

Theophany
The Order of Great Compline

Royal Doors are closed as is curtain. Lampada is up. Only candles and votive lights are on. Priest stands before altar. Litya table is ready and in proper position in the Church. The icon of the Theophany is placed on left side of the Church. The Priest begins the service, receives the censer and begins a full censuring.

P. Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

R. Amen. Glory to Thee, Our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, O Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good gifts, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, And save our souls, O Good One,

O Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

G/B... O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

G/B... Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

P. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, And unto the ages of ages.

R. Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

G/B...

O Come let us worship God our King.

O Come let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

(By now the Priest should be censuring outside the altar)

PSALM 4

WHEN I CALLED UPON THEE, O GOD OF MY RIGHTEOUSNESS, Thou didst hearken unto me; In mine affliction Thou hast enlarged me. Have compassion on me and hear my prayer. O ye sons of men, how long will ye be slow of heart? Why do ye love vanity, and seek after falsehood?. Know also that the Lord hath made wondrous His holy one. The Lord will hearken unto me when I cry unto Him. Be angry, and sin not; feel compunction upon your beds for what ye say in your hearts. Sacrifice a sacrifice of righteousness, and hope in the Lord. Many say: Who will show unto us good things? The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, hath been signed upon us; Thou hast given gladness to my heart. From the fruit of their wheat, wine and oil are they multiplied. In peace in the same place I shall lay me down and sleep. For Thou, O Lord, alone hast made me to dwell in hope.

PSALM 6

O LORD, REBUKE ME NOT IN THINE ANGER, NEITHER CHASTEN ME IN THY WRATH. Have mercy upon me, O Lord; for I am weak: O Lord, heal me; for my bones are troubled and my soul is troubled greatly: but thou, O Lord, how long? Turn to me again, O Lord, deliver my soul; save me for thy mercy's sake. For in death there is none that is mindful of Thee, and in hades who will confess Thee? I toiled in my groaning; every night I will wash my bed, with tears will I water my couch. Through wrath is mine eye become troubled, I have grown old among all mine enemies. Depart from me all ye that work vanity, for the Lord hath beard the voice of my weeping. The Lord hath heard my supplication, the Lord hath received my prayer. Let all mine enemies be greatly put to shame and be troubled, let them be turned back, and speedily be greatly put to shame.

PSALM 12

HOW LONG, O LORD, WILT THOU UTTERLY FORGET ME? How long wilt Thou turn Thy face away from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul with grievings in my heart by day and by night? How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me? Look upon me, hear me, O Lord my God; enlighten mine eyes, lest at any time I sleep unto death. Lest at any time mine enemy say: I have prevailed against him. They that afflict me will rejoice if I am shaken; but as for me, I have hoped in Thy mercy. My heart will rejoice in Thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, Who is my benefactor, and I will chant unto the name of the Lord Most High.

G/B...

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Glory... 3x

Lord have mercy... 3x

G/B...

After completing the full censuring the Priest remains in the altar, in front of the Holy Table throughout Great Compline.

PSALM 24

UNTO THEE, O LORD, HAVE I LIFTED UP MY SOUL. O my God, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be put to shame, nor let mine enemies laugh me to scorn. Yea, let none that wait on Thee be put to shame; let them be ashamed which are lawless without a cause. Make Thy ways, O Lord, known unto me and teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth and teach me, for Thou art my Saviour; for on Thee have I waited all the day long. Remember Thy compassions, O Lord, and Thy mercies, for they are from everlasting. The sins of my youth and mine ignorances remember not; according to Thy mercy remember Thou me, for the sake of Thy goodness, O Lord. Good and upright is the Lord; therefore will He set a law for them that sin in the way. He will guide the meek in judgment, He will teach the meek His ways. All the ways of the Lord are mercy and truth, unto them that seek after His covenant and His testimonies. For the sake of Thy name, O Lord, be gracious unto my sin; for it is great. Who is the man that feareth the Lord? He will set him a law in the way which He hath chosen. His soul shall dwell among good things, and his seed shall inherit the earth. The Lord is the strength of them that fear Him, and His covenant shall be manifested unto them. Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He it is that will draw

my feet out of the snare. Look upon me, and have mercy on me; for I am one only-begotten and poor. The afflictions of my heart are multiplied; bring me out from my necessities. Behold my lowliness and my toil, and forgive all my sins. Look upon mine enemies, for they are multiplied, and with an unjust hatred have they hated me. Keep my soul and rescue me; let me not be put to shame, for I have hoped in Thee. The innocent and the upright have cleaved unto me, for I waited on Thee, O Lord. Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his afflictions.

PSALM 30

IN THEE, O LORD, HAVE I HOPED, let me not be put to shame in the age to come; in Thy righteousness deliver me, and rescue me. Bow down Thine ear unto me, make haste to rescue me, be Thou unto me a God to defend me and a house of refuge to save me. For my strength and my refuge art Thou, and for Thy name's sake wilt Thou guide me and nourish me. Thou wilt bring me out of this snare which they have hid for me, for Thou art my defender, O Lord. Into Thy hands I will commit my spirit; Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. Thou hast hated them that cling to empty vanities; but I have hoped in the Lord. I will rejoice and be glad in Thy mercy, for Thou hast regarded my lowliness; Thou hast saved my soul out of necessities, and hast not shut me up in the hands of enemies; Thou hast set my feet in a spacious place. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am afflicted; mine eye is troubled with anger, as also my soul and my belly. For my life is spent with grief, and my years with groanings; my strength hath grown weak in poverty, and my bones are troubled. I am become a reproach among all mine enemies, and greatly for my neighbors also, and a fear to mine acquaintances. They that saw me without fled from me, I am forgotten by the heart like a dead man. I am become like a broken vessel. For I have heard the reproach of many that dwell round about; when they assembled together against me, they devised to take away my life. But as for me, I have hoped in Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my God; in Thy hands are my lots. Deliver me from the hands of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant, save me in Thy mercy. O Lord, let me not be put to shame, for I have called upon Thee; Let the ungodly be put to shame and let them be brought down into hades. Speechless be the deceitful lips which speak iniquity against the righteous man with arrogance and contempt. How great is the multitude of

Thy goodness, O Lord, which Thou hast hid for them that fear Thee, which Thou hast wrought for them that hope in Thee before the sons of men. Thou shalt hide them in the secrecy of Thy presence from the disturbance of men; Thou shalt shelter them in the tabernacle from contradiction of tongues. Blessed is the Lord, for He hath made His mercy wondrous in a fortified city. But as for me, I said in mine ecstasy: I am cast away from the presence of Thine eyes. Therefore hast Thou heard the voice of my supplication when I cried unto Thee. O love ye the Lord, all ye His saints, for the Lord requireth truth; and unto them that act with exceeding pride, He rendereth them their due. Be ye manful, and let your heart be strengthened, all ye that hope in the Lord.

PSALM 90

HE THAT DWELLETH IN THE HELP OF THE MOST HIGH shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven. He shall say unto the Lord: Thou art my helper and my refuge. He is my God, and I will hope in Him. For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters and from every troubling word. With His shoulders will He overshadow thee, and under His wings shalt thou have hope. With a shield will His truth encompass thee; thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the thing that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and demon of noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but unto thee shall it not come nigh. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and thou shalt see the reward of sinners. For Thou, O Lord, art my hope. Thou madest the Most High thy refuge; no evils shall come nigh thee, and no scourge shall draw nigh unto thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. On their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Upon the asp and basilisk shalt thou tread, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon. For he hath set his hope on Me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him because he hath known My name. He shall cry unto Me, and I will hearken unto him. I am with him in affliction, and I will rescue him and glorify him. With length of days will I satisfy him, and I will show him My salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Glory... 3x
 Lord have mercy... 3x
 G/B...

Then chant slowly with a loud voice:

R. God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit yourselves: For God is with us.

C. God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit yourselves: For God is with us.

The reader reads the following verses continuously while the choir chants softly "For God is with us" in the background:

R. Hearken ye unto the ends of the earth. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

O ye powerful, submit yourselves. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

For if ye again strengthen yourselves, ye shall again be vanquished. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And whatsoever counsel ye shall take, the Lord shall bring it to naught. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And the word, whatsoever ye speak, shall not remain with you. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And of your fear we shall be neither afraid nor in dread. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

But the Lord our God, Him will we hallow, and He shall be fear unto us. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And if I be trusting in Him, He shall be unto me sanctification. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And I will be hoping in Him, and shall be saved by Him. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

Behold, I and the children which God hath given me. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

The people that walk in darkness have seen a great light.
FOR GOD IS WITH US.

Ye that dwell in the region and shadow of death, a light
shall shine upon you. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given. FOR
GOD IS WITH US.

Whose government is upon His shoulder. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And of His peace there is no end. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

And His name shall be called Angel of great counsel. FOR
GOD IS WITH US.

Wonderful Counselor. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

Mighty God, Ruler, Prince of Peace. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

Father of the age to come. FOR GOD IS WITH US.

Glory... FOR GOD IS WITH US.

Both now and ever... FOR GOD IS WITH US.

(In a LOUD voice as in a pronouncement)

R. God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit
yourselves: For God is with us.

C. God is with us, understand, O ye nations, and submit
yourselves: For God is with us.

C. The day being past, I give Thee thanks, O Lord; the
evening, I pray, together with the night without a sin grant me,
O Saviour, and save me.

Glory... The day being past, I glorify Thee, O Master; the
evening, I pray, together with the night without peril grant me,
O Saviour, and save me.

Now... The day being past, I glorify Thee, O Master; the evening, I pray, together with the night without peril grant me, O Saviour, and save me.

The bodiless nature of the Cherubim/ with unceasing hymns glorify Thee./ The six-winged beings, the Seraphim/ with never-ceasing voices supremely exalt Thee./ And all the ranks of the Angels/ praise Thee with thrice-holy hymns./ For before all art Thou the Existing Father/ and Thou hast Thy Co-originate Son;/ and bearing the co-honourable Spirit of life,/ Thou dost manifest the Indivisible Trinity./ O Most Holy Virgin Mother of God,/ and ye eyewitnesses of the Word and servants,/ all the choirs both of Prophets and Martyrs,/ as those that have attained unto life immortal,/ supplicate earnestly for us all,/ for we all are in distress;/ that, being delivered from the delusion of the evil one,/ we may cry out the angelic hymn:/ Holy, Holy, Holy, Thrice-holy Lord,// have mercy and save us. Amen.

R. (*And immediately in a lower voice:*)

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 Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light: true God of true God; begotten, not made, of one essence with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, come down from the Heavens, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; And was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures; And ascended into the Heavens, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father; And shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, 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 confess one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Make a bow with each of the following:

P/C.O Most Holy Lady Theotokos, intercede for us sinners.

O all ye Heavenly Hosts of the holy Angels and Archangels, Intercede for us sinners.

O holy John, Prophet and Forerunner and Baptist of our Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for us sinners.

O holy glorious Apostles, Prophets and Martyrs, and all the Saints, intercede for us sinners.

O our holy and Godbearing fathers, pastors and ecumenical teachers, intercede for us sinners.

O our holy and Godbearing fathers Anthony and Theodosius, and all the holy fathers of the Caves, intercede for us sinners.

O our holy and God-bearing father and wonderworker Herman, intercede for us sinners.

O Invincible and incomprehensible and divine power of the precious and life-giving Cross, forsake not us sinners.

O God, cleanse us sinners.

O God, cleanse us sinners, and have mercy on us.

(Priest puts on phelonion)

R. O Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(3x)

G/B...

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

G/B...

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as

we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

P. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, And unto the ages of ages.

(Lights on; Curtain pulled. R/D open.)

C. Amen. Troparion of the Feast: (Tone 1) (see music)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the River Jordan, / worship of the Trinity was revealed, / for the voice of the Father did come forth to testify / and to name Thee His most beloved Son / and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove / confirmed the truth of the word. / Thou hast appeared and given light to the world, // O Lord, glory be to Thee.

(Close Royal Doors and curtain; turn off lights; take off phelonion)

R. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

G/B...

More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, thee who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, father (master), bless.

P. Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

R. Amen. O LORD, O LORD, WHO HAST DELIVERED US FROM EVERY ARROW that flieth by day, deliver us from everything that walketh in darkness. Receive as an evening sacrifice the lifting up of our hands. Vouchsafe us also to pass through the course of the night without blemish, untempted by evil. And deliver us from every anxiety and fear that come to us from the devil. Grant unto our souls compunction, and unto our thoughts solicitude concerning the trial at Thy dread and righteous Judgment. Nail down our flesh with the fear of Thee, and mortify our earthly members that in the quietness of sleep we may be enlightened by the vision of Thy Judgments. Take from us every

unseemly dread and pernicious carnal desire. Raise us up at the hour of prayer fortified in faith and advancing in thy commandments, through the benevolence and goodness of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thy most holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

And Immediately:

O Come let us worship God our King.

O Come let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

PSALM 50

HAVE MERCY ON ME, O GOD, ACCORDING TO THY GREAT MERCY; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded.

Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

PSALM 101

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER, and let my cry come unto Thee. Turn not Thy face away from me; in the day when I am afflicted, incline Thine ear unto me. In the day when I call upon Thee, quickly hearken unto me. For my days are vanished like smoke, and my bones consumed like wood for the burning. I am smitten like grass, and withered is my heart, for I forgot to eat my bread. By reason of the voice of my groaning, my bone hath cleaved unto my flesh. I am become like a pelican of the wilderness, I am like an owl in a ruined house. I have watched, and am like a sparrow that sitteth alone upon the house-top. The whole day long mine enemies reproached me, and they that praised me made an oath against me. For before the face of Thy wrath and Thine anger I ate ashes like bread, and my drink I mingled with weeping; for after uplifting me, Thou hast dashed me down. My days like a shadow have declined, and I like grass am withered. But Thou, O Lord, forever abidest, and Thy remembrance is unto generation and generation. Thou shalt rise up and have pity upon Sion, for it is time to have compassion on her, yea, the time is come. For Thy servants have taken pleasure in her stones, and they shall feel pity for her dust. And the heathen shall fear Thy name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Thy glory. For the Lord shall build up Sion, and He shall be seen in His glory. He hath regarded the prayer of the humble, and hath not despised their supplication. Let this be written for another generation, and the people that is being created shall praise the Lord. For He hath looked out from His holy height, the Lord from heaven hath looked upon the earth, to hear the groaning of them that be in fetters, to loose the sons of the slain, to declare in Sion the name of the Lord, and His praise in Jerusalem, when the peoples are gathered together, and the kings to serve the Lord. He answered Him in the way of His strength: The fewness of my days declare unto me. Take me not away at the half of my days; in generations and generations are Thy years. In the beginning, O Lord, Thou didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou abidest; and all like a garment shall grow old, and as a vesture shalt Thou fold them, and they shall be changed; but Thou art

the same, and Thy years shall not fail. The sons of Thy servants shall have their dwelling, and their seed for ever shall be guided aright.

The Prayer of Manasses, King of Judea.

O LORD ALMIGHTY, THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS, of Abraham, and Isaac and Jacob, and of their righteous seed; Who hast made heaven and the earth with all their majesty; Who hast bound the sea by the word of Thy commandment; Who hast closed the abyss, and sealed it by Thy terrible and glorious name; of Whom all things are afraid and tremble from the presence of Thy might; for no one can endure the majesty of Thy glory, and unbearable is the wrath of Thy threatening toward sinners, but immeasurable and unsearchable is the mercifulness of Thy promise; for Thou art the Lord Most High compassionate, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy, and repentest of the evils of men: Thou, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy goodness, hast promised penitence and forgiveness to them that have sinned against Thee, and in the multitude of Thy compassions hast decreed repentance for the salvation of sinners. Thou, therefore, O Lord God of Hosts, hast not appointed repentance for the righteous, for Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, who have not sinned against Thee, but hast laid repentance upon me a sinner, for I have sinned more than the number of the sands of the sea. Mine iniquities are multiplied, O Lord, mine iniquities are multiplied, and I am not worthy to look upon and to see the height of heaven for the multitude of mine iniquities. I am bowed down with many iron bands so that I cannot lift up my head, and there is no release for me, because I have provoked Thine anger, and done evil before Thee, neither having done Thy will, nor having kept Thy commandments; and now I bow the knees of my heart, beseeching of Thee clemency. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know mine iniquities; but imploring I pray Thee: Loose me, O Lord, loose me, and destroy me not with mine iniquities. Neither in enmity forever keep mine evils, neither condemn me to the nethermost parts of the earth. For Thou, O God, art the God of them that repent, and upon me Thou wilt show all Thy goodness; for Thou shalt save me who am unworthy, according to the plentitude of Thy mercy, and I will praise Thee continually throughout the days of my life: for all the heavenly hosts hymneth Thee, and Thine is the glory unto the ages of ages. Amen.

(Priest at altar; puts on phelonion)

O Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

G/B...

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

G/B...

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

P. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, And unto the ages of ages.

(Lights on, curtain pulled; Royal Doors open)

C. Amen. Kontakion of the Feast: (Tone 4)

Thou hast appeared to the universe,/ and Thy light, O Lord, hast shone on us,/ who with understanding praise Thee:/ Thou hast come and revealed Thyself,// O Light Unapproachable!

(Lights off; phelonion off; Royal Doors and curtain closed)

Lord have mercy (12x)

G/B... More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, thee who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, father bless.

P. Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

R. Amen. O SOVEREIGN GOD, the Father Almighty, O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Thou O Holy Spirit, one

Godhead, one Power: have mercy on me a sinner, and by the judgments which Thou knowest, save me, Thine unworthy servant; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Come let us worship God our King.

O Come let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

PSALM 69

R. O GOD, BE ATTENTIVE UNTO HELPING ME; O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be shamed and confounded that seek after my soul. Let them be turned back and brought to shame that desire evils against me. Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me: Well done! Well done! Let them be glad and rejoice in Thee all that seek after Thee, O God, and let them that love Thy salvation say continually: The Lord be magnified. But as for me, I am poor and needy; O God, come unto mine aid. My helper and my deliverer art Thou, O Lord; make no long tarrying.

PSALM 142

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER, GIVE EAR UNTO MY SUPPLICATION IN THY TRUTH; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's

sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

(Servers prepare for Litya)

R. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; Thou that takest away the sins of the world receive our prayer; Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Every night will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever.

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in generation and generation. I said: O Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. O Lord, unto Thee have I fled for refuge, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For in Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light. O continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the work of Thy hands. To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

(Begin Litya: R/Ds stay closed; curtain closed too; Central icon is on left side; Servers bring out censer and two candlestands)

C. Litya: (Tone 4) **Use music for this verse**

He who covers Himself with light as with a **garment**/ has vouchsafed for our sakes to become as we are./ **Today** He is clothed by the streams of the **Jordan**,/ though He has no need to be **cleansed** by them:/ but through Himself He bestows regeneration on us./ O **wonder!**/ Without fire He **casts** anew/ and without shattering He **refashions**;/and He saves those who are **enlightened** in Him,// Christ our God, the **Saviour** of our souls.

(The following verses can be sung by the choir or read by the reader until the Glory...)

John the **Baptist** saw Thee **draw** near,/ who cleanses by Spirit and by fire the **sin** of the world,/ and he cried **aloud** in fear and trembling, **saying**:/ 'I dare not touch Thine immaculate head./ Do Thou, O Master, sanctify me by Thine **Epiphany**,// O Thou Who alone **lovest** mankind.'

Come, let us do as the wise **virgins**;/ come, let us go and meet the Master Who **has** appeared:/ for as a **Bridegroom** has He come **forth** to John./ The Jordan, seeing Thee, crouched in **fear** and stopped;/ John **cried** aloud:/ 'I dare not touch Thine **immortal** head.'/ The Spirit came down in the form of a dove to hallow the **waters**,/ and a voice **cried** from on high:/ 'This is My Son Who is come into the world to **save** mankind.'// O Lord, **glory** to Thee.

Christ is **baptized**:/ He comes up out of the waters, and with Him He carries **up** the world./ He **sees** the heavens opened that Adam closed against himself and his **posterity**./ The Spirit bears witness to His divinity, for He hastens **towards** His like;/ and a voice sounds from heaven, for it is from heaven that He has come down to whom this testimony is **given**,// and He is the **Saviour** of our souls.

The **hand** of the Baptist trembled, when it touched Thine **immaculate** head:/ the river Jordan turned back, not daring to **minister** to Thee./ For **how** could he that stood in awe of Joshua the son of Nun not be afraid before the Maker of **Joshua**?/ But Thou, our Saviour, hast fulfilled all that was **appointed**,/ that so Thou mightest save the world by Thine **Epiphany**,// O Thou Who alone **lovest** mankind.

Glory... (Tone 8)

O **Lord**, wishing to fulfill that which Thou hast appointed from **eternity**,/ Thou hast received from all the creation ministers at this Thy **mystery**:/ Gabriel from among the angels. The Virgin from **among** men,/ the Star from among the heavens and Jordan from among the **waters**;/ and in its stream Thou hast washed away the **transgression** of the world,// O Saviour, **glory** to Thee.

Both now... (Tone 8) **Use music for this verse**

Today creation is **enlightened**./ Today all nature is glad, things of heaven and things **upon** earth./ Angels and men mingle with one **another**,/ for where the King is present, there His army **also** goes./ Let us run, then, to the **Jordan**;/ let us all see how John baptizes a sinless and uncreated head./ Therefore let us cry aloud with **one** accord,/ echoing the voice of the **apostle**:/ The grace of God that brings salvation to all men **has** appeared.// Shining upon the faithful and granting them great **mercy**.

P. *Litya prayers in back of the Church*

C. Lord, have mercy. 12x 12x 12x 3x 3x

(Clergy and servers move to the center of the Church in front of the Litya table. The two candles are placed behind this table)

C. Aposticha (Tone 2) **Use music for this verse**

Seeing Thee, O Christ our God, draw near to him in the river Jordan, **John** said:/ '**Why** art Thou Who hast no defilement, come to Thy **servant**, O Lord?/ In whose **name** shall I **baptize** Thee?/ Of the **Father**? But Thou dost bear Him **in** Thyself./ Of the **Son**? But Thou art Thyself this **Son** made flesh./ Of the Holy **Spirit**? But Thou knowest that through Thine own mouth Thou dost give Him to the **faithful**.'// O God Who hast appeared, have mercy **upon** us.

V. The sea saw it and fled: Jordan was driven back (Psalm 113:3)

The waters **saw** Thee, O God:/ the waters saw Thee and **were** afraid./ **For** the cherubim cannot lift their eyes upon Thy **glory**,/ nor can the seraphim gaze **upon** Thee,/ but standing **by** Thee in fear,/ the first carry Thee and the second **glorify** Thy

might./ With them, O merciful Lord, we proclaim Thy **praises** and we say:// O God Who hast appeared, have mercy upon us.

V. What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? Thou Jordan that thou wast driven back? (Psalm 113:5)

Today the Maker of heaven and earth comes in the flesh to the **Jordan**./ He Who is sinless asks for **baptism**,/ that **He** may cleanse the world from the error of the **enemy**./ He Who is the Master of all is baptized by a **servant**,/ and He gives mankind cleansing through **water**./ Unto Him let us **cry** aloud:// O God Who hast appeared to u-us, **glory** to Thee.

G/B... Seeing the Sun that came from a **Virgin**/ asking for baptism in the **Jordan**,/ the shining **Lamp** that was born of a barren woman cried to Him in **fear** and joy:// 'Sanctify me, O Master, by Thy divine **Epiphany**.'

C. Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace...
(Simeon's prayer)

R. Trisagion
Lord's Prayer

(Lights on; Royal doors and curtain remain closed; censer carried to clergy; censuring around Litya table begins...)

C. Amen. Troparion of the Feast: (Tone 1) 3x
When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the River Jordan,/ worship of the Trinity was revealed,/ for the voice of the Father did come forth to testify/ and to name Thee His most beloved Son/ and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove/ confirmed the truth of the word./ Thou hast appeared and given light to the world,// O Lord, glory be to Thee.

P. Blessing of loaves.

C. Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord (3x)

C. I will bless the Lord... (first 11 verses of Psalm 33)

P. The blessing of the Lord be upon you...

THE END OF GREAT COMPLINE

(Opens curtain, start Matins:)

Matins

R. Regular beginning.

P. Great Ectenia

P/C. God is the Lord... (Tone 1)

Troparion of the Feast: (Tone 1) 2x

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the River Jordan,/ worship of the Trinity was revealed,/ for the voice of the Father did come forth to testify/ and to name Thee His most beloved Son/ and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove/ confirmed the truth of the word./ Thou hast appeared and given light to the world,// O Lord, glory be to Thee.

G/B... Troparion of the Feast: (Tone 1)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the River Jordan,/ worship of the Trinity was revealed,/ for the voice of the Father did come forth to testify/ and to name Thee His most beloved Son/ and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove/ confirmed the truth of the word./ Thou hast appeared and given light to the world,// O Lord, glory be to Thee.

Lord Have Mercy 3x

Glory...

R. Both now...

R. Kathisma II

P. Small Ectenia

C. Sessional Hymn (Tone 3)

Thou hast appeared, O Saviour Christ, in the **Jordan**/ and wast **baptized** by the Forerunner,/ **and** testimony was borne to Thee that Thou art the **beloved** Son./ **So** wast Thou revealed as co-eternal with the **Father**,/ **and** the Holy Spirit descended **upon** Thee.// Enlightened by Thee, we cry: Glory to the God in **Trinity**.

G/B... (Tone 4)

Thou hast sanctified the streams of the **Jordan**/ and crushed the power of sin, O **Christ** our God./ Thou hast **bowed** Thine head beneath the hand of the Forerunner,/ and hast delivered **mankind** from error.// Therefore we pray Thee: **Save** Thy world.

R. Kathisma III

P. Small Ectenia

C. Sessional Hymn (Tone 5)

Thou hast wrapped Thyself in the streams of **Jordan**,/ O Thou Who dost gloriously clothe Thyself in light,/ and Thou hast renewed therein the nature of **Adam**,/ broken by evil disobedience, O **Word** of God.// Therefore we praise Thee and glorify Thy holy **Epiphany**.

G/B... (Tone 4)

O river Jordan, what hast thou **seen** to be amazed?/ 'I have seen Him naked Who cannot be seen, and I **trembled**,' said he./ 'How should **I** not tremble before Him and **turn** back?'/ The angels, beholding Him, were afraid: Heaven was filled with wonder and the **earth** shook,/ the sea and all things visible and **invisible** withdrew.// Christ has appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the **waters**

C. Polyeleos (*Royal doors open*)

C. Megalynarion

We magnify Thee,/ O Christ the Giver of life,/ Who for our sakes wast in the flesh this day baptized// by John in the waters of the Jordan.

V. God be merciful unto us, and bless us and cause His face to shine upon us and have mercy upon us (Psalm 66:2).

We magnify Thee,/ O Christ the Giver of life,/ Who for our sakes wast in the flesh this day baptized// by John in the waters of the Jordan.

V. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters: the God of glory thundered, the Lord is upon many waters (Psalms 28:3)

We magnify Thee,/ O Christ the Giver of life,/ Who for our sakes wast in the flesh this day baptized// by John in the waters of the Jordan.

G/B...

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God (3x; 3rd time by clergy or choir)

We magnify Thee,/ O Christ the Giver of life,/ Who for our sakes wast in the flesh this day baptized// by John in the waters of the Jordan.

P. Small Ectenia

C. (Tone 4)

O ye **faithful**, come and see where Christ was **baptized**,/ that we may further follow Him to the river **Jordan**,/ and so may draw **near** to the voice crying in the wilderness and behold there how the Creator of **Adam**/ suffers His head to be touched by the hand of a servant in His ineffable loving**kindness**./ And let us cry **aloud** to Him:// Thou art come and hast appeared in Jordan to sanctify the **waters**.

C. From my youth... (First antiphon of the Hymn of Degrees in Tone 4)

R. Prokimenon (Tone 4)

The sea beheld it and fled:/ Jordan was turned back.

V. What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? Thou Jordan that thou wast driven back? (Psalm 113:5)

Let every breath praise the Lord...

P. Gospel: Mark (1:9-11)

R. Psalm 50

C. Glory... (Tone 2)

Today let all things greatly rejoice:// Christ hast appeared in Jordan.

Both now... (Tone 2)

Today let all things greatly rejoice:// Christ hast appeared in Jordan.

Have mercy on me... *followed by the following:* (Tone 6)

God the Word appeared to mankind in the flesh./ Ready for baptism, He stood in the **Jordan**/ and the Forerunner **said** to Him:/ 'How shall I stretch **forth** my hand/ and touch the head of Him that **rules** all things?'/ Though Thou art the child of **Mary**,/ yet do I know Thee to be the pre-**eternal** God./ Thou Whose praises the seraphim sing dost walk **upon** the earth./ And I who

am but a servant know not how to baptize the **Master**// O Lord
past all understanding, **glory** to Thee.

P. Save, O God...
Anointing/Sermon

Canticle One (Tone 2)

(Irmos) The Lord mighty in battle/ uncovered the foundations of
the deep/ and led His servants on dry ground:/ but He
covered their adversaries with the waters,// for He
hath been glorified. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

The Lord, King of the ages, in the streams of the Jordan
formed Adam anew, who was fallen into corruption, and He broke
in pieces the heads of the dragons that were hidden there: for
He hath been glorified.

The Lord, incarnate of the Virgin, having clothed material
flesh with the immaterial fire of His divinity, wraps Himself in
the waters of Jordan, for He hath been glorified.

The Lord Who purges away the filth of men was cleansed in
Jordan for their sake, having of His own will made Himself like
unto them, while still remaining that which He was; and He
enlightens those in darkness, for He hath been glorified.

(Irmos) Israel passed though the storm-tossed deep of the sea,/
that God had turned into dry land:/ But the dark waters
completely covered/ the chief captains of Egypt in a
watery grave// through the mighty strength of the right
hand of the Master. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

When the Light of the Dawn shone forth upon mortal men,
coming from the desert to the streams of the Jordan, Thou, the
King of the Sun, hast bowed Thy head before him: That so Thou
mightest snatch our forefather from the land of darkness, and
cleanse the creation from all its filth.

G/B... O Word without beginning, Thou hast buried man with Thee in the stream: He was corrupted by error, but Thou makest him new again. And the Father testified to Thee ineffably, saying with mighty voice: 'This is My beloved Child, equal to Me by nature.'

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

Canticle Three (Tone 2)

(Irmos) The Lord, Who givest strength to our kings/ and exalts the horn of His anointed,/ is born of a Virgin and comes to baptism./ Therefore let us, the faithful, cry aloud:// None is holy as our God and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Rejoice today, O Church of Christ, that before wast barren and sadly childless. For through water and the Spirit sons have been born to thee, who raise their cry in faith: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord.

With a loud voice the Forerunner cries in the wilderness: 'Prepare ye the way of Christ and make straight the paths for our God, raising your cry in faith: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord.'

(Irmos) From the ancient snares have we all been **set** loose,/ and the jaws of the devouring lions have been **broken**:// Let **us**, then, rejoice exceedingly and open **wide** our mouths,/ weaving with words a melody **to** the Word// Whose delight it is to bestow gifts **upon** us. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

He who once assumed the appearance of a malignant serpent And implanted death in the creation, is now cast into darkness by Christ's coming in the flesh: And by assailing the Master, the Dawn that has shone forth upon us, he crushes his own hateful and loathsome head.

G/B... The Master draws to Himself the nature made by God, which had been overcome by the tyranny of greed. A new birth He grants to the dwellers upon earth, fashioning them afresh, thereby accomplishing a glorious work: For He hath come to deliver and protect mankind.

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

P. Small Ectenia

C. Ypakoe (Tone 5)

When **Thou** broughtest light to all things by Thine **Epiphany**/ the salt sea of unbelief fled and Jordan was turned back **towards** its source,/ **thereby** exalting us to **heaven**./ By the **height** of Thy divine **commandments**,/ preserve us through the intercessions of the Theotokos,// O Christ our God, and have **mercy** upon us.

Canticle Four (Tone 2)

(Irmos) He whom Thou hast called, O Lord,/ 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness,'/ heard Thy voice when Thou hast thundered upon many waters,/ bearing witness to Thy Son./ Wholly filled with the Spirit that had come he cried aloud:// 'Thou art Christ, the wisdom and the power of God.' (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

'Who has ever seen the sun that is bright by nature being cleansed?' the Preacher cried. 'How, then, shall I wash Thee in the waters, Who art the Brightness of the Glory, the Image of the everlasting Father? How shall I that am grass touch with my hand the fire of Thy divinity? For Thou art Christ the wisdom and the power of God.'

'Moses, when he came upon Thee, displayed the holy reverence that he felt: perceiving that it was Thy voice that spoke from the bush, he forthwith turned away his gaze. How then shall I behold Thee openly, how shall I lay my hand upon Thee? For Thou art Christ, the Wisdom and the Power of God.'

'Endowed with an understanding soul and honoured with the power of reason, I yet respect the things that have no soul.'

For if I baptize Thee, I shall have as my accusers the mountain that smoked with fire, the sea which fled on either side, and this same Jordan which turned back. For Thou art Christ, the Wisdom and the Power of God.'

(Irmos) Cleansed by the fire of a mystic vision/ the Prophet sang the praises of the renewal of mortal man./ Filled with the inspiration of the Spirit, he raised his voice,/ telling of the Incarnation of the ineffable,// Who hath shattered the dominion of the strong. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

O Word all-shining, sent forth from the Father, Thou art come to dispel utterly the dark and evil night and the sins of mortal men, and by Thy baptism to draw up with Thee, O blessed Lord, bright sons from the streams of Jordan.

Glory... When he saw in very truth the glorious Word, the Preacher cried out plainly to the creation: 'This is He Who was before me, though He comes after me according to the flesh. Like us in form, He hath shown forth in the strength of the Godhead, to drive away our hateful sin.'

Both... That He may lead us back to the life-giving pastures of Paradise, God the Word goes searching for us in the lairs of the dragons. Destroying the terrible snares which the enemy had laid for man, He maketh a prisoner of him who bruised all mankind in the heel, and so He saveth the creation.

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

Canticle Five (Tone 2)

(Irmos) Jesus, the Prince of Life,/ has come to set loose from condemnation Adam the first-formed man;/ and though as God He needs no cleansing,/ yet for the sake of fallen man He is cleansed in the Jordan./ In its streams He slew the enmity// and grants the peace that passes all understanding. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

A multitude without number came to be baptized by John; and standing in their midst he raised his voice, saying: 'Ye disobedient, who has warned you to shun the wrath to come? Offer worthy fruits to Christ, for He is present now and grants peace.'

The Husbandman and Creator stands in men's midst as one of them and searches their hearts. In His hand He has taken the winnowing fan, and in the fullness of His wisdom He cleanses the threshing floor of the whole world, dividing wheat from chaff, burning the barren and granting eternal life to those that bring forth good fruit.

(Irmos) By the cleansing of the Spirit have we been washed/
from the poison of the dark and unclean enemy,/ and we
have set out upon a new path free from error,/ that
leads to gladness of heart past all attainment,// which
only they attain whom God hath reconciled unto Himself.
(2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

The Maker saw in the obscurity of sin, in bonds that knew no escape, the man whom He had formed with His own hand. Raising him up, He laid him on His shoulders, and now in abundant floods He washeth him clean from the ancient shame of Adam's sinfulness.

G/B... In piety and eagerness let us run to the undefiled fountains of the stream of salvation, and let us look upon the Word Who giveth us to drink from pure waters that satisfy our holy thirst: And gently He healeth the disease of the world.

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

Canticle Six (Tone 2)

(Irmos) The Voice of the Word, the Candlestick of the Light,/ the Morning Star and Forerunner of the Sun,/ cried in the wilderness to all the peoples:/ 'Repent and be cleansed while there is yet time./ For lo, Christ is at

hand,// Who delivereth the world from corruption.'
(2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Christ wast begotten without change from God the Father, and made flesh without defilement from the Virgin: and as the Forerunner teaches, it is not possible to loose the latchet of His shoes, the bond that joins the Word to our nature. He it is Who delivereth those born on earth from error.

Christ baptizeth in the fire of the Last Day those who are disobedient and believe not that He is God: but through the Spirit and by the grace that comes through water He granteth a new birth to all who acknowledge His divinity, delivering them from their faults.

(Irmos) The Father in a voice full of joy/ made manifest His Beloved Whom He had begotten from the womb./ 'Verily,' said He, 'this is My Offspring, of the same nature as Myself:/ Bearing light, He hath come forth from mankind,// My living Word, in divine providence made a mortal man.' (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

The Prophet, mysteriously swallowed up for the space of three nights in the belly of the sea monster, came forth again, making manifest beforehand to all our regeneration at the last times and our deliverance from the dragon that slays mankind.

G/B... When the shining vaults of heaven were opened, he who knew the mysteries saw the Spirit, Who proceeds from the Father and rests on the immaculate Word, descending in ways past speech in the form of a dove: And he commanded the multitudes to hasten to the Master.

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion of the Feast: (Tone 4)

Thou hast appeared to the universe,/ and Thy light, O Lord,
hast shone on us,/ who with understanding praise Thee:/ Thou
hast come and revealed Thyself,// O Light Unapproachable!

R. Ikos

Upon Galilee of the nations, upon the land of Zebulun and
the land of Naphtali, as the prophet said, a great Light hath
shone, even Christ. A radiant Beam hath dawned upon those who
sat in darkness, shining forth from Bethlehem. The Lord born of
Mary, the Sun of righteousness, shineth forth with splendor upon
the whole world. Come, therefore, all ye naked children of Adam,
and let us clothe ourselves in Him, that we may be warmed; for
He Who covereth the naked and enlighteneth those in darkness,
hath come. He hath appeared, the Light unapproachable!

Canticle Seven (Tone 2)

(Irmos) The breath of the wind heavy with dew/ and the descent
of the angel of God/ preserved the Holy Children from
all harm,/ as they walked in the fiery furnace./
Refreshed with dew in the flames, they sang in
thanksgiving:// 'Blessed art Thou and praised above
all, O Lord God of our fathers.' (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

In trembling and wonder as if in heaven, the angelic powers
stood by the Jordan, watching the great condescension of God:
how He Who holds dominion over the waters that are above the
firmament stood in the waters in bodily form, He Who is the God
of our fathers.

The sea and cloud in which the people of Israel were once
baptized by Moses the Lawgiver, as they journeyed from Egypt,
prefigured the wonder of the baptism of God. The sea was an
image of the water and the cloud an image of the Spirit, whereby
we are initiated and cry aloud: Blessed art Thou, O God of our
fathers.

O let us all, the faithful, discoursing on divine things,
join the angels in never-silent hymns to glorify the God in Whom
we have received initiation, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the

Trinity, consubstantial in Persons yet one God, to Whom we sing:
Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers.

(Irmos) He Who stilled the heat of the flame of the furnace/
that mounted high in the air and encircled the godly
Children,/ burnt the heads of the dragons in the stream
of the Jordan:/ And with the dew of the Spirit// He
washeth away all the stubborn obscurity of sin. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Of old the Jordan was parted in two, and the people of
Israel passed over on a narrow piece of dry land, prefiguring
Thee, O Lord most powerful, Who now makest haste to bear the
creation down into the stream, bringing it to a better and a
changeless path.

G/B... We know that in the beginning Thou hast brought
upon the world the all-ruining flood, unto the lamentable
destruction of all things, O God Who revealest wonders most
great and strange: And now, O Christ, Thou hast drowned sin in
the waters unto the comfort and salvation of mortal men.

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

Canticle Eight (Tone 2)

(Irmos) The Babylonian furnace,/ as it poured forth dew,
foreshadowed a marvelous mystery;/ how the Jordan
should receive in its streams the immaterial fire,/ and
should encompass the Creator,/ when He wast baptized in
the flesh.// Him do ye peoples bless and exalt above
all for ever. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

The Deliverer said to the Forerunner: Cast aside all fear
and, obedient to My command, draw near Me, for by nature I am
good and full of love. Yield to My ordinance and baptize Me, Who
have come down in condescension, Whom the peoples bless and
exalt above all for ever.

When the Baptist heard the Master's words, he stretched out his hand in trembling; and as he touched the head of his Creator, he cried aloud to Him Who wast baptized: 'Sanctify me, for Thou art my God, Whom the peoples bless and exalt above all forever.'

The Trinity wast made manifest in the Jordan. For, supreme in Godhead, the Father proclaimed, saying, 'He Who is here baptized is My beloved Son,' and the Spirit rested upon His Equal in Godhead, Whom the peoples bless and exalt above all forever.

(Irmos) The creation finds itself set free,/ and those in darkness are now made sons of light:/ Alone the prince of darkness groans./ Let all the inheritance of the nations, that was before in misery,// now bless with eagerness Him Who hath wrought this change. (2x)

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

The three godly Children who were sprinkled with dew in the fire plainly prefigured how the Most High God, Who shineth with the bright rays of a threefold holiness, should mingle with mortal men, to their great blessing, consuming all deadly error in the fire of dew.

Let us bless Father, Son and Holy Spirit, both...

Let the whole earthly creation clothe itself in white, for this day it is raised up from its fall from heaven. The Word Who preserveth all things hath cleansed it in the flowing waters: Washed and resplendent, it has escaped from its former sins.

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

C. Katavasia: Sing both irmosi

No Magnificat

(Priest closes royal doors when he returns to the altar after the anointing. He comes out to do canticle nine if necessary)

(The following verse, 'Magnify, O my soul...' is done by deacon or priest, censing in front of the icon of the feast)

Canticle Nine (Tone 2)

C. Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honourable than the heavenly hosts!.

(Irmos) No tongue is capable of praising thee worthily;/ the angelic mind is overawed in exalting thee, O Theotokos!/
But accept our faith,/ since thou art gracious and knowest our divine love./ Thou art the protectress of Christians,// and we praise thee! (2x)

Magnify, O my soul, Him Who is come to be baptized in Jordan.

O David, come in spirit to those who are now to be enlightened and sing: 'Approach ye now to God in faith and receive enlightenment. Fallen Adam, the poor man, cried and the Lord heard him: He hath come and in the streams of Jordan He hath made him new again, who was sunk in corruption.'

Magnify, O my soul, Him Who receives baptism from the Forerunner.

O David, come in spirit to those who are now to be enlightened and sing: 'Approach ye now to God in faith and receive enlightenment. Fallen Adam, the poor man, cried and the Lord heard him: He hath come and in the streams of Jordan He hath made him new again, who was sunk in corruption.'

Magnify, O my soul, Him to Whom the voice of the Father bore witness.

'Wash you, make you clean,' says Isaiah. 'Put away the evil of your doings from before the Lord. Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the living waters:' for Christ will sprinkle with the water of renewal those who hasten to Him in faith, and He baptizeth them with the Spirit unto life that grows not old.

Magnify, O my soul, one of the Trinity Who bowed His head and received baptism.

'Wash you, make you clean,' says Isaiah. 'Put away the evil of your doings from before the Lord. Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the living waters:' for Christ will sprinkle with the water of renewal those who hasten to Him in faith, and He baptizeth them with the Spirit unto life that grows not old.

Today the Master bows His head beneath the hand of the Forerunner.

(Irmos) O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother,/ the wonders of thy birthgiving pass all understanding./ Through thee we have obtained salvation in all things,/ and, as is right and meet, we rejoice before thee our Benefactor,// bearing as gift a song of thanksgiving.
(2x)

O Prophet, come to Me: stretch out thine hand and baptize Me swiftly.

Let us, the faithful, keep ourselves safe through grace and through the seal of baptism. In the past the Hebrews fled destruction by marking the door posts with blood; so also this divine washing unto regeneration shall be our Exodus, and going hence, we shall behold the light of the Trinity that never sets.

'O Prophet, suffer it to be so now, and baptize Me as I wish: for I have come to fulfill all righteousness.'

Let us, the faithful, keep ourselves safe through grace and through the seal of baptism. In the past the Hebrews fled destruction by marking the door posts with blood; so also this divine washing unto regeneration shall be our Exodus, and going hence, we shall behold the light of the Trinity that never sets.

Today John baptizes the Master in the steams of Jordan.

O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother, the wonders of thy birthgiving pass all understanding. Through thee we have obtained salvation in all things, and, as is right and meet, we

rejoice before thee our Benefactor, bearing as gift a song of thanksgiving.

Today the Master buries in the waters the sin of mortal man. Today the Master receives testimony from on high, that He is the beloved Son.

That which was revealed to Moses in the bush we see accomplished here in strange manner. The Virgin bore Fire within her, yet was not consumed, when she gaveth birth to the Benefactor Who bringeth us light, and the streams of Jordan suffered no harm when they received Him.

Today the Master hath come to sanctify the nature of the waters. Today the Master receives baptism at the hand of the Forerunner.

That which was revealed to Moses in the bush we see accomplished here in strange manner. The Virgin bore Fire within her, yet was not consumed, when she gaveth birth to the Benefactor Who bringeth us light, and the streams of Jordan suffered no harm when they received Him.

Magnify, O my soul the power of the undivided Godhead in three Persons.

O King without beginning, through the communion of the Spirit Thou dost anoint and maketh perfect the nature of mankind. Thou hast cleansed it in the undefiled streams, putting to shame the arrogant force of darkness, and now Thou dost translate it unto endless life.

Magnify, O my soul, her that hath delivered us from the curse.

O King without beginning, through the communion of the Spirit Thou dost anoint and maketh perfect the nature of mankind. Thou hast cleansed it in the undefiled streams, putting to shame the arrogant force of darkness, and now Thou dost translate it unto endless life.

C. Katavasia (Tone 2)

No tongue is capable of praising thee worthily;/ the angelic mind is overawed in exalting thee, O Theotokos!/ But accept our faith,/ since thou art gracious and knowest our divine love./ Thou art the protectress of Christians,// and we praise thee!

C. Katavasia (Tone 2) (a second one)

O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother,/ the wonders of thy birthgiving pass all understanding./ Through thee we have obtained salvation in all things,/ and, as is right and meet, we rejoice before thee our Benefactor,// bearing as gift a song of thanksgiving.

P. Small Ectenia

P/C Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion

The Saviour, Who is grace and truth, hath appeared in the streams of the Jordan, and enlightened those that sleep in darkness and shadow. For the Light that no man can approach hath come and is made manifest. (3x)

C. Lauds: Tone 1 Stichera

Let every bre-ath **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. **Light** from **light**,/ Christ our God has shone **upon** the world,/ **God** made **manifest**::// O ye peoples, let us **worship** Him.

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

2. O **Christ** our **Master**,/ how shall we Thy servants give Thee worthy **honour**?// For Thou hast renewed us all in the **waters**.

V. Praise Him for His mighty acts,/ praise Him according to the multitude of His **greatness**.

3. **Thou**, O our **Saviour**,/ wast baptized in Jordan and hast sanctified the **waters**,/ **accepting** a servant's hand **upon** Thine

head./ Thou healest the **passions** of the world./ **Great** is the mystery of thy dispensation:// O Lord Who lovest mankind, **glory** to Thee.

V. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,/ praise Him with **psaltery** and harp.

4. The true **light** has appeared and bestows **enlightenment** on all./ Christ Who is above all purity is **baptized** with us./ He **brings** sanctification to the water and it becomes a **cleansing** for our souls./ That which is outward and visible is **earthly**,/ that which is inwardly understood is higher than **heaven**./ Salvation comes through washing, and through water the **Spirit**:/ by **descending** into the water we **ascend** to God.// Wonderful are Thy works, O Lord: **glory** to Thee.

V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise Him with strings and flute. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let every breath **praise** the Lord.

5/6 **He** Who covers heaven with clouds is Himself covered today by the streams of **Jordan**;/ and He Who takes away the sin of the **world** is cleansed,/ that **I** may be **made** clean./ The Only-begotten Son of the Most High **Father**/ receives from **above** the testimony of the consubstantial **Spirit**./ Unto Him let us **cry** aloud:// O Christ our God Who hast made Thyself manifest and saved us, **glory** to Thee.

Glory... (Tone 6)

O Saviour, who clothest Thyself with light as with a **garment**,/ Thou hast clothed Thyself in the waters of **Jordan**;/ and Thou Who hast measured heaven **with** a span,/ hast bowed Thine head before the Forerunner,// that so Thou mightest turn the world back from error and **save** our souls.

Both now and ever... (Tone 2) (*Royal doors open as usual*)

Today Christ has come to be baptized in **Jordan**,/ today John touches the head of the **Master**./ The **powers** of heaven are amazed as they behold the marvelous **mystery**./ The sea **saw** it and fled:/ Jordan at the sight was **driven** back./ And we who have been enlightened **cry** aloud:// Glory to God made manifest, Who has appeared upon earth and brought **light** to the world.

C. Great Doxology

C. Troparion of the Feast: (Tone 1)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the River Jordan,/ worship of the Trinity was revealed,/ for the voice of the Father did come forth to testify/ and to name Thee His most beloved Son/ and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove/ confirmed the truth of the word./ Thou hast appeared and given light to the world,// O Lord, glory be to Thee.

P. Litanies

P. Dismissal: May Christ our true God, Who of His own will wast baptized by John in the Jordan for the sake of our salvation...

R. First Hour

Tropar: Feast

Kontak: Feast

NOTE: In some parishes, the blessing of the waters immediately takes place after the troparion at the end of the Doxology. In other parishes this blessing follows the Liturgy.

NOTE: The antiphons are done during the Liturgy as in the Festal Menaion