

*7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
*The Commemoration of the Deposition of the Precious Robe*  
*Of Our All-Holy Lady, the Theotokos, in the Church of Blachernae*

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 endur**ing** 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**.

Stichera for the Disposition of the Robe (Tone 4)

7. **In** that Thou art compassionate, O Thou Who **lovest** mankind,/ Thou hast given Thy Mother unto Thy servants **as** an aid,/ and through **her** Thou hast wrought Thine ineffable and awesome dispensation/ and hast restored our pristine and **divine** estate./ Wherefore, honouring her most-honoured **festival**// we hymn Thy might, O almighty Jesus, Saviour **of** our souls.
8. O all-hymned one, with thy **precious** robe/ dost thou ever protect the city which doth honour and glorify thee, **as** is meet,/ from **godless** barbarians, famine and earthquake and **civil** strife,/ O pure virgin who knewest not **wedlock**./ Wherefore, it glorifieth thee,// O all-holy **Bride** of God.
9. O **Mistress**, full of **divine** grace,/ thy precious robe hast thou given to thy city as a treasure which cannot be **taken** away,/ protection and

glory, an impregnable rampart, a treasure of **healings**,/ an ever-flowing fount of **miracles**/ and an ever-saving haven for the **tempest-tossed**./ Wherefore, we hymn thee, O all-hymned and **pure** one.

10. Ye **people**, draw forth healing of soul and **body**,/ for before all lieth the shrine wherein the precious robe of the Ever-virgin **hath** been placed,/ which **poureth** forth upon us streams of **wonders**,/ washeth away the darkness of our hearts and the defilement of the **passions**,/ and sanctifieth the souls of the **faithful**// with **grace** divine.

Glory... (Tone 2)

Having cleansed **mind** and thought,/ let us celebrate with the **angels**,/ **radiantly** beginning the hymn of **David**/ to the Maiden Bride of Christ our God, the King of all, **saying**:/ "Arise, O Lord, **into** Thy rest,/ Thou and the ark of Thy **holiness**!"/ For, having adorned her like unto a comely **palace**./ Thou didst appoint her to Thy city, O **Master**,/ to establish it and protect it by Thy mighty **power**// from barbarians adversaries, through her **supplications**.

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

C. Litya Prayers

*The first sticheron is that of the temple, then the following:*

Stichera for the Deposition of the Robe (Tone 1)

Thou alone didst become the animate palace of God,/ and thy precious robe, preserved in thine holy abode,/ hast thou given to the faithful as sanctification/ and an unassailable rampart./ By it is thy city saved,/ O Mother of God,// hymning thy divine might.

Thy precious robe which covered thine honoured and holy body,/ O pure one, hast thou given to all as a vesture of glory/ and a wellspring pouring forth the gracious waters of immortality./ And we celebrate its deposition, honouring thee, O Theotokos,// who art the most honoured of all God's creations.

G/B... Thy temple, O Mistress,/ which holdeth thy sacred robe as a treasure of sanctity,/ doth ever sanctify all who have recourse to it with

faith,/ and that therein, as is meet, do ever bless thee,// the hope, steadfast protection and might of our souls.

P. *Litya prayers in back of Church*

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**.

G/B... (Tone 2)

The Church of God, covered by thy **precious** robe/ as with a most splendid crown, O all-pure Theotokos,/ doth **today** adorn itself, **rejoicing**,/ and doth mystically hold chorus, crying out to thee, O **Mistress**:/ Rejoice, precious diadem and crown of divine **glory**!/ Rejoice, thou sole perfection of glory and eternal **gladness**!/ Rejoice, haven and deliverance of those who have recourse **unto** thee,// and our **salvation**!

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.

G/B... Troparion of the Deposition of the Robe (Tone 8)

O Ever-virgin Theotokos, protection of mankind:/ thou hast given to  
 thy city a mighty legacy, the robe and cincture of thy most honoured body,/  
 which have remained incorrupt through thy seedless birthgiving./ For in  
 thee are nature and time renewed.// Wherefore, we beseech thee to grant  
 peace to thy city and great mercy to our souls.

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.

R. Psalm 118

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 #7
- 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.

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Thy precious robe hast thou given unto the people who ever honour thee, O Virgin Theotokos, as a sacred bulwark which ever overcometh every evil circumstance of the adversary by the power of the Spirit.

Thou didst hallow thy sacred robe by the touch of thy body and the touch of Him Who for our sake revealed Himself on earth in the flesh through thy pure blood. For its sake dost thou sanctify all thy servants who hymn thee, O Virgin.

A precious treasure hast thou bestowed upon all who faithfully honour thee, O good Virgin: thy truly honourable robe which doth enrich all with the gifts of the divine Spirit and the working of many miracles.

O ewe-lamb without blemish, who gavest birth unto the Lamb of God in manner transcending nature: thou hast given us thy precious robe, which truly doth ever wash away the spots and wrinkles from those who bow down before thee, O all-immaculate.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The temple of the all-pure one, a radiant and inextinguishable lamp, having acquired her precious robe as a luminous heaven, doth today sanctify the whole world with rays of grace.

Glory... Thy city, having acquired thy divine robe, hath invincible might and strength and a bond of confirmation. Wherefore, it boasteth in thee, O all-pure one.

Both... Truly thy most precious shrine hath appeared on earth as the ark of old, O Theotokos, bearing its signs, but keeping the faithful in true knowledge of God.

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.

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Let us hymn the Mother of God, the beautiful adornment and portal of heaven, as well as her robe, which poureth forth divine gifts, which we lovingly venerate.

O pure one, with the garment of incorruption hast thou clothed, by thine incorrupt birthgiving, all who have been stripped naked by corruption. And to them thou hast given thy precious robe as a treasure which cannot be taken away.

Him Who clad all of Heaven in clouds didst thou wrap in thy robe, O all-pure one. And faithfully bowing down before it, we glorify thee, O protection of our souls.

This divine temple is for the afflicted a treatment which costeth nought, as a wellspring which unceasingly poureth forth healings, O all-immaculate one.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Ye faithful, let us honour today, as a bond of our union with God, the robe of the pure one, venerating it with faith.

Glory... Through grace doth the most precious robe of the pure one today pour forth healings upon us, the faithful.

Both... Like the morning dew doth thine ever-flowing joy ever quench the furnace of the passions of those who hymn thee.

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 (Tone 4)

O pure one, full of divine grace,/ thou hast given all the faithful a garment of incorruption, thy sacred robe,/ wherewith thou didst cover thy sacred body,/ O protection of all mankind./ With love do we celebrate its deposition,/ and cry out to thee with fear, O pure one:// Rejoice, O Virgin, thou boast of Christians!

R. Ikos

With faith let all of us who have been saved by her birthgiving bless Mary, the Theotokos, the pure vesture and tabernacle of the Word of God, the animate cloud and jar of manna; and let us touch the precious robe, wherewith holding the Master, she bore as a babe Him Who hath robed Himself in our flesh. Through Him was human nature caught up to the life and kingdom that are above all. Wherefore, we cry aloud with joy: Rejoice, O Virgin, thou boast of Christians!

R. Sessional Hymn (Tone 4)

Rivers of miracles, proceeding from thy most precious shrine as from Eden, water the face of the earth, pouring forth grace upon them who faithfully honour thee, O Theotokos. Wherefore, we hymn and faithfully praise thee, and ever thankfully cry out: Rejoice, O thou who art the only hope of them who hymn thee!

G/B... *Repeat Sessional Hymn*

#### 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.

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Let us exalt her who alone is blessed, and let us touch her robe in faith, that we may draw forth the grace of the Spirit.

The city that honoureth thee, O Maiden, having acquired thy robe as a priceless treasure, doth venerate it in faith and receiveth grace.

O all-immaculate one, we honour thy robe, for it is a vesture of glory that poureth forth incorruption upon all who praise thee in hymns.

O all-immaculate one, who alone art blessed, who hast been shown to be more holy than the cherubim: from every evil circumstance save thou the souls of them who honour thee in faith.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Having established thee as a most honoured firmament, O Theotokos, the Creator and Fashioner hath adorned thee with shining rays as with stars, whereby thou dost adorn the ends of the earth.

Glory... From earth to heaven doth thy divine robe draw us who have been fervently enkindled with love therefore, O pure Theotokos. Wherefore, we glorify thee as the cause of Him Who is greater than all.

Both... Behold, inexhaustible grace! Come, all ye who love the feasts of the Church, and with contrite heart draw ye forth the divine streams which pour forth abundantly from the precious shrine of the all-hymned one!

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.

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

To us, thy servants, O pure Mistress, hast thou given thy robe and thy precious cincture as a divine foundation and a wall of defense.

O all-pure one, thou hast shown forth the temple which doth enshrine thy robe to be a beauteous paradise which emitteth the fragrance of the Spirit.

O all-holy one, sanctify the souls and bodies of us who with faith honour thy holy robe as most precious.

O Theotokos, show thou forth as temples of the God Who dwelt within thee us who bless thee with faith in thy divine temple.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Thou hast magnified Thy Mother, O Lord; beyond compare hast Thou exalted her glory above all the noetic powers.

Glory... O all-pure Theotokos, thou art she who abundantly poureth forth the grace of God from thy holy shrine upon them who bow down before thee with love.

Both... With thy power are faithful kings girded about. And thy city, having thee as a bond between it and heaven, is honoured by thy robe.

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.

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O thou who gavest birth unto the King and Lord of all, thou hast shown forth thy precious and holy robe as an indestructible rampart for the city which ruleth over all.

Rejoicing, let us glorify the grace of the Virgin, and let us honour her most holy robe, from whence proceedeth all health for the afflicted.

We know thee to be a wellspring pouring forth living waters, and we honour thy divine robe, from whence we, the faithful, do ever draw forth healing.

O Theotokos, the Lord Who was with thee, took upon Himself human nature; and all the evils of him who is alien to our race hath He driven away.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Lord hath wholly glorified thee in manner surpassing nature, adorning thee withal, O Maiden Theotokos; and with thy cincture, robe and their divine shrine hath He honoured thee completely.

Glory... The faithful, having acquired thee as their strength and boast, are robed in glory through thy precious robe, O Theotokos, having obtained thee as an honoured and most splendid adornment.

Both... Of old all the prophets divinely strove to behold thine ineffable glory, O Theotokos; and in times past He Who transcendeth time revealed Himself to us through 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.

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 ends of the earth enlightened by the beams of thy brightness call thee blessed as thou hast foretold, O pure Mother, and filled with grace they sing aloud crying: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

With an exalted mind and a contrite heart let us glorify the most exalted throne of the King, the all-holy and highly favored Maiden.

O chosen abode of God, thy robe which lieth in this thine honoured abode do we honour as the holy ark and protection of the pious.

Every man is renewed who approacheth and kisseth the holy shrine containing thy splendid robe, O pure Virgin.

O pure Theotokos, save thou the city that honoureth thee from all famine, earthquake, affliction, foreign invasion and the malice of the adversary.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O Good One, Thou alone, as the Sun of righteousness, hast divinely adorned with Thy diverse gifts the temple of the pure one, wherein she emitteth brilliant rays from her robe.

Thy divine vessels truly pour forth the grace of miracles upon the faithful, O all-pure one, and from thy shrine noetic streams flow forth abundantly, as from another Eden, upon them who honour thee.

Glory... O all-immaculate Virgin, who dost clad thy precious body in a protecting mantle, thy shrine is cleansed of all spiritual defilement.

Both... "Now draw ye all nigh with gladness! Come, ye who are on earth," the shrine crieth mystically, "that ye may embrace the Lady's most glorious robe which is laid up as a treasure within me!"

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O Most Pure, thy Son, having made thee shine by the brightness of the spirit, set thee at His right hand, clothed as a Queen in garments of gold, and we exalt Him above all forever.

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.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

With thankful voices we hymn thee, the mediator of all that is good for us; and, kissing thy precious robe, O Maiden, we cry out: Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Having the sacred garment of the all-pure Virgin set as a noetic candle upon the candlestick of the altar, we ever illumine the eyes of our hearts.

In no wise hast thou left thine unworthy servants bereft of thy sacred touch, O Virgin; for in place of thy living body thou hast given thy robe unto all.

With hymns divine let us honour the spacious dwelling-place of God: her who is most pure among mothers, the portal of heaven whereby the gate that leadeth to death hath been shut.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The angels now join chorus in thine honoured temple, O all-pure one, and surround thy precious and holy robe with joy and love, O pure Mistress. And we bow down with great gladness, hymning thee, the glory of our race.

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

O most pure one, thou art the most honoured joy of all, the staff which budded forth the Flower of Life, the phial of the myrrh of the Spirit, the treasury of good things, the wellspring of fragrance, whence thy divine shrine doth pour forth the myrrh of healing.

Both... The spiritual armies hymn thy mighty works, O pure and all-pure one; and all the patriarchs, prophets and apostles, and the choir of martyrs and the venerable openly proclaim the fullness thereof. And with them we also bow down before thee.

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

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Off**spring 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.

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.

Strengthened by thy power and grace, I have earnestly set forth hymnody for thee with all my heart. Accept it, O pure Virgin, bestowing on me thy greatly radiant grace out of thine incorrupt treasures, O blessed of God.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Lo! with hymns of joy we honour thee, the bed of Solomon; and surrounding thy precious robe as it were a second ark of holiness, we received salvific healings, O Ever-Virgin.

Now, O Virgin, thy divine shrine, which containeth thy precious robe, is revealed as a source of light emitting rays of healing, dispelling the darkness of infirmities; and with love do we venerate it.

Today all the powers of heaven rejoice with us at the veneration of thy robe, as do all the apostles, prophets, martyrs, the righteous and the venerable, O Mistress who alone art ever virgin.

Thou hast bestowed thy robe as a radiant garment and a wall of defense upon the city that reigneth over all cities and honoureth thee as Queen of all creation, O Theotokos, Mother and Virgin.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O Theotokos, thy shrine hath been shown to be a most honoured chamber, for it containeth thy precious robe, thy virginal and bridal garment, and preserveth it as a treasury of life.

Having come today to the temple which portrayeth all the celestial adornment of the Virgin, O ye faithful, illumined with rays of wonders as by the stars, we are enlightened with splendor and grace.

Glory... O Theotokos, thy city hath thy cincture and thy precious robe as a rampart, the bond of unity of divine teachings, the boast of the Orthodox and the victorious hymnody of kings.

Both... We hymn thine ineffable glory and thy boundless grace; for thou art the source of wisdom from whence the Word doth come unto all who honour thee and magnify thy birthgiving, O all-pure one.

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 (John 20:1-10)

Mary having said that they had taken the Lord away, Simon Peter and the other friend of Christ whom He loved, ran to the tomb and they both found the grave clothes lying alone therein and the napkin that had been about his head not with them but apart. They therefore kept silence again until they saw Christ.

Glory... Exapostilarion of the Deposition of the Robe

O ye mortals, come ye, let us with hymns honour today the robe of the divine Maiden, Mary the Theotokos, which sheltered Christ, that we may ever be blessed by the grace thereof.

Both... Another Exapostilarion of the Deposition of the Robe

Thou hast renewed nature and time, O Mother of God; for thy birthgiving was incorrupt, and incorrupt is thy robe, wherewith thou dost protect thy city and dost uphold the scepters of piety.

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 **forefather** with Thyself://  
therefore, mankind glorifies Thee and praises Thy **Resurrection**.

V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,/ praise Him with strings and  
flute.

Stichera for the Deposition of the Robe (Tone 4)

5. Every **day** the shrine which containeth thy robe is **acknowledged**/ as an  
ark of sanctification, a sacred **wall** of defense,/ the **boast** and glory

of thy servants, O all-**pure** one./ And having gathered together thereat in sacred **manner**,/ we hymn thy many **mighty** works// and the abyss of thy **wonders**.

V. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let every breath praise the Lord.

6. Behold, a most **glorious** place!/ Behold, an ever-splendid abode wherein a treasure hath been **laid** up by grace:/ the **precious** robe of the divine **Maiden**./ Draw nigh, ye people, and openly draw forth healing and enlightenment **therefrom**,/ and with thankful heart **cry** out:// O all-holy Virgin, we who are saved by thy birthgiving do **bless** thee!

V. Arise, O Lord into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness.

7. In **gladness** have we attained the feast of the deposition of thy robe, O **Mistress**;/ for today hast thou vouchsafed that thy sacred vesture be given to thy **city**,/ **as** an inviolate **treasury**,/ a precious gift, a wealth that cannot be **taken** away,// a river of healing full of the gifts of the **Spirit**.

V. The rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance.

(Tone 2)

8. Having cleansed **mind** and thought,/ let us celebrate with the **angels**,/ **radiantly** beginning the hymn of David to the Maiden Bride of **Christ** our God,/ the King of all, **saying**:/ "Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest,/ Thou and the ark of Thy **holiness**!"/ For, having adorned her like unto a comely **palace**,/ Thou didst appoint her to Thy city, O **Master**,/ to establish it and protect it by Thy mighty **power**// from barbarian adversaries, through her supplications.

Glory... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 7)

Behold it is dark and very early in the **morning**./ And **what** art thou doing on the tomb, thy mind full of darkness, O **Mary**?/ **Why** dost thou ask where Jesus **has** been laid?/ **See** how the disciples running forward with the grave-clothes and the **napkin**/ have **positively** proved the Resurrection/ and have **remembered** that which had been written concerning this in the **Scriptures**./ And **we**, believing with them and through them sing Thy **praises**,// O Chri-ist, **Giver** of life.

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 & Deposition  
Kontak: Deposition/Resurrection alternating

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia as follows (Temple of a Saint)

Tropar Sunday  
Tropar Deposition  
Tropar Temple  
Kontak Sunday  
Glory... Kontak Temple  
Both... Kontak Deposition

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 Deposition (Tone 3)

My soul doth magnify the Lord...

Epistle(s): Rom 15:1-7 & Heb 9:1-7

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 Deposition (Tone 8)

Gospel(s): Matt 9:27-35 & Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Communion Hymn: Praise Ye & I will take the cup of salvation...