**Thursday Night Canon**

**Priest:** Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Reader:** Amen.

Amen.  Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

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

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. ***(Thrice)***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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. ***(Thrice)***

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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.

**Priest:** 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.

Lord, Have mercy. ***(Twelve times)***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the 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 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 Zion, 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.

**The Creed**

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 came 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 arose 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.

*Then follows the first section of the Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete. Before each troparion of the Canon, we make the sign of the Cross and bow three times, and we sing:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me. *The irmoi are sung twice.*

*The Chanters usually sing the Irmoi, Refrains, Kontakion, and final Katavasia of the Great Canon, while the priest intones the troparia.*

**Ode I**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* He is for me unto salvation Helper and Protector. He is my God and I glorify Him, God of my fathers is He and I exalt Him, for He is greatly glorified. *(Exodus 15:2, 1; Psalm 117:14)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of all, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion give me tears of compunction. *(John 1:29)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I fall down, Jesus, at Thy feet: I have sinned against Thee, be merciful to me. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion, O God, accept me in repentance.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Enter not into judgment with me, bringing before me the things I should have done, examining my words and correcting my impulses. But in Thy mercy overlook my sins and save me, O Lord almighty. *(Psalm 142:2)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

It is time for repentance: to Thee I come, my Creator. Take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion give me tears of compunction.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

As the Prodigal, O Saviour, I have wasted the substance of my soul in sin, and I am barren of the virtues of holiness. In my hunger I cry: O giver of mercy, come quickly out to meet me and take pity on me. *(Luke 15:11-20)*

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Bowing before the divine laws of Christ, thou hast drawn near to Him, forsaking the unbridled longings of sensual pleasure; and in the fear of God thou hast gained all the virtues as if they were one.

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

*Triadicon:* Trinity beyond all being, worshipped in Unity, take from me the heavy yoke of sin, and in Thy compassion grant me tears of compunction.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* O Theotokos, the hope and protection of those who sing thy praises, take from me the heavy yoke of sin and, pure Lady, accept me in repentance.

**Ode II**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* See now, see that I am God, Who rained down manna in the days of old, and made springs of water flow from the rock, for my people in the wilderness, by My right hand and by My power alone.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

‘I have slain a man to my grief and wounding,’ said Lamech, ‘and a young man to my hurt’; and he cried aloud lamenting. Dost thou not tremble then, my soul, for thou hast defiled thy flesh and polluted thy mind? *(Genesis 4:23)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Skillfully hast thou planned to build a tower, O my soul, and to establish a stronghold for thy lusts; but the Creator confounded thy designs and dashed thy devices to the ground. *(Genesis 11:3-8)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Ah, how I have emulated Lamech, the murderer of old, slaying my soul as if it were a man, and my mind as if it were a young man. With sensual longings I have killed my body, as Cain the murderer killed his brother. *(Genesis 4:23; 4:6-8)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Roused to anger by their transgressions, the Lord once rained down fire from Heaven and burnt up the men of Sodom. And thou, my soul, hast kindled the fire of Gehenna, and there to thy bitter sorrow thou shalt burn. *(Genesis 19:24; Matthew 5:22)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I am wounded and smitten: see the enemy’s arrows which have pierced my soul and body. See the wounds, the open sores and the injuries, that cry out to God against the blows inflicted by my freely chosen passions.

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Sunk in the abyss of wickedness, O Mary, thou hast lifted up thine hands to the merciful God. And, as to Peter, in His loving-kindness He stretched out His hand to thee in help, seeking in every way thy conversion. *(Matthew 14:31)*

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

*Triadicon:* O Trinity uncreated and without beginning, O undivided Unity: accept me in repentance and save me, a sinner. I am Thy creation, reject me not; but spare me and deliver me from the fire of condemnation.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* Most pure Lady, Mother of God, the hope of those who run to thee and the haven of the storm-tossed: pray to the merciful God, thy Creator and thy Son, that He may grant His mercy even to me.

**Ode III**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* O Lord, upon the rock of Thy commandments make firm my wavering heart, for Thou alone art Holy and Lord.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O my soul, thou hast become like Hagar the Egyptian: thy free choice has been enslaved, and thou hast borne as thy child a new Ishmael, stubborn willfulness. *(Genesis 16:3, 15)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Thou knowest, my soul, the ladder that was shown to Jacob, reaching up from earth to Heaven. Why hast thou not provided a firm foundation for it through thy godly actions? *(Genesis 28:12)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Follow the example of Melchizedek, the priest of God, the king set apart, who was an image of the life of Christ among men in the world. *(Genesis 14:18; Hebrews 7:1-3)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Turn back, wretched soul, and lament, before the fair-ground of life comes to an end, before the Lord shuts the door of the bridal chamber. *(Genesis 19:26; Matthew 25:10)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Do not look back, my soul, and so be turned into a pillar of salt. Fear the example of the people of Sodom, and take refuge in Zoar. *(Genesis 19:23, 26)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Reject not, O Master, the prayer of those who sing Thy praises, but in Thy loving-kindness be merciful and grant forgiveness to them that ask with faith.

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

*Triadicon:* O simple Unity praised in Trinity of Persons, uncreated Nature without beginning, save us who in faith worship Thy power.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* O Mother of God, without knowing man thou hast given birth within time to the Son, who was begotten outside time from the Father; and — strange wonder! — thou givest suck while still remaining Virgin.

**Ode IV**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* The Prophet heard of Thy coming, O Lord, and he was afraid: how thou wast to be born of a Virgin and revealed to men, and he said: “I have heard the report of Thee and I was afraid.” Glory to Thy power, O Lord. *(Habakkuk 3:2)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

The time of my life is short, filled with trouble and evil. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Saviour, take pity on me. *(Genesis 47:9)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

A man of great wealth and righteous, abounding in riches and cattle, clothed in royal dignity, in crown and purple robe, Job became suddenly a beggar, stripped of wealth, glory and kingship. *(Job 1:1-22)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

If he who was righteous and blameless above all men did not escape the snares and pits of the deceiver, what wilt thou do, wretched and sin-loving soul, when some sudden misfortune befalls thee? *(Job 2:3-6)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Now I speak boastfully, with boldness of heart; yet all to no purpose and in vain. O righteous Judge, Who alone art compassionate, do not condemn me with the Pharisee; but grant me the abasement of the Publican and number me with him. *(Luke 18:9-14)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I know, O compassionate Lord, that I have sinned and violated the vessel of my flesh. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Saviour, take pity on me.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I have become mine own idol, utterly defiling my soul with the passions. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Saviour, take pity on me.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I have not hearkened to Thy voice, I have not heeded Thy Scripture, O Giver of the Law. But accept me in repentance and call me back to knowledge. Let me not become the possession and food of the enemy; but do Thou, O Saviour, take pity on me.

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Thou wast brought down into an abyss of great iniquity, yet not held fast within it: but with better intent thou hast mounted through action to the height of virtue, past all expectation: and the angels, O Mary, were amazed at thee.

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

*Triadicon:* Undivided in Essence, unconfused in Persons, I confess Thee as God: Triune Deity, one in kingship and throne; and to Thee I raise the great thrice-holy hymn that is sung on high.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* Thou givest birth and art a virgin, and in both thou remainest by nature inviolate. He Who is born makes new the laws of nature, and the womb brings forth without travail. When God so wills, the natural order is overcome; for He does whatever He wishes.

**Ode V**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* From the night I seek Thee early, O Lover of mankind: give me light, I pray Thee, and guide me in Thy commandments, and teach me, O Saviour, to do Thy will.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O my soul, do as the woman who was bowed down to the ground. Fall at the feet of Jesus, that He may make thee straight again; and thou shalt walk upright upon the paths of the Lord. *(Luke 13:11-13)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Thou art a deep well, O Master: make springs gush forth for me from Thy pure veins, that like the woman of Samaria I may drink and thirst no more; for from Thee flow the streams of life. *(John 4:13 -15)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Master and Lord, may my tears be unto me as Siloam: that I also may wash clean the eyes of my heart, and with my mind behold Thee, the pre-eternal Light. *(John 9:7; Genesis 1:2-19)*

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

O blessed saint, with a love beyond compare thou hast longed to venerate the wood of the Cross, and thy desire was granted. Make me also worthy to attain the glory on high.

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

*Triadicon:* We glorify Thee, O Trinity, the one God. Holy, holy, holy, art Thou: Father, Son, and Spirit, simple Essence and Unity, worshipped for ever.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* O Virgin inviolate and Mother who has not known man, from thee has God, the Creator of the ages, taken human flesh, uniting to Himself the nature of men.

**Ode VI**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* With my whole heart I cried to the all-compassionate God: and He heard me from the lowest depths of hell, and brought my life out of corruption.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Saviour, I am the coin marked with the King’s likeness, which Thou hast lost of old. But, O Word, light Thy lamp, Thy Forerunner, and seek and find again Thine image. *(Luke 15:8; John 5:35)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Rise up and make war upon the passions of the flesh, as Joshua against Amalek, ever gaining the victory over the Gibeonites, thy deceitful thoughts. *(Exodus 17:8-13; Joshua 9:3-27)*

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Thy soul on fire, O Mary, thou hast ever shed streams of tears, to quench the burning of the passions. Grant the grace of these thy tears to me also, thy servant.

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Through the perfection of thine earthly life, O Mother, thou hast gained a heavenly freedom from the sinfulness of passion. In thine intercessions pray that this same freedom may be given to those who sing thy praises.

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

*Triadicon:* ‘I am the Trinity, simple and undivided, yet divided in Persons, and I am the Unity by Nature one’, says the Father and the Son and the divine Spirit.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* Thy womb bore God for us, fashioned in our shape. O Theotokos, pray to Him as the Creator of all, that we may be justified through thine intercessions.

**Reader:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Kontakion**

*Kontakion of the Great Canon, in Tone VI —*

My soul, O my soul, rise up! Why art thou sleeping? The end draws near and soon thou shalt be troubled. Watch, then, that Christ thy God may spare thee, for He is everywhere present and fills all things.

**Ode VII**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* We have sinned, we have transgressed, we have done evil in Thy sight; we have not kept or followed Thy commandments. But reject us not utterly, O God of our fathers.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

My days have vanished as a dream of one awaking; and so, like Hezekiah, I weep upon my bed, that years may be added to my life. But what Isaiah will come to me, O my soul, except the God of all? *(Psalm 72:20; IV Kings 20:1-6; Isaiah 38:1-8)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I fall before Thee, and as tears I offer Thee my words. I have sinned as the Harlot never sinned, and I have transgressed as no other man on earth. But take pity on Thy creature, O Master, and call me back. *(Luke 7:37)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I have discoloured Thine image and broken Thy commandments. All my beauty is destroyed and my lamp is quenched by the passions, O Saviour. ‘But take pity on me,’ as David sings, and ‘restore to me Thy joy.’ *(Psalm 50:14)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Turn back, repent, uncover all that thou hast hidden. Say unto God, to whom all things are known: Thou alone knowest my secret, O Saviour; ‘have mercy on me’, as David sings, ‘according to Thy mercy.’ *(Psalm 50:3)*

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Raising thy cry to the pure Mother of God, thou hast driven back the fury of the passions that violently assailed thee, and put to shame the enemy who sought to make thee stumble. But give thy help in trouble now to me also, thy servant.

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

Pray to him whom thou hast loved, O holy Mary, whom thou hast desired, for whose sake thou hast worn out thy flesh: pray to Christ for us thy servants, that He may show mercy to us all, and grant a peaceful life to those who worship Him.

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

*Triadicon:* O simple and undivided Trinity, O holy and consubstantial Unity: Thou art praised as Light and Lights, one Holy and three Holies. Sing, O my soul, and glorify Life and Lives, the God of all.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* We praise thee, we bless thee, we venerate thee, O Mother of God: for thou hast given birth to One of the undivided Trinity, thy Son and God, and thou hast opened the heavenly places to us on earth.

**Ode VIII**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* The hosts of heaven give Him glory; before Him tremble cherubim and seraphim; let everything that hath breath and all creation praise Him, bless Him, and exalt Him above all for ever.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

As precious ointment, O Saviour, I empty on Thine head the alabaster box of my tears. Like the Harlot, I cry out to Thee, seeking Thy mercy: I bring my prayer and ask to receive forgiveness. *(Matthew 26:7; Luke 7:37=38)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

No one has sinned against Thee as I have; yet accept even me, compassionate Saviour, for I repent in fear and cry with longing: Against Thee alone have I sinned; I have transgressed, have mercy on me. *(Psalm 50:6)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Spare the work of Thine own hands, O Saviour, and as shepherd seek the lost sheep that has gone astray. Snatch me from the wolf and make me a nursling in the pasture of Thine own flock. *(Psalm 118:176; Luke 15:4; John 10:11-12)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

When Thou sittest upon Thy throne, O merciful Judge, and revealest Thy dread glory, O Christ, what fear there will be then! When the furnace burns with fire, and all shrink back in terror before Thy judgment-seat. *(Daniel 7:9-10; Luke 5:22; Matthew 23:30)*

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

The Mother of the Light that never sets illumined thee and freed thee from the darkness of the passions. O Mary, who hast received the grace of the Spirit, give light to those who praise thee with faith.

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

The holy Zosimas was struck with amazement, O Mother, beholding in thee a wonder truly strange and new. For he saw an angel in the body and was filled with astonishment, praising Christ unto all ages.

Let us bless the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Lord:

*Triadicon:* Father without beginning, coeternal Son, and loving Comforter, the Spirit of righteousness; Begetter of the Word of God, Word of the eternal Father, Spirit living and creative: O Trinity in Unity, have mercy on me.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* As from purple silk, O undefiled Virgin, the spiritual robe of Emmanuel, His flesh, was woven in thy womb. Therefore, we honour thee as Theotokos in very truth.

**Ode IX**

*Great Canon of the St Andrew of Crete, Tone VI*

*Irmos:* Conception without seed; nativity past understanding, from a Mother who never knew a man; childbearing undefiled. For the birth of God makes both natures new. Therefore, as Bride and Mother of our God, with true worship all generations magnify thee.

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Son of David, with Thy word Thou hast healed the possessed: take pity on me, save me and have mercy. Let me hear Thy compassionate voice speak to me as to the thief: ‘Verily, I say unto thee, thou shalt be with Me in Paradise, when I come in My glory.’ *(Matthew 15:22-28; Luke 9:38-42; 23:43)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

A thief accused Thee, a thief confessed Thy Godhead: for both were hanging beside Thee on the Cross. Open to me also, O Lord of many mercies, the door of Thy glorious Kingdom, as once it was opened to Thy thief who acknowledged Thee with faith as God. *(Matthew 27:51-53; Luke 23:32, 30-43)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

The creation was in anguish, seeing Thee crucified. Mountains and rocks were split from fear, the earth quaked, and hell was despoiled; the light grew dark in the daytime, beholding Thee, O Jesus, nailed in the flesh. *(Matthew 27:51-53; Luke 23:44-45)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Do not demand from me worthy fruits of repentance, for my strength has failed within me. Give me an ever-contrite heart and poverty of spirit, that I may offer these to Thee as an acceptable sacrifice, O only Saviour. *(Matthew 3:8; 5:3; Psalm 50:19)*

*Refrain:* Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O my Judge who dost know me, when Thou comest again with the angels to judge the whole world, look upon me then with Thine eye of mercy and spare me; take pity on me, Jesus, for I have sinned more than any other man. *(Matthew 25:31-32)*

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

By thy strange way of life thou hast struck all with wonder, both the hosts of angels and the gatherings of mortal men; for thou hast surpassed nature and lived as though no longer in the body. Like a bodiless angel thou hast walked upon the Jordan with thy feet, O Mary, and crossed over it.

*Refrain:* Holy Mother Mary, pray to God for us.

O holy Mother, call down the gracious mercy of the Creator upon us who sing thy praises, that we may be set free from the sufferings and afflictions that assail us; so without ceasing, delivered from temptations, we shall magnify the Lord who has glorified thee.

*Refrain:* Holy Father Andrew, pray to God for us.

Venerable Andrew, father thrice-blessed, shepherd of Crete, cease not to offer prayer for us who sing thy praises; that we may be delivered from all danger and distress, from corruption and sin, who honour thy memory with faith.

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

*Triadicon:* Let us glorify the Father, let us exalt the Son, and with faith let us worship the Spirit of God, undivided Trinity and Unity in essence. Let us adore Light and Lights, Life and Lives, giving light and life to the ends of the earth.

Both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion:* Watch over Thy city, all-pure Mother of God. For by thee she reigns in faith, by thee she is made strong; by thee she is victorious, putting to flight every temptation, despoiling the enemy and ruling her subjects.

*And we repeat the Irmos*:

Conception without seed; nativity past understanding, from a Mother who never knew a man; childbearing undefiled. For the birth of God makes both natures new. Therefore, as Bride and Mother of our God, with true worship all generations magnify thee.

**Reader:** It is truly meet to bless thee, the Theotokos, ever blessed and most blameless, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

**Trisagion Prayers**

**Reader:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *Thrice.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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. *Thrice.*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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.

**Priest:** 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.

**Reader:** Amen.

**Reader:** Lord, have mercy. *Forty times.*

**The Prayer of the Hours**

Thou Who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, Who art long-suffering, plenteous in mercy, most compassionate, Who loveth the righteous and hast mercy on sinners, Who callest all to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Receive, O Lord, our prayers at this hour, and guide our life toward Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, make chaste our bodies, correct our thoughts, purify our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and pain. Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guarded and guided by their array, we may attain to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; 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.

**Priest:**  God be gracious unto us and bless us, and cause Thy face to shine upon us and have mercy on us.

**Reader:** Amen.

**The Prayer of St Ephraim the Syrian**

**Priest:** O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, despondency, ambition, and idle talking give me not. *Prostration.*

But rather a spirit of chastity, humble-mindedness, patience, and love bestow upon me Thy servant. *Prostration.*

Yea, O Lord King, grant me to see my own failings and not condemn my brother; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen. *Prostration.*

*Then twelve reverences. With each one we say:*

O God, cleanse me a sinner.

*Then, the entire prayer without a break:*

O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, despondency, ambition, and idle talking give me not. But rather a spirit of chastity, humble-mindedness, patience, and love bestow upon me Thy servant. Yea, O Lord King, grant me to see my own failings and not condemn my brother; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. *Prostration.*

**Reader:** Amen.

**The Dismissal**

**Priest:** Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our hope, glory to Thee.

**Chanters:**  Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

Father (Master), bless.

**Priest:** O Master plenteous in mercy, O Lord Jesus Christ our God: Through the intercessions of our immaculate Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the mediations of the honourable, heavenly Bodiless Hosts; of the honourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John; of the holy glorious, and all-praised apostles; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our holy and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and Righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints: make our prayer acceptable; grant us the remission of our sins; shelter us with the shelter of Thy wings; drive away from us every enemy and adversary; make our life peaceful, O Lord; have mercy on us and on Thy world, and save our souls, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

**Chanters:** Amen.