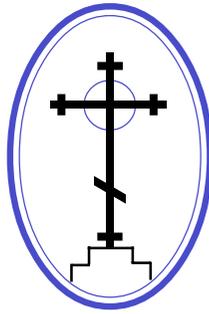


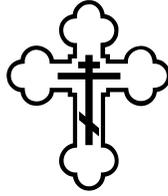
DAILY VESPERS

A NEW VERSION IN ENGLISH
FOR PRIEST & CHOIR



ed. Fr. Hieromonk Aidan Keller

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ORDER OF DAILY VESPERS



Vespers at St. Hilarion Monastery, Austin, Texas

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ORDER OF DAILY VESPERS

*(Weekday Vespers of Simple, Double, Six-Stichera, or
Doxology rank)*

Opening

The priest, vested only in epitachelion and cuffs, standing before the holy doors (which are never opened during this service), begins:

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

Choir: Amen.

Reader: 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 gifts and Giver of Life, come and abide 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 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. (3x)

+ 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 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. 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 the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Lord, have mercy, **12x.** Glory to the Father and
to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and
unto the ages of ages. Amen.

**During the following, everyone makes three metanies from the
waist:**

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

Psalm of Introduction

**The Reader begins Psalm 103; the priest begins the Prayers of
Light (shown further below). Psalm 103:**

Bless the Lord, O my soul : O Lord my God, Thou hast been
magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on
: Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who
stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain : Who supporteth
His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His
ascent : Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who
maketh His angels spirits : and His ministers a flame of fire,
Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof : it shall not be
turned back for ever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His
mantle : upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy
rebuke they will flee : at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be

afraid. The mountains rise up and the plains sink down : unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass : neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys : between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field : the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge : from the midst of the rocks will they give voice. He watereth the mountains from His chambers : the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle : and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth : and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil : and bread strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted : there will the sparrows make their nests. The house of the heron is chief among them : the high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares. He hath made the moon for seasons : the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night : wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad. Young lions roaring after their prey : and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together : and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work : and to his labour until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! : In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea : therein are things creeping innumerable, Small living creatures with the great : there go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee : to give them their food in due season. When Thou givest it them, they will gather it : when Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness. When Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled : Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created : and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages : the Lord will rejoice in His works, Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble : Who toucheth the mountains and they

smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life : I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being. May my words be sweet unto Him : and I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more : bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! : In wisdom hast Thou made them all

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

Then, the Priest concluding the Prayers of Light, the Litany of Peace begins.

Prayers of Light

Meanwhile, having made the exclamation, the priest reads the Prayers of Light in a secret voice, with head uncovered, standing on the ambo before the closed holy doors, facing eastward to them.

First Prayer: O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and of great mercy, hearken to our prayer, and attend to the voice of our supplication. Work upon us a sign unto good. Guide us in Thy way, that we may walk in Thy truth. Gladden our hearts that we may fear Thy holy name. For Thou art great and workest wonders; Thou alone art God, and among the gods there is none like unto Thee, O Lord: powerful in mercy, and good in might, to help and to comfort and to save all them that hope in Thy holy name. For to Thee is due all glory, honour, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Second Prayer: O Lord, rebuke us not in Thine anger, nor chasten us in Thy wrath, but deal with us according

to Thy tenderness, O Physician and Healer of our souls. Guide us to the haven of Thy will. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts unto the knowledge of Thy truth, and grant unto us that the remainder of the present day and the whole time of our life may be peaceful and sinless, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the Saints. For Thine is the dominion, and 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. Amen.

Third Prayer: O Lord our God, remember us Thy sinful and unprofitable servants when we call upon Thy holy, venerable name, and put us not to shame in our expectation of Thy mercy, but grant us, O Lord, all our petitions which are unto salvation, and make us worthy to love and fear Thee with all our hearts, and to do Thy will in all things. For a good God art Thou, 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 the ages of ages. Amen.

Fourth Prayer: O Thou to Whom the holy Powers sing with unending hymns and unceasing doxologies, fill our mouths with Thy praise, that we may glorify Thy holy name. And grant unto us part and inheritance with all them that fear Thee in truth and keep Thy commandments, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all Thy Saints. For to Thee is due all glory, honour, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Fifth Prayer: O Lord, Lord Who upholdest all things in the most pure hollow of Thy hand, Who art long-suffering toward us all, and grieveest for our wickedness, remember Thy compassion and Thy mercy. Look upon us with Thy goodness; grant unto us also by Thy grace, through the remainder of the present day, to avoid the

diverse subtle snares of the evil one, and keep our lives unassailed, through the grace of Thine All-holy Spirit. Through the mercy and love for mankind of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Sixth Prayer: O God great and wonderful, Who with indescribable goodness and rich providence orderest all things and grantest unto us earthly goods, Who hast given us a pledge of the promised kingdom through the good things already granted us, and hast made us to shun all harm during that part of the present day which is past, grant that we may also fulfill the remainder of this day blamelessly before Thy holy glory, and hymn Thee, our God, Who alone art good and lovest mankind. For Thou art our God, 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 the ages of ages. Amen.

Seventh Prayer: O great and most high God, Who alone hast immortality, and dwellest in light unapproachable, Who hast fashioned all creation in wisdom, Who hast divided the light from the darkness, and hast set the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night, Who hast also vouchsafed unto us sinners at this present hour to come before Thy presence with confession and to present unto Thee our evening doxology, do Thou Thyself, O Lord, Lover of mankind, set forth our prayer before Thee as incense, and accept it for an odor of sweet fragrance, and grant that our present evening and coming night be peaceful. Clothe us with the armour of light. Deliver us from the fear of night, and from everything that walketh in darkness, and grant that the sleep which Thou hast given for the repose of our infirmity may be free from every fantasy of the Devil. Yea, O Master of all, Leader of the good, may we, being moved to compunction upon our beds, remember Thy name in the night. And, enlightened by the exercise of

Thy commandments, may we rise up in joyfulness of soul to the glorification of Thy goodness, and offer supplications and prayers unto Thy tenderness of heart, for our own sins and those of all thy people, whom do Thou look upon in mercy, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos. For a good God art Thou, 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 the ages of ages. Amen.

With deacon: The priest enters the altar through the south door after the Prayers of Light, and the deacon, at “Glory to the Father,” exits the north door and takes his place before the holy doors.

Without deacon: The priest remains in front of the holy doors till the Litany.

Litany of Peace

When the reader has ended the Psalm with the threefold “Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God,” then the deacon (priest), standing on the ambo before the closed doors, makes 3 metanies, and begins the Litany:

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God, and the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy temple, and for them that with faith, reverence and the fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the Holy Orthodox Patriarchs, for our [lord, the Very Most Reverend] Metropolitan *N.*, for our [lord, the Most Reverend] Archbishop *N.*, (and/or [the Right Reverend] Bishop *N.*) for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this land, its authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy monastery (if not a monastery: this city, or this town), every city and country, and the faithful that dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For travellers by sea, land, and air, for the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Calling to remembrance our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee is due all glory, honour, and

worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Kathisma¹

Then the proper kathisma is read, all standing.² The order is:

Reader: Stasis I from the Psalter

Reader: + Glory to the Father... (all rise, & make 3 metanies at:)

Reader: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to Thee, O God. (3x)

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Reader: + Glory to the Father... (then all sit for the next stasis:)

Reader: Stasis II from the Psalter

Reader: + Glory to the Father... (all rise, & make 3 metanies at:)

Reader: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to Thee, O God. (3x)

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Reader: + Glory to the Father... (then all sit for the next stasis:)

Reader: Stasis III from the Psalter

Reader: + Glory to the Father... (all rise, & make 3 metanies at:)

Reader: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to Thee, O God. (3x)

Little Litany³

So as to complete the kathisma, the deacon (priest) exits the north door at the final “Glory to the Father,” makes the three metanies before the holy doors at “Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God,” then intones:

Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

¹ If there was a Vigil the preceding night, the kathisma is omitted unless “Blessed is the man” is appointed to be sung.

² In Greek practice, the reader stands but the rest sit.

³ If there be no kathisma reading, such as in the evening of Sunday, the Little Litany also is omitted.

Calling to remembrance our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and all our life, unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee O Lord.

Priest, exclamation: For Thine is the dominion, and 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.

Choir: Amen.

Lord, I Have Cried

The reader begins the Psalms 140 &c. The deacon begins censuring as shown further below under Censuring.

Psalm 140: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me : attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry unto Thee. Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee : the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth : and a door of enclosure round about my lips. Incline not my heart unto words of evil : to make excuse with excuses in sins, with men that work iniquity : and I will not join with their chosen. The righteous man will chasten me with mercy and reprove me : as for the oil of the sinner, let it not anoint my head. For yet more is my prayer in the presence of their pleasures : swallowed up near by the rock have their judges been. They shall hear my words, for they be sweetened : as a clod of earth is broken upon the earth, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hades : for unto Thee, O Lord, O Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I hoped; take not my soul away. Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me : and from the stumbling-blocks of them that work iniquity. The sinners shall fall into their own net : I am alone until I pass by.

Psalm 141: With my voice unto the Lord have I cried : with my voice unto the Lord have I made supplication.

I will pour out before Him my supplication : mine affliction before Him will I declare. When my spirit was fainting within me : then Thou knewest my paths. In this way wherein I have walked : they hid for me a snare. I looked upon my right hand, and beheld : and there was none that did know me. Flight hath failed me : and there is none that watcheth out for my soul. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my hope : my portion art Thou in the land of the living. Attend unto my supplication : for I am brought very low. Deliver me from them that persecute me : for they are stronger than I. Bring my soul out of prison that I may confess Thy name : the righteous shall wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.

Psalm 129: Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord : O Lord, hear my voice. Let Thine ears be attentive : to the voice of my supplication.

And the verses with stichera follow:

Reader: If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? **Choir:** For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Choir sings a sticheron.⁴

Reader: For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word.

Choir: My soul hath hoped in the Lord.

⁴ **Simple service, on Sun.-Thur. evening:** 3 stichera from the Octoechos, 3 from the Menaion, "Glory," (doxasticon from Menaion, if it gives one), "Both now," theotokion.* **Simple service on Fri. eve.:** 6 stichera from Menaion (doubling each of the 3 stichera shown there), "Glory," (doxasticon from Menaion, if it gives one), dogmaticon** in the tone of the week. **Double service:** 6 stichera: 3 for the 1st saint, 3 for the 2nd saint; "Glory"; (doxasticon from Menaion, if it gives one); "Both now"; theotokion.* **Six-stichera or doxology rank service:** 6 stichera from Menaion; "Glory"; doxasticon from Menaion; "Both now"; theotokion.*

* From back of Menaion, "Theotokia Following Doxasticon."

** From back of Menaion, "The Resurrectional Theotokia."

Choir sings a sticheron.

Reader: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, **Choir:** Let Israel hope in the Lord.

Choir sings a sticheron.

Reader: For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption. **Choir:** And He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

Choir sings a sticheron.

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

Choir sings a sticheron.

Reader: Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Choir sings last sticheron, then:

Reader: O Joyous Light of the holy glory of the Immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ, having come to setting of the sun, when we behold the evening light, praise Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be praised with tunefule voices, O Son of God, Giver of Life; wherefore the world doth glorify Thee.

The deacon (priest) exits the north door to exclaim, upon the ambo, facing east to the closed holy doors:

Prokimen

Deacon: Let us attend!

Censing: When the choir begins to sing, Lord, I have cried, the deacon presents the censer to the priest, who softly says: We offer incense to Thee, Christ our God, for an odour of spiritual fragrance, which do Thou accept upon Thy heavenly altar, and send down upon us the grace of Thine All-Holy Spirit. Then the deacon (priest) censens the altar on its 4 sides, the icons, the choirs, and the people, and returns to the sanctuary to the priest without making a great censeng.

Priest (turned to the people, blessing them): + Peace be unto all!

And straightway the deacon says: Wisdom!

(Order of the Prokimen:

Deacon, in a straight tone, eastward: “The Prokimen in the ___th Tone!”

Choir, singing: “Text of the Prokimen for the day”

Deacon, in a straight tone: “Text of the verse or stikhos”

Choir, singing: “Text of the Prokimen for the day, again”

Deacon, in a straight tone: “First half of the Prokimen text”

Choir, singing: “Second half of the Prokimen text”)

On Sunday evening, Tone 8: Psalm 133

Behold now, bless ye the Lord, | all ye servants of the Lord.

Verse: Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

On Monday evening, Tone 4: Psalm 4

The Lord will hearken unto me | when I cry unto Him.

Verse: When I called upon Thee, O God of my righteousness, Thou didst hearken unto me.

On Tuesday evening, Tone 1: Psalm 22

Thy mercy, O Lord, shall pursue me | all the days of my life.

Verse: The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want; in a place of green pasture, there hath He made me to dwell.

On Wednesday evening, Tone 5: Psalm 53

O God, in Thy name save me, | and in Thy strength do Thou judge me.

Verse: O God, hearken unto my prayer; give ear unto the words of my mouth.

On Thursday evening, Tone 6: Psalm 120

My help cometh from the Lord, | Who hath made heaven

and the earth.

Verse: I have lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help.

On Friday evening, Tone 7: Psalm 58

O God, my helper art Thou, | and Thy mercy shall go before me.

Verse: Rescue me from mine enemies, O God, and from them that rise against me, redeem me.

Vouchsafe, O Lord

The litany Let us all say, is not said, but immediately “Vouchsafe, O Lord.”

With Bishop: The Bishop says the “Vouchsafe, O Lord,” in a speaking voice. Or, in a monastery, this may be done by the Superior.

(Reader or Superior:) Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.

+ **(all bow:)** Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

+ **(all bow:)** Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes.

+ **(all bow:)** Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

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

Litany

With deacon: The priest begins the Prayer of Bowed Heads (excepting the exclamation or doxology). But the deacon begins the Litany below.

Without deacon: The priest begins the Litany himself:

Deacon (priest): Let us complete our evening prayer
unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful,
and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our
souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Pardon and remission of our sins and offences, let us ask
of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for
the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in
peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless,
peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment
seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Calling to remembrance our most holy, most pure, most
blessed, glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-virgin
Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and
one another, and all our life, unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee O Lord.

Priest, the exclamation: For a good God art Thou, and the Lover of 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 the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest (turned to the people, blessing them): + Peace be to all!

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir (slowly, if the priest did the Litany himself): To Thee, O Lord.

Prayer at the Bowing of Heads

Priest, softly: O Lord our God, Who didst bow down the heavens and come down for the salvation of the race of mankind, look upon Thy servants and upon Thine inheritance. Unto Thee, the fearful Judge, Lover of mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads and subjected their necks, awaiting not help from man, but expecting Thy mercy and looking for Thy salvation. Keep them at all times, both during this present evening and during the approaching night, from every enemy, from every adverse operation of the Devil, and from vain thoughts and evil imaginations.

aloud: Blessed and most glorified be the dominion of Thy kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Aposticha

The choir sings the aposticha⁵ from the Octoechos, with the doxasticon from the Menaion, if it gives one, or during Lent from the Triodion. The reader reads the stichoi (verses) shown between the aposticha. After “Both now and ever” and the last of the aposticha, is read the Song of Symeon.

Song of Symeon: With Bishop: He says the Song of Symeon in a spoken voice. In a monastery, this may be done by the Superior. Otherwise, it is intoned by the reader.

Song of Symeon

(Reader or Superior:) Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master, according to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples. The light of revelation for the nations, and the glory of Thy people Israel. **and:**

Trisagion Prayers

Reader: + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

+ 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. (3x)

+ 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 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and

⁵ **Simple or double service:** They sing the stichera from Octoechos; “Glory”; (doxasticon from Menaion, if it gives one); “Both now”; theotokion. **Six-stichera service:** They sing the stichera from Octoechos; “Glory”; doxasticon from Menaion; “Both now”; theotokion. **Doxology service:** They sing the stichera from the Menaion, with the stichoi (verses) provided there; “Glory”; doxasticon from Menaion; “Both now”; theotokion.

the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Troparia

The choir sings the Dismissal Troparia.⁶

Augmented Litany⁷

Deacon (priest): Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *thrice*

Again we pray for the Holy Orthodox Patriarchs; for [our lord the Very Most Reverend] N., our Metropolitan; for [our lord the Most Reverend] N., our Archbishop, and all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *thrice*

Again we pray for this land, its authorities and armed forces.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *thrice*

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy monastery (*otherwise: temple*), and for all our fathers and brethren gone to their rest before us, and the Orthodox here and everywhere laid to sleep.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *thrice*

¹ **Order of Troparia:** They sing the troparion from the Menaion, once; “Glory”; (in a double service, 2nd troparion from Menaion); “Both now”; theotokion from lesser (dismissal) theotokia in back of Menaion—sung in same tone as troparion. But see Order of Divine Service, Chapter 6, for more on theotokia.

² **Note on Augmented Litany:** It is the same as the Augmented Litany done in a Great Vespers (though then directly after the prokeimenon / lessons), except the first two petitions are omitted at Daily Vespers.

⁷ **Augmented Litany:** Same as the Augmented Litany done in a Great Vespers except the position is altered, and at Daily Vespers the first two petitions are omitted.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, the brethren of this holy monastery (or: temple).

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

Again we pray for them that bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for them that minister and them that chant, and for all the people here present, that await of Thee great and abundant mercy.

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

Priest, the exclamation: For a merciful God art Thou, 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 the ages of ages. **Choir:** Amen.

Conclusion

Deacon: Wisdom! **Choir:** (Father or Master), bless.

Priest: He Who is, is blessed, even Christ our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Establish, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith of Orthodox Christians, unto the ages of ages.

Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir: O higher in honour 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.

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, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **3x.** Father or master, bless.

Turned west, the priest sings the Dismissal as appropriate for the day:

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His most pure Mother; ...

Sunday evenings: ... the mediations of the honourable heavenly bodiless Hosts; the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-praised Apostles; ...

Monday evenings: ... of the hounourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and all-praised Apostles; ...

Tuesday evenings: ... the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; the intercessions of the holy, glorious, and all-praised Apostles; ...

Wednesday evenings: ... of the holy, glorious, and all-praised Apostles; of our father among the saints, Nicholas the Wonder-worker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia; ...

Thursday evenings: ... the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; the intercessions of the holy, glorious, and all-praised Apostles; ...

Friday evenings: ... of the holy, glorious, and all-praised Apostles; of the holy, glorious, and victorious Martyrs; of our holy and God-bearing fathers; ...

... of our father among the saints, Hilarion the Great, of Palestine and Cyprus (i.e., Patron); of (he mentions the Saints of the day); of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loveth mankind. (And there is no “Amen,” but straighthway:)

Choir: The Holy Orthodox Patriarchs; our lord the Very Most Reverend Evloghios, Metropolitan of Milan; and our lord the Most Reverend Hilarion, Archbishop of Austin; the brotherhood of this holy monastery; and all Orthodox Christians, preserve, O Lord, for many years!

Vespers is ended; the priest comes out of the sanctuary and begins Compline before the holy doors.