who sing thy praises, O Mother Virgin.

The law failed and the shadow passed away when the grace past thought and understanding of the birth of our God and Saviour from thee, O far-famed Virgin, was revealed to me.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

Having withstood all torments lawfully and manifestly preserved the faith, as valiant warriors, O divinely wise ones, ye have received crowns of divine righteousness.

Of old Habbakuk was caught up on high at the command of God; and through you, O divinely eloquent ones, the tortured maiden was returned to her mother.

Glory... The shrine of the martyrs shineth with miracles and poureth forth rivers of healing upon all who approach it with faith and marvel at their endurance.

Both... Finding thee alone among the thorns as a most pure rose and a lily of the valley, O Mother of God, the noetic Bridegroom made His abode within thee.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

**As** we **celebrate**/ this sacred and solemn feast of the **Mother** of God,/ **let** us come, **clapping** our hands,/ O people **of** the Lord,/ and give **glory** to God// Who was **born** of her.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion (Tone 6)

When Christ God the Giver of Life,/ raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with his mighty hand,/ He bestowed resurrection on the human race.// He is the Saviour of all, The Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

R. Ikos

We, the faithful, hymn and bow down before the Cross and Thy burial, O Bestower of life, O Immortal One. Thou didst raise the dead with Thyself, didst break down the gates of death, and didst destroy the dominion of hell, in that Thou art God. Wherefore, with love we mortals glorify Thee Who hast arisen and cast down the most destructive might of the enemy, and hast raised up all who have believed Thee to have risen and delivered the world from the arrows of the serpent and the deception of the enemy, in that Thou art the God of all.

Canticle Seven

Irmos: An angel caused the furnace to pour forth dew/ upon the pious youths,/ and the command of God, which consumed the Chaldeans,/ prevailed upon the tyrant to cry out:// Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The sun, lamenting at Thy Passion, was wrapped in gloom, and on that day, O Master, the light was darkened over the whole earth, that cried aloud: Blessed art Thou, the God of our fathers.

At Thy descent, O Christ, the lowest parts of the earth put on light: while our forefather appeared singing full of joy and he danced crying aloud: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Theotokion

Through thee, O Virgin Mother, radiant Light hath shone forth upon the whole world; for thou gavest birth unto God, the Creator of all. Him do thou entreat, O most pure one, that He send down great mercy upon us, the faithful.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

O strange thing! He Who delivered Israel from the bondage to Pharaoh, is willingly crucified by him and loosens the cords of error. Unto Him do we sing in faith: O Redeemer, God, blessed art Thou.

The godless children of transgressors crucified Thee on Golgotha, O Saviour, Who hast broken the gates of brass and the chains unto the salvation of us who sing: O Redeemer God, blessed art Thou.

Theotokion

Having given birth to the Liberation of Eve from the ancient curse, O pure Virgin, thou dost release Adam; wherefore, with the angels we hymn thee and thy Son, and cry aloud: O God our Deliverer, blessed art Thou!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The furnace that burnt not the three Children was the prefigure of thy giving birth. For the divine fire went to dwell in thee without consuming thee and taught all to cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers.

The serpent, most evil, pierced me with his deadly fangs, but thy Son, O Mother of God, broke them while He gave me the strength to cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Thou art the place where human nature is purified, O thou who alone art blessed of God; for, bearing in thine arms God Who sitteth upon the shoulders of the cherubim, thou criest: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

He Who delivered the children of Abraham in the furnace hath now also saved the foreign maiden from cruel peril by the mediation of His holy favorites, in that He is compassionate.

O Word, Wisdom and Power of God, the infamous murderer who inflicted torment of most savage inhumanity was straightway tried for all his evils by Thy righteous judgment.

Glory... Strengthened by her trust in you, O glorious ones, the maiden who had been enclosed with the dead in a tomb was not mistaken in her hope, crying: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

Both... Like a newly cast and lustrous mirror reflecting the radiance of divine effulgence, O Virgin, thou didst receive it as it came upon thee. Blessed art thou among women, O most immaculate Mistress!

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Holy** Children bravely trampled upon the **threatening** fire,/ preferring not to worship created things rather than the Creator,/ and they **sang** in joy:/ 'Blessed art Thou and **praised** above all,// O Lord God of our **fathers**.'

#### Canticle Eight

Irmos: From the flame didst Thou pour forth dew upon the venerable ones,/ and didst consume the sacrifice of the righteous one with water;/ for Thou, O Christ, dost do all things soever Thou desirest.// Thee do we exalt supremely for all ages!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Envy hath now made the people of the Jews who killed the Prophets in past times into killers of God, since they hung Thee upon the Cross, O Word of God Whom we exalt above all forever.

Without forsaking the vaults of Heaven, Thou hast gone down into hell, and hast raised up with Thyself, O Christ, man entire who lay in decay and who exalts Thee above all forever.

#### Theotokion

From **Light** thou didst conceive the Word, the Bestower of light; and having ineffably given birth unto Him, thou hast been glorified. For the Spirit of God dwelt within thee, O Maiden. Wherefore, we hymn thee for all ages.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Every ear was afraid when the Most High came upon earth willingly to master the strength of hell through the Cross and the tomb and to raise all men to cry: O ye children, bless Him, O ye priests praise Him, O ye people exalt Him above all forever.

The tyranny of hell hath ceased and the rest of his royal power been set at naught. For God Who is over all having pitched the Cross on earth,

put down his might. O ye children bless Him, O ye priests praise Him, O ye people exalt Him above all forever.

Theotokion

O Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ, and Thine unutterable benefactions! For, seeing me perishing in the prison of hades, Thou didst deliver me, enduring Thy sufferings. Wherefore, we bless Thee, the Master of all, and exalt Thee supremely for all ages.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

He Who by His will alone set up the world was lent flesh of thy pure womb, wishing to form it anew from above. We exalt Him above all forever.

From the Union of the Word with me that is man, thou, O Most Pure, hast appeared as a divine dwelling-place, making the brightness of virginity plainly shine. We therefore praise thee forever.

The golden candlestand prefigured thee who ineffably received the unapproachable Light Who illumineth all things with His radiance. Wherefore, we hymn thee, O pure one, for all ages.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

Today the universal festival of the martyrs of Christ hath dawned for us, illumining with the grace of miracles those who approach with faith and spiritual joy, and who cry out with love: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

The confessors of Thy divinity, O Master, easily abolished all ungodliness of the tyrants, undaunted by the threats of the evil-minded; and, strengthened by faith, they cried: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Let us bless Father, Son, Holy Spirit, the Lord!

The most wise confessors, standing up for the divine dogmas, vanquishing hordes of the enemy, and slain by the sword, have manifestly and all-gloriously shown forth an all-splendid victory; and, falling, they have triumphed over the adversary.

Both... Thou gavest birth to Christ Who is seen to be in two natures, manifestly bearing a single hypostasis composed of divinity and manhood, truly joining together in natural unity. Wherefore, we bless thee, O Mary, Bride of God.

We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him unto all ages.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Offspring** of the Theotokos/ saved the holy Children in the **furnace.**/ **He** Who was then prefigured has since been **born** on earth,/ and He gathers together all the creation to sing:/ O all ye **works** of the Lord,// bless ye the Lord and exalt Him above all **forever**.

P. Magnificat

## C. Song of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Canticle Nine

Irmos: It is not possible for men/ to behold God,/ upon Whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze;/ but through thee, O most pure one,/ hath the Word appeared incarnate unto men;// and magnifying Him with the armies of heaven, we call thee blessed.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Having associated in the flesh with passion, Thou hast remained without participation in passion. And Thou, O our Saviour, dost set man loose from passion by having made the passions suffer. For Thou only art impassible and almighty.

Having accepted the corruption of death, Thou hast kept Thy body from tasting corruption: While Thy life-giving and divine soul, O Master, hath not been left in hell, but Thou, risen as from sleep, hast made us rise with Thyself.

Triadicon

O all ye men, with pure lips let us glorify God the Father and the Son Who is equally without beginning, and let us honour the ineffable and all-glorious power of the most Holy Spirit; for Thou alone art the almighty and indivisible Trinity.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Though Thou hast gone down into the tomb as mortal, O Giver of Life, yet hast Thou destroyed the power of hell and raised with Thyself the dead whom it had swallowed and granted, as God, all those who magnify Thee with love the Resurrection.

Let the Creation rejoice greatly and flower like the lily. For Christ as God hath been raised from the dead. We cry: 'Death where is now thy sting? Hell where is thy victory? He Who hath raised our state hath thrust thee down to earth because He is compassionate.'

Theotokion

Thou bearest Him Who beareth all things, and holdest as a babe in thine arms Him Who delivereth us from the hands of the enemy who warreth against us, O all-pure Mistress; and thou seest Him uplifted upon the Tree of the Cross Who hath raised us up from the pit of evil.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Star which shineth forth out of Jacob with the rays of divinity shone forth upon those held fast in darkness; for through thee, O most pure one, did Christ God the Word become incarnate. And illumined by Him, with the armies of heaven we call thee blessed.

Thou hast been manifestly shown to be the loom of the Divinity, whereon the Word wove the garment of His body, deifying my form, O Virgin. And

having clothed Himself therein, He hath saved all who magnify thee with pure thought.

Resurrection hath now been given to the dead through thine ineffable and unutterable birthgiving, O most pure Theotokos; for Life, clothing Himself in flesh through thee, shone forth upon all, and hath manifestly lifted the gloom of death.

Holy Martyrs Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, pray to God for us!

Following the godly and divinely inspired words of Christ, O divinely radiant confessors, rejoicing, ye took the cross upon your shoulders, following in the steps of the Bestower of life, O right glorious ones.

Entering with gladness into the whole light of the Trinity, the valiant confessors receive honours for their struggles, being vouchsafed to dwell with the ranks of the incorporeal ones.

Glory... Manifestly shown to be equal in number with the all-divine Trinity, O confessors of godly eloquence, ye are illumined with the radiance thereof, for, having suffered for the Trinity's sake, ye have now received life incorruptible.

Both... O Virgin Mother, The Word Who hath adorned all things, and Who desired to come in the flesh, made His abode in thee, and He found thee alone to be more holy than all others, and truly revealed thee to be the Theotokos.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

Let every mortal **born** on earth,/ radiant with light, in spirit **leap** for joy;/ and **let** the hosts of the angelic powers **celebrate**/ and honour the holy feast of the **Mother** of God,/ and **let** them cry:// Hail! Pure and blessed ever-Virgin, who gavest **birth** to God.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion One (Mt 28:16-20)

Let us go with the disciples into a mountain of Galilee to behold with faith Christ saying: Let us learn to receive power over things above and below; how to teach all the nations and to baptize them in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and as was promised I shall be even unto the end of the world with those who know the mysteries.

Glory... Exapostilarion for the Martyrs

O Gurias, Samonas and Abibus, ye martyrs of Christ, who of old delivered the maiden from the tomb: anticipate our needs, delivering us from our transgressions, as from a tomb.

Both... Theotokion

Thou, O Theotokos Virgin, hast rejoiced with the disciples, at seeing Christ rising on the third day from the tomb as He clearly said; and He has appeared to them teaching and disclosing the better things, commanding them to baptize in the Father, the Son and the Spirit, for us to believe in His Rising and to glorify thee, O Maid.

C. Lauds: Tone 6 Stichera

Let every breath **praise** the Lord/  
 Praise the Lord from the **Heavens**/  
 Praise Him in the **highest**/  
 To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God/  
 Praise Him, all ye His **Angels**://  
 Praise Him, all **ye** His hosts.//  
 To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God.

## R. (The following may be read or sung antiphonally)

Praise Him, O sun and moon; praise Him, all ye stars and light.  
 Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord; For He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created.

He established them forever, yea, forever and ever; He hath set an ordinance, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all ye abysses,  
 Fire, hail, snow, ice, blast of tempest, which perform His word,  
 The mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars,  
 The beasts and all the cattle, creeping things and winged birds,  
 Kings of the earth, and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth,  
 Young men and virgins, elders with the younger; let them praise the name of the Lord, for exalted is the name of Him alone.

His praise is above the earth and heaven, and He shall exalt the horn of His people.

This is the hymn for all His saints, for the sons of Israel, and for the people that draw nigh unto Him.

Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints.

Let Israel be glad in Him that made him, let the sons of Sion rejoice in their king.

Let them praise His name in the dance; with the timbrel and the psaltery let them chant unto Him.

For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation.

The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds.  
 The high praise of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged swords shall be in their hands.

To do vengeance among the heathen, punishments among the peoples,  
 To bind their kings with fetters, and their nobles with manacles of iron,

V. To do among them the judgment that is written/ This glory shall be to all His saints.

1. Thy **Cross**, O Lord,/ is the life and resurrection of Thy **people**/ and assured of this, we sing unto Thee our **risen** God:// Have mercy upon us.

V. Praise ye God in His saints,/ praise Him in the firmament of His power.

2. Thy burial, O **Master**,/ opened Paradise for **mankind**,/ and we, delivered from **corruption**,/ sing unto Thee our **risen** God:// Have mercy upon us.

- V. Praise Him for His mighty acts,/ praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.
3. Let us praise Christ with the Father and the **Spirit**:/ Let us cry aloud unto Him **risen** from the dead:/ Thou art our life and resurrection:// Have **mercy** on us.
- V. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,/ praise Him with psaltery and harp.
4. O Christ, on the **third** day,/ Thou hast risen from the tomb according to the **Scriptures**,/ having raised our fore**father** with Thyself:// therefore, mankind glorifies Thee and praises Thy Resurrection.
- V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,/ praise Him with strings and flute.
5. O Lord, mighty and dreadful is the mystery of Thy Resurrection./ For Thou hast come forth **from** the tomb/ as a bridegroom from his **chamber**,/ after destroying death by death that Adam might be **set** free./ Therefore, the angels in heaven make glad and **men** on earth/ give glory to Thy compassion that Thou hast **shown** towards us,// O Thou, Who **lovest** mankind.
- V. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let every breath praise the Lord.
6. O **wicked** Jews,/ where are the seal and the pieces of silver that ye **gave** to the guards?/ The treasure was not stolen, but rose up according to His **power**;/ and ye were yourselves put to shame by **denying** Christ,/ the Lord of glory, Who suffered and was buried and **rose** from the dead:// Him let us **worship**.
- V. Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high;/ forget not Thy paupers to the end.
7. The tomb sealed, the guard set and the **stamps** attached:/ How was He stolen, O ye Jews?/ Through the closed door the King **proceeded**:/ Either show Him dead or worship Him as God, and **sing** with us:// Glory, Lord, to Thy Cross and Thy Resurrection.
- V. I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart,/ I will tell of all Thy wonders.
8. The women bearing sweet-smelling **ointments**/ came in tears to Thy tomb that held **life**, O Lord,/ and carried with them spices wherewith they sought to anoint Thine all-pure **Body**./ But seated on the stone they found a shining **angel**,/ who called out to **them** and said:/ 'Why do ye weep for Him from Whose side flows life unto the world?/ Why do ye seek Him Who is immortal as **dead** in the tomb?/ Go rather and announce to His **disciples**/ the good tidings of His Resurrection, joy of **all** the

world.'/ Having also enlightened us by it, O **Saviour**,// mayest Thou grant us cleansing and great **mercy**.

Glory... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 1)

When the **disciples** had gone up into the **mountain**,/ for His ascension **from** the earth,/ the Lord stood **by** and they **worshipped** Him./ And, having been taught that power had been given to them **everywhere**,/ they were **sent** as far as heaven **covers**/ to preach the **Resurrection** from the dead,/ **and** the restoration to **heaven**./ And Christ, God and **Saviour** of our souls,// promised without fail to be with them **eternally**.

Both now and ever... (Tone 2)

Most Blessed art Thou, O Virgin Theotokos,/ for through Him Who became incarnate of thee is hades led **captive**,/ **Adam** recalled, the curse annulled, Eve set free, **death** slain,/ and we are given life. Wherefore, we cry **aloud** in praise:/ Blessed art Thou, O **Christ** God,// Who hast been thus well-pleased, **glory** to Thee.

The Great Doxology

Dismissal Tropar:

Having risen from the tomb, and having burst the bonds of hades, Thou hast destroyed the sentence of death, O Lord, delivering all from the snares of the enemy. Manifesting Thyself to Thine apostles, Thou didst send them forth to preach; and through them hast granted Thy peace to the world, O Thou Who alone art plenteous in mercy.

P. Litanies  
Dismissal

R. Hours  
Tropar: Resurrection & Martyrs  
Kontak: Resurrection

At Liturgy

Order of Troparia & Kontakia as per a Simple Service

Prokimenon for Tone 6

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

V. Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry; O my God, be not silent unto me.

Prokimenon for the Martyrs (Tone 4)

In the saints that are in His earth hath the Lord been wondrous; He hath wrought all His desires in them.

Epistle(s): Eph 2:4-10 & Eph 6:10-17

Alleluia for Tone 6

V. He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven.

V. He shall say unto the Lord: Thou art my helper and my refuge. He is my God, and I will hope in Him.

Alleluia for the Martyrs (Tone 4)

V. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their tribulations.

Gospels: Luke 10:25-37 & Luke 12:8-12

Communion Hymn: Praise ye & Rejoice in the Lord...