



## Moleben to the Most Holy Theotokos in honor of the Dormition with the Lamentations

*Deacon:* Master Bless!

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

*Choir:* Amen.

*Deacon:* Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

*People:* **O Heavenly King,  
the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,  
Who art everywhere present and fillest all things;  
Treasury of Blessings,  
and Giver of Life -  
come and abide in us,  
and cleanse us from every impurity,  
and save our souls, O Good One.**

*Reader:* Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

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

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

O Master, pardon our transgressions.

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

*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 ages of ages.

*Reader:* Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Come! Let us worship God, our King!

Come! Let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God!

Come! Let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

### Psalm 142 (143)

*Reader:* Hear my prayer, O Lord;

give ear to my supplications!

In thy faithfulness answer me, in thy righteousness!

Enter not into judgment with thy servant;

for no man living is righteous before thee.

For the enemy has pursued me;

he has crushed my life to the ground;

he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.

Therefore my spirit faints within me;

my heart within me is appalled.

I remember the days of old,

I meditate on all that thou hast done;

I muse on what thy hands have wrought.

I stretch out my hands to thee;

my soul thirsts for thee like a parched land.

Make haste to answer me, O Lord!

My spirit fails!

Hide not thy face from me,

lest I be like those who go down to the Pit.

Let me hear in the morning of thy steadfast love,

for in thee I put my trust.

Teach me the way I should go,

for to thee I lift up my soul.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies!

I have fled to thee for refuge!

Teach me to do thy will,

for thou art my God!

Let thy good spirit lead me

on a level path!

For thy name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life!

In thy righteousness bring me out of trouble!

And in thy steadfast love cut off my enemies,

and destroy all my adversaries,

for I am thy servant.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

**God is the Lord - Tone 1**

*Psalm 117 [118]: 27a, 26a; 1; 11; 17; 22 - 23.*

*Deacon:* God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord!

*Deacon, verse:* O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
for His mercy endures forever.

*Choir:* **God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.**

**Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord!**

*Deacon, verse:* Surrounding me, they compassed me about,  
but in the name of the Lord I withstood them.

*Choir:* **God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.**

**Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord!**

*Deacon, verse:* I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and declare the works of the Lord.

*Choir:* **God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.**

**Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord!**

*Deacon, verse:* The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the head stone of the corner;  
This is the Lord's doing and it is wonderful in our eyes.

*Choir:* **God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.**

**Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord!**

**Troparion, Dormiton - Tone 1**

In giving birth, thou didst preserve thy virginity!  
In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos!  
Thou wast translated to life,  
O Mother of Life, //  
and by thy prayers thou didst deliver our souls from death!

*After the Troparion, we sing the lamentations:*

**SELECTED VERSES FROM THE LAMENTATIONS AT THE BIER OF THE MOTHER OF  
GOD**

**First Stasis Tone 5**

1. In a grave they laid Thee / O my Life and my Christ / and now also the Mother of Life / a strange sight both to angels and men.
2. We magnify thee / O pure Theotokos / and we honor thy holy Dormition / as we bow before thine hon' rable tomb.
3. How, O Mary, canst thou die / thou who art the life of faithful ones / and how can the tomb contain thy body / which contained the One Which cannot be contained.

4. Queen who gavest birth to God / the King of the heavens / thou art now royally translated, O pure one / to the kingdom of the heavens.
5. From the earth thou wast translated / but thou didst not forsake the earth / Now All-holy Theotokos / liberate the whole world from mighty ones.
6. Gabriel was sent from God / to announce to thee the good news / of thine imminent departure from this life / O thou pure and spotless heavenly Lady.
7. Receive, O Mother / from thy children our love / and these hymns and odes to bid thee farewell / which we offer from the depth of our souls.
8. Leave us not orphaned, O Mother / as thou dost go from earth to heav'n / where thou will be reunited / with thy Son and thy God.
9. Come with me, O Anna / Come and stand with us now / lead us in the festive praises of Mary / thine own daughter, the Mother of God.
10. The God of glory / thy Son, O pure one / now admits thee as His Mother with glory / and enthrones thee at His right hand.
11. The holy Apostles / O pure Theotokos / when they saw thine all-holy body / fell before it weeping rev'rently.
12. The gate enters the gate / and heaven enters heaven, / O ineffable and wondrous mystery! / Now the throne draws near to the throne of God.

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

Word of God, we hymn Thee / God of all things art Thou / with Thy Father and Thy Spirit Most Holy praised / and we glorify Thy nature divine.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Ev'ry generation / blesses thee, O Theotokos / ever-virgin and sov'reign Lady / and we glorify thy Dormition.

*And again, slowly:*

1. In a grave they laid Thee / O my Life and my Christ / and now also the Mother of Life / a strange sight both to angels and men.

### **Second Stasis Tone 5**

1. Right it is indeed / Life-bestowing Lord, to magnify Thee / who hast glorified Thy Mother / at the time of her life-bearing repose.
2. Right it is indeed / to magnify thee, Theotokos / for thy divine and blameless soul / is entrusted to the hands of God.
3. Shudder, O ye heavens! / and, O earth, give ear unto these words: / God descended once before for our sake / He descends again today for His Mother.
4. Though heaven receives / thine undefiled body, O Lady / yet grace hath been poured out / covering the whole face of the earth.
5. Now Joachim rejoiceth / seeing the great glory of his only child / who indeed didst bear a divine Child / truly inexplicable and inspired!

6. Gethsemane is blessed / for it gained thy virginal and blessed tomb / it hath been greatly honored / as the royal bridal chamber.
7. Angels rev'rently attend / to thy most pure sepulchre, O pure one / and a light from it doth shine forth / a place lighted by the light of God.
8. Thou didst leave thy pure belt / and entrusted it to holy Thomas / as a witness of thy translation / from the earth unto God above.
9. Mighty kings of the earth / and the wealthy among all earth's peoples / pray to thee, O All-holy Virgin / as a daughter of the King of heaven.
10. The glor'ious city of the Lord / about which they spoke so gloriously / was translated from earth to heaven / and was led into the house of God.
11. Mary, thou only high Queen / of heaven above and of earth here below / lead into thy kingdom / those who glorify thy holy Dormition.
12. Holy and ever-virgin Lady / Mary Theotokos, Queen and Mother / take now thy rest and sleep and rule / unto ages of ages with God.

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

O eternal God / Word co-unoriginate and Spirit / make firm the faith of the Orthodox / against heresy and error, O good One.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Grant true life to the faithful / O all-blameless and pure holy Virgin / thou who gavest birth unto Life Itself / and who hast now departed unto Life.

*And again, slowly:*

1. Right it is indeed / Life-bestowing Lord, to magnify Thee / who hast glorified Thy Mother / at the time of her life-bearing repose.

### **Third Stasis Tone 5 (or 3)**

1. Ev'ry generation / to thy grave comes bringing / its dirge of praises, O Virgin.
2. All of creation / to the grave comes bringing / a farewell hymn to our Lady.
3. Christ's holy Disciples / tend to the body / of Mary, Mother of my God.
4. Orders of Angels / and Archangels / invisibly hymn her presence.
5. Pious Women / with the Apostles / now cry out their lamentations.
6. She who was at Cana / at the marriage / hath been called with the Apostles.
7. The Master descendeth / to Gethsemane / with countless hosts of heaven.
8. The choir of the Disciples / seeing the Lord descend / in glory greatly rejoiceth.
9. Let the earth leap for joy / as it beholdeth / our God from heaven descending.
10. Let us go out quickly / meeting the Lord Jesus / Who cometh once more among us.
12. Let us be attentive / God now speaketh / with His most pure Mother.
13. Most sweet Mother / come and rejoice with / thine own most sweet Child, Jesus.
14. Behold now thy Son / cometh to bring thee / into His home in the heavens.

15. Come, My most lovely one / and enjoy the beauty / of thine own Son thy Maker.
16. Come indeed, My Mother / come into divine joy / and enter into the kingdom.
17. What will I bring Thee / O my Son, the God-Man / the Maiden cried to the Master.
18. What will I bring Thee / O my God in heaven / except my soul and body.
19. The Father I glorify / to the Son I sing a hymn / the Holy Spirit I worship.
20. Adam and Eve came out / to behold the glory / of their own Virgin offspring.
21. Blessed be the parents / Joachim and Anna / who for the world bore a daughter.
22. Grant to thy Church peace/ to thy flock salvation / through thy most holy Dormition.

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

O Thou Triune Godhead / Father, Son and Spirit / upon Thy world have mercy.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Make thy servants worthy / O most holy Virgin / to see thy Son's kingdom.

*And again, slowly:*

1. Ev'ry generation / to thy grave comes bringing / its dirge of praises, O Virgin.

*After the Lamentations, we read Psalm 50:*

*After the Troparion or Troparia, we read Psalm 50:*

#### **Psalm 50 (51)**

*Reader:* Have mercy on me, O God,

according to Thy steadfast love;

according to Thine abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity

and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions

and my sin is ever before me.

Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned,

and done that which is evil in Thy sight,

so that Thou art justified in Thy sentence

and blameless in Thy judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity

and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward being;

therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Fill me with joy and gladness;

let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice.

Hide Thy face from my sins

and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and put a new and right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation  
and uphold me with a willing Spirit.  
Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways  
and sinners will return to Thee.  
Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God,  
Thou God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of Thy deliverance.  
O Lord, open Thou my lips,  
and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.  
For Thou hast no delight in sacrifice;  
were I to give a burnt offering, Thou wouldst not be pleased.  
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.  
Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure;  
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then wilt Thou delight in right sacrifices,  
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;  
then bulls will be offered on Thy altar.

*We then sing refrains of the Canon.*

**The Canon**  
**Ode I**

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.  
*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**  
*Clergy:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

**Ode III**

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.  
*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**  
*Clergy:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

*After the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ode we sing the Sedalen:*

*To the Theotokos*

**Save thy servants from harm,  
O Theotokos,  
for all we, after God, flee unto thee, //  
as to an unassailable wall and intercessor.**

**Look with loving-kindness,  
O all-hymned Theotokos,  
upon my cruel bodily suffering, //  
and heal the sickness of my soul.**

*And then this Litany:*

*Deacon:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for our Metropolitan, the Most Blessed Tikhon, for our Archbishop, the Most Reverend Benjamin, for priests, priestmonks, deacons, and all other clergy and for all our brethren in Christ.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for this country, its President, civil authorities, armed forces, and people.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God \_\_\_\_, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Exclamation:*

*Priest:* For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* **Amen.**

*We sing this Ypakoë:*

#### **Ypakoë, Theotokos - Tone 5:**

From all generations we call thee blessed, O Virgin Theotokos:  
for Christ our God who cannot be contained was pleased to be contained in thee.  
Blessed also are we in having thee as our succour:  
for day and night thou dost intercede for us,  
and the sceptres of kings are strengthened by thy supplications.  
Therefore, singing thy praises we cry aloud to thee: //  
Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

*We sing refrains of the Canon.*

#### **Ode IV**

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**

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

*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

#### **Ode V**

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**

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

*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

#### **Ode VI**

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**

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

*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

*After the 6<sup>th</sup> Ode we sing the Sedalen:*

*To the Theotokos*

**Save thy servants from harm,  
O Theotokos,  
for all we, after God, flee unto thee, //  
as to an unassailable wall and intercessor.**

**Look with loving-kindness,  
O all-hymned Theotokos,  
upon my cruel bodily suffering, //  
and heal the sickness of my soul.**

*Then the little litany:*

### **The Little Litany**

*Deacon:* Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*Choir:* **To thee, O Lord.**

*Exclamation:*

*Priest:* For thou art the King of peace and the Savior of our souls, and to thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* **Amen.**

*And then we sing the Kontakion:*

### **Kontakion, Dormiton – Tone 2**

Neither the tomb, nor death,  
could hold the Theotokos,  
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.  
For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life //  
by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb!

*The reader reads the Ikos:*

### **Ikos**

Set a rampart about my mind, O my Savior, for I make bold to sing the praises of Thy most pure Mother, the rampart of the world. Establish me firmly within the fortress of my words and make me strong within the defences of my thoughts: for Thou dost promise to fulfil the petitions of those that entreat Thee with faith. Endue me with a tongue and ready speech, and with thoughts that are without shame: for every gift of enlightenment is sent down from Thee, O guiding Light, who dwelt in her virginal womb!

*We sing:* **who dwelt in her virginal womb!**

*If there will be a Gospel, we sing the appointed Prokeimenon.*

**The Prokeimenon for the Theotokos** (Ps 44 [45]: 17, 10)

*Deacon:* Let us attend. Wisdom. Let us attend. The prokeimenon in the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone: **I will remember Thy name from generation to generation.**

*Choir:* **I will remember Thy name from generation to generation.**

*Deacon, verse:* Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear!

*Choir:* **I will remember Thy name from generation to generation.**

*Deacon:* I will remember Thy name

*Choir:* **I will remember Thy name from generation to generation.**

*Deacon:* Let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*The priest exclaims:*

For holy art thou, O our God, who retest in the Saints, and unto thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Deacon:* Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. (Psalm 150: 6)

*Choir:* **Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.**

*Deacon, verse:* Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament. (Psalm 150: 1)

*Choir:* **Let everything that breathes**

*Deacon:* Let everything that breathes

*Choir:* **praise the Lord.**

**The Gospel,**

*Deacon:* And that we may be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the holy Gospel.

*Priest:* Peace be unto all.

*The people:* **And to thy spirit.**

*And then:* Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Choir:* **Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.**

*Deacon:* Let us attend.

*And the priest reads the Gospel.*

**Gospel Readings for Feasts of the Theotokos**

**At Matins § 4; Luke 1: 39 – 49, 56**

39 AT THAT TIME MARY AROSE, and went into the hill country with haste,  
into a city of Juda;

40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary,  
the babe leaped in her womb;  
and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:

- 42 And she spake out with a loud voice, and said,  
    "Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.  
43 And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears,  
    the babe leaped in my womb for joy.  
45 And blessed is she that believed:  
    for there shall be a performance of those things  
    which were told her from the Lord."  
46 And Mary said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
48 For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden:  
    for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
49 For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name."  
56 And Mary abode with her about three months,  
    and returned to her own house.

**Choir: Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.**

*And we sing these Stikhera:*

**Post-Gospel Stichera - Tone 6**

*verse:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
O merciful One, //  
blot out my transgression.

*verse:* Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
O merciful One, //  
blot out my transgression.

**Tone 6**

*verse:* Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to Thy great mercy;  
according to Thine abundant mercy, //  
blot out my transgression!

**Tone 6**

When the Translation of thy most pure tabernacle was being prepared,  
the apostles surrounded thy deathbed and looked upon thee with dread,  
and as they gazed at thy body, they were filled with awe.  
In tears Peter cried aloud to thee:  
'O undefiled Virgin, / I see thee who art the life of all mankind lying here outstretched,  
and I am struck with wonder:  
for He who is the delight of the future life made His dwelling in thee. //  
Pray, then, fervently to thy Son and God to save thy flock<sup>1</sup> from harm.'

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<sup>1</sup> Literally, 'city'.

*We then sing refrains of the Canon.*

*For Ode 8 we sing*

### Ode VII

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**

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

*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

### Ode VIII

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**

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

*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

### Ode IX

*Clergy:* O most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* **O most holy Theotokos, save us.**

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

*People:* **Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

*After the 9<sup>th</sup> Ode we sing:*

### Hymn to the Theotokos - Tone 1

*Instead of "It is truly meet ..." we sing,*

*verse:* **The angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with wonder, seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.**

*Irmos:* **The limits of nature are overcome in thee, O Pure Virgin: for birth giving remains virginal, and life is united to death; a virgin after childbearing and alive after death, thou dost ever save thine inheritance, O Theotokos.**

**Exapostilarion - Tone 3** *Podoben:* "Thou Who adornest the Heavens with Stars ..."

O ye apostles, assembled here  
from the ends of the earth,  
bury my body in Gethsemane:  
and Thou, O my Son and God,  
receive my spirit. *(may be sung three times.)*

*Reader:* Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

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

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

*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 ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*The Troparia:*

### **Troparion, Dormiton - Tone 1**

In giving birth, thou didst preserve thy virginity!  
In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos!  
Thou wast translated to life,  
O Mother of Life, //  
and by thy prayers thou didst deliver our souls from death!

*verse:* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;**

*verse:* **now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

### **Kontakion, Dormiton - Tone 2**

Neither the tomb, nor death,  
could hold the Theotokos,  
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.  
For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life //  
by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb!

*And then this Litany:*

### **Litany of Fervent Supplication**

*Deacon:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercys, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for our Metropolitan, the Most Blessed Tikhon, for our Archbishop, the Most Reverend Benjamin, for priests, priestmonks, deacons, and all other clergy and for all our brethren in Christ.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for this country, its President, civil authorities, armed forces, and people.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox Patriarchs; and for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; [for NN,] and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

*Choir:* **Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Deacon:* Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God NN, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray unto Thee, O Lord, our God, that thou mayest hearken unto the voice of our supplication and prayer, and be merciful to thy servants, **NN**. Through Thy Grace and compassions, and that thou wilt fulfill all of their petitions, and forgive all their transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary. And may their prayers be acceptable before Thy holy Throne, O Master. And do Thou shelter them from enemies, both visible and invisible; and deliver them from every disaster, misfortune and affliction, and from every sickness. And grant them health and length of days, we all pray, O Lord, hearken and have mercy.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Look down, O Master Lover of mankind with Thy merciful eye upon Thy servant(s) **NN** and hearken to our prayers offered in faith, for Thou thyself hast said: What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them, and again: Ask, and it shall be given you, therefore, though unworthy, but trusting upon Thy mercy, we ask: grant Thy grace, to Thy servant(s) **NN**, and fulfill all (his, her, their) good desires, preserve (him, her, them) in peace and tranquility; in health and length of days all (his, her, their) life, we pray Thee, hearken quickly and graciously have mercy.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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*Other Specific petitions may be added here:*

*(If it be a service for the sick, the 3 following petitions may be read.)*

**Deacon:** O Physician of souls and bodies, with compunction and broken hearts we fall down before thee and cry: Heal the sickness, heal the passions of soul and body of thy servants **NN**., and in thy loving-kindness pardon all their sins, whether voluntary or involuntary, quickly raising them up from their bed of sickness, we pray thee: hearken and have mercy.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** O Merciful Lord, Who desires not the death of the sinner, but that he should turn from his wickedness and live, take pity on Thy servant(s) **NN**. Heal (his, her, their) sickness, take away the pain, forgive (his, her, their) sins, for we are conceived in sin, and our hearts incline to evil even from birth. As Thou didst deliver the daughter of Jairus from the jaws of death, stretch forth Thy strong right hand and raise (him, her, them) from this bed of pain and restore (him, her, them) quickly to health, we beg Thee, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** O thou who by thy touch didst heal Peter's mother-in-law who was sick with fever: Now, in thy loving-kindness, do thou look upon thy servants **NN**., as they endure great suffering, and heal their malady, quickly restoring them to health, we diligently pray thee, O Fountain of healing: hearken and have mercy.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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**Deacon:** Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Again we pray that he will keep this city [or village] and this holy church [or holy monastery] and every city and countryside from wrath, famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion, civil war, and sudden death; that our good God, who loves mankind, will be gracious and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us and all sickness, and may deliver us from his righteous chastisement which impendeth against us, and have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Again we pray that the Lord our God will hearken unto the voice of supplication of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

*Exclamation:*

*Priest:* Hear us, O God our Savior, thou hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be merciful, be merciful, O Master, regarding our sins, and have mercy on us. For thou art a merciful God who lovest mankind, and unto thee do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### Prayer

*Deacon:* Let us pray to our sovereign Lady the Theotokos:

*People:* O most holy Theotokos, save us!

*Priest:* Reads the Prayer

### Prayer to our Most Holy Lady Theotokos

My most gracious Queen, my hope, O Theotokos,  
shelter of orphans, and intercessor of travellers, strangers and pilgrims,  
joy of those in sorrow, protectress of the wronged,  
see my distress, see my affliction! Help me, for I am helpless.  
Feed me, for I am a stranger and pilgrim.  
Thou knowest my offence; forgive and resolve it as thou wilt.  
For I know no other help but thee, no other intercessor,  
no gracious consoler but thee, O Theotokos,  
to guard and protect me throughout the ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### Prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos from the Akathist in Honor of the Dormition

O Most Holy Theotokos, Virgin, Lady, Who art higher than the Angels and Archangels, and more honored than all creation, the great wonder of angels, the lofty sermon of prophets, the most glorious boast of apostles, the special adornment of hierarchs, the strong support of martyrs, the saving precept of monastics, the inexhaustible abstinence of fasters, the purity and glory of those in virginity, the peaceful gladness of mothers, the wisdom and learning of children, nourisher of widows and orphans, garment of the naked, health of the ailing, deliverance of the imprisoned, calm of those that sail upon the sea, stormless haven of the tempest-tossed, untiring instructress of the erring, easy passage of the travelling, good repose of laborers, quick defender of those in

trouble, shelter and refuge of the wronged, hope of the despairing, helper of the needy, inexhaustible wealth of the poor, everlasting comforter of the grieving, loving humility of the hated, salvation of sinners and re-acquisition to God, firm stronghold of the right-believing, unconquerable help and intercession: through Thee, O Lady, the Invisible became visible and unto Thee, O Lady, we Thy sinful servants offer petition: O most merciful and most wonderful Queen of noetic light, Who gave birth to Christ the King, our God and Giver of Life unto all, Who art glorified by the celestial, and praised by the earthly: the mind of angels, luminous star, most holy one of the saints queen of queens, mistress of all creation, divinely-majestic virgin, spotless bride, palace of the Most Holy Spirit, fiery throne of the invisible King, heavenly ark, vessel of God the Word, fire-like chariot, resting-place of the living God, ineffable source of the flesh of Christ, nest of the heavenly Eagle, divinely speaking turtle-dove, meek dove, gentle and kind, child-loving mother, abyss of mercies, disperser of the cloud of the wrath of God, immeasurable depth, inexpressible mystery, incomprehensible miracle, church not-made-with-hands of the only King of all ages, fragrant censer, honorable robe of purple, divinely-woven porphyry, animate paradise, branch from the life-bearing garden, most beautiful flower that hath blossomed heavenly gladness for us, cluster of our salvation, chalice of the King of Heaven, in which is poured from the Holy Spirit the wine of inexhaustible Grace, intercessor of the Law, inception of the true Faith of Christ, unshakable pillar, destruction of heretics, sword of the divine wrath against those inimical to God, intimidation of demons, victory of those in warfare, true preserver of all Christians, and known salvation of all the world. O all-merciful Sovereign, Virgin, Lady, Theotokos, hearken unto us who pray unto Thee and manifest Thy mercy upon Thy people, pray unto Thy Son to deliver us from all evil and preserve our monastery (*or city*), and every monastery, and city, and country of the faithful and of the reverent people who flee to Thee and call upon Thy holy name, from every assault, destruction, famine, earthquake, flood, fire, and sword, invasions of enemies and civil war, from every illness and difficulty; let not wounds, nor privation, nor plague, nor any righteous wrath of God humiliate Thy servants; but keep and save us by Thy mercy, O Sovereign Lady, and by Thy prayers grant unto us healthful, seasonable weather at the time of fruitful harvest; relieve, restore, and have mercy, O most merciful lady, most-praised Theotokos, upon those in every trouble and need. Remember Thy servants and do not disdain our tears and sighs, and renew us with the goodness of Thy mercy that we who find in Thee a helper may be gratefully comforted. Be compassionate, O Lady most pure, our hope, towards Thine infirm people: gather the dispersed, set upon the right path those who have strayed and bring back those who have fallen away from the pious faith of our fathers, support the aged, admonish the young, nurture the children, glorify them that glorify Thee, and especially keep the Church of Thy Son and preserve it unto length of days. O merciful and most-merciful Queen of Heaven and earth, ever-virgin Theotokos, through Thine intercessions have mercy upon Orthodox Christians, preserving them under the protection of Thy mercy, defending them with Thy precious mantle, and pray unto Him Who was incarnate of Thee, Christ our God, that He gird us with power from above against all our enemies visible and invisible, against the foreign and domestic forces fighting against us and our Orthodox Faith. Save and have mercy, O Lady, upon our Metropolitan, the most blessed Tikhon; and our Archbishop, the most reverend Benjamin; and all the most reverend Orthodox metropolitans, archbishops, and bishops, priests and deacons, and all the clerical orders of the Church and all right-believing people who reverence and pray before Thy precious icon. Look down upon us all with the gaze of Thy merciful intercession; raise us up

from the depths of sin and enlighten the eyes of our hearts unto the vision of salvation, be merciful unto us here and plead for us at the terrible Judgment of Thy Son, when Thy servants have departed this life in piety into eternal life, and number them with the angels and archangels and all the saints, that they may stand at the right hand of Thy Son and God: and through Thy prayers vouchsafe all Orthodox Christians to live with Christ and to enjoy the gladness of the angels in the heavenly mansions. For Thou, O Lady, art the glory of the heavenly and hope of the earthly; Thou art the hope and protection of all who flee unto Thee and ask Thy holy help; Thou art our fervent pleader to Thy Son and our God: for Thy maternal prayers are powerful to entreat the Master, and through Thine intercession we dare to approach, even though we are unworthy, the throne of the Grace of His most holy and life-creating Mysteries. Therefore, beholding Thine all-honorable icon and seeing the God Who holds all things held in Thy hands, we sinners rejoice, falling down in contrition, and we kiss it with love, expecting, O Lady, through Thy prayers which are pleasing to God, to enter into everlasting, heavenly life and to stand without shame on the Day of Judgment at the right hand of Thy Son and our God, glorifying Him together with His Unoriginate Father, and the Most Holy, Good, Life-creating and Consubstantial Spirit unto the ages of ages.

*Choir: Amen.*

*By custom we may sing the magnification:*

### **Magnification**

WE magnify thee,  
O most pure Mother of Christ our God,  
and we glorify thy most glorious Dormition.

### **Dismissal**

*Deacon: Wisdom.*

*Priest: Most Holy Theotokos, save us.*

***Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim  
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim,  
Without corruption thou gavest birth to God, the Word.  
True Theotokos, we magnify thee.***

*Priest: Glory to thee, O Christ God, our Hope, glory to thee.*

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

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**Father, Bless.**

*And the dismissal.*

## La Adormirea Maicii Domnului

### Tropar, glasul 1:

Întru naștere fecioria ai păzit, / întru adormire lumea nu ai părăsit, / de Dumnezeu Născătoare; / mutatu-te-ai la viață, fiind Maica Vieții / și cu rugăciunile tale izbăvești din moarte sufletele noastre.

### Condac, glasul al 2-lea:

Pe Născătoarea de Dumnezeu, cea întru rugăciuni și ajutor neadormită, nădejdea cea neschimbată, mormântul și moartea nu o au ținut, căci ca pe Maica Vieții a mutat-o la viață Cel ce S-a sălășluit în pântecel ei cel pururea fecioresc.

### Irmos:

Neamurile toate te ferim pe tine, una, de Dumnezeu Născătoare.

Biruiescu-se rânduilele firii întru tine, Fecioară curată, că nașterea feciorește și moartea arvunește viața cea ce ești după naștere Fecioară și după moarte vie, mântuiești pururea, Născătoare de Dumnezeu, moștenirea ta.

## Успение Пресвятой Богородицы,

<p><b>Тропарь, глас 1</b> В рождестве девство сохранила еси, / во успении мира не оставила еси, Богородице; / преставилася еси к животу, Мати сущи Живота, / и молитвами Твоими избавляеши от смерти души наша.</p>	<p><b>Тропарь, глас 1</b> При родах Ты сохранила девство, при успении Ты не оставила мира, Богородица; Ты преставилась к жизни, будучи Матерью Жизни, и молитвами Твоими избавляешь от смерти души наши.</p>
<p><b>Кондак, глас 2</b> В молитвах неусыпающую Богородицу и в предстательствах непреложное Упование гроб и умервщление не удержаста: якоже бо Живота Матерь к животу престаи во утробу Вселившийся приснодевственную.</p>	<p><b>Кондак, глас 2</b> Богородицу, непрестанно молящуюся и в ходатайствах надежду непоколебимую, не удержали гроб и смерть; ибо Ее как Мать Жизни привел к жизни [Христос], Поселившийся в Ее вечно девственной утробе.</p>
<p><b>Задостойник, Ирмос 9-й песни</b> Побеждаются естества уставы, в Тебе, Дево Чистая: девствует бо рождество, и живот предобручает смерть: по рождестве Дева, и по смерти жива, спасаеши присно, Богородице, наследие Твое.</p>	<p><b>Задостойник, Ирмос 9-й песни</b> Побеждаются законы природы на Тебе, Дева Чистая: рождение остается девственным и смерть обручается с жизнью; по рождении пребывая Девою и по смерти живою, Ты спасаешь всегда, Богородица, наследие Твое.</p>

*These Exapostilaria may also be sung:*

### Exapostilaria - TONE 3

*podoben*, "Thou Who Adornest the Heavens with Stars ...":

O ye apostles, assembled here  
from the ends of the earth,  
bury my body in Gethsemane:  
and Thou, O my Son and God,  
receive my spirit.

Thou art the sweetness of Angels,  
the gladness of the afflicted ones,  
and the protectress of Christians,  
O Virgin Mother of our Lord;  
come to my aid and deliver me, from out of eternal torments.

I have thee as Mediatress,  
before the God who loves mankind.  
may He not censure my actions  
before the hosts of the Angels.  
I entreat thee, O Virgin, come quickly to my aid.

Thou art a tower adorned with gold,  
a city surrounded by twelve walls,  
a shining throne touched by the sun,  
A royal seat for the King,  
O wonder beyond understanding!  
How dost thou nurse the Master?

