

الفصح العظيم المقدّس



Great and Holy Pascha

Holy Pascha

Matins	2
Relevant to the Feast In the Divine Liturgy	34

Matins of Great and Holy Easter

Priest **Blessed be our God always, now and for ever and to the ages of ages.**

Choir Amen.

Priest **Glory be to You, O God, glory be to You.
O Heavenly King, Comforter and Spirit of truth, You that
are in all places and fill all things, the Treasury of blessings
and the Giver of life: come to dwell in us, cleanse us from
every stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.**

Choir Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy
upon us. (*3 times*).

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy upon us. Lord, cleanse us from
our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God visit and heal
our infirmities for your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*).

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now, and for ever, and to 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Lord, have mercy (12 times)

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

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me O God in your enduring goodness, according to the fullness of your compassion blot out my offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my rebellion and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your eyes; so you will be just in your sentence and blameless in your judging.

Surely in wickedness I was brought to birth and in sin my mother conceived me.

You that desire truth in the inward parts, O teach me wisdom in the secret places of the heart.

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, let the bones which you have broken rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Do not cast me out from your presence, and so not take your Holy Spirit from me.

O give me the gladness of your help again, and support me with a willing spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors your ways and sinners will turn to you again.

O Lord God of my salvation, deliver me from bloodshed and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. You take no pleasure in sacrifice or I would give it: burnt offerings you do not want.

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart O God you will not despise.

In your graciousness do good to Zion; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt-offerings and oblations; then will they offer young bulls upon your altar

Canon
In Tone Six

Ode One

He who in ancient times hid the pursuing tyrant beneath the waves of the sea, is hidden beneath the earth by the children of those whom once He saved. As for us, however, let us praise the Lord as did the youths; for in glory has He been glorified.

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

O Lord my God, I will sing a funeral hymn to You, a song at Your burial; for by Your burial You have opened the gates of life for me, and by Your death You have slain Death and Hades.

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

All things above and all beneath the earth quaked with fear at Your death, as they beheld You, O my Saviour, upon Your throne on high and in the tomb below. For beyond our understanding You lie before our eyes, a corpse and yet the very Source of Life.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

You descended to the depths of the earth in order to fill all things with Your glory: for my person that is in Adam has not been hidden from You, but in Your love for man You are buried in the tomb and You restore me from corruption.

Ode Three

When the creation beheld You hanging on Golgotha, You who did hang the whole earth freely upon the waters, it was seized with amazement and it cried: "There is none holy save You, O Lord."

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Signs and tokens of Your burial You have disclosed in a multitude of visions; and now, O Master, as both God and man, You have revealed Your hidden secrets to those in Hades who cry: "There is none holy but You, O Lord."

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

All things above and all beneath the earth quaked with fear at Your death, as they beheld You, O my Saviour, upon Your throne on high and in the tomb below. For beyond our understanding You lie before our eyes, a corpse and yet the very Source of Life.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

You descended to the depths of the earth in order to fill all things with Your glory: for my person that is in Adam has not been hidden from You, but in Your love for man You are buried in the tomb and You restore me from corruption.

Ode Four

Foreseeing Your divine self-emptying upon the Cross, Habakkuk cried out marvelling: "You have cut short the strength of the powerful, O gracious and almighty Lord, and preached to those in Hades."

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Today You keep holy the seventh day, which You have blessed of old by resting from Your works. You bring all things into being and You make all things new, observing the sabbath rest, my Saviour, and restoring Your strength.

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

You have gained the victory by Your greater strength: Your soul was parted from Your body, yet by Your power, O Word, You have burst asunder the bonds of death and Hades.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

Hades was filled with bitterness when it met You, O Word, for it saw a mortal deified, marked by wounds yet all-powerful; and it shrank back in terror at this sight.

Ode Five

Isaiah, as he watched by night, beheld the light that knows no evening, the light of Your Theophany, O Christ, that came to pass from tender love for us; and he cried aloud: 'The dead shall arise and they that dwell in the tomb shall be raised up, and all those born on the earth shall rejoice exceedingly.'

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

When You became a creature formed from dust, O Creator, You made new those born on earth. The linen and the grave point, O Word, to the mystery that is within You. For the honourable Joseph, of sound belief, fulfils Your Father's plan, Who has gloriously refashioned me in You.

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

By death You transform mortality and by Your burial, corruption. With divine power You make incorruptible the nature which You have taken, rendering it immortal; for Your flesh, O Master, did not see corruption, and Your soul in a strange manner was not left in Hades.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

You came forth from a Virgin who knew no travail. Your side, O my Creator, was pierced with a spear, by which You accomplished the re-creation of Eve, having Yourself become Adam. Supernaturally You fell into a sleep that renewed nature, raising life from sleep and corruption, for You are Almighty.

Ode Six

Jonah the Prophet was enclosed but not held fast in the body of the whale; for, serving as a figure of You, who suffered and was buried in the tomb, he leapt forth from the monster as from a bridal chamber and he called out to the watch: 'in vain do You watch, O Watchmen; for You have neglected mercy.'

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

You were killed, O Word, but You were not separated from the body which You shared with us. For even though Your temple was destroyed at the time of the Passion, yet the Person of Your Godhead and of Your flesh is but one; in both You are one Son, the Word of God, both God and man.

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

The fall of Adam resulted in the death of a Man, not God; for though the substance of Your earthly body suffered, Your divinity remained impassible. That which was corruptible in Your human nature You have transformed to incorruption, and by Your Resurrection You have revealed a fountain of immortal life.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

Verily, Hades ruled the race of man, but not for ever. For when You, O mighty Lord, were placed in the sepulchre, You burst asunder the bars of death with Your life-giving hand. To those from every age who slept in the tombs, You have proclaimed true deliverance, O Saviour, having become the First-Born of the dead.

Ode Seven

Wonder past speech! He who delivered the holy Children from the fiery furnace, is laid a corpse without breath in the tomb, for the salvation of us who sing: Blessed are You, O God our Deliverer.

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Verily, Hades was pierced and destroyed by the divine fire when it received in its heart him who was pierced in his side with a spear for the salvation of us who sing: Blessed are You, O God, our Deliverer.

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

O happy tomb! It received within itself the Creator as one asleep, and it was made a divine treasury of life, for our salvation who sing: Blessed are You, O God, our Deliverer.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

In Hades and in the tomb and in Eden, the Godhead of Christ was indivisibly united with the Father and the Spirit, for our salvation who sing: Blessed are You, O God, our Deliverer.

Ode Eight

Be amazed, O Heaven, be horribly afraid, and let the foundations of the earth be shaken. For lo, he who dwells on high is numbered with the dead and lodges as a stranger in a narrow tomb. Him do you children bless, you priests praise, and you people exalt above all forever.

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

The most pure Temple is destroyed, but raises up the fallen tabernacle. The second Adam, He who dwells on high, has come down to the first Adam in the depths of Hades. Him do you children bless, you priests praise, and you people exalt above all forever.

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

The disciples' courage failed, but Joseph of Arimathea was more bold; for seeing the God of all a corpse and naked, he asked for the body and buried Him, crying: Him do you children bless, you priests praise, and you people exalt above all forever.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

O strange wonders! O love and infinite forbearance! He who dwells on high is sealed beneath the earth with His own consent, and God is falsely accused as a deceiver. Him do you children bless, you priests praise, and you people exalt above all forever.

Ode Nine

Weep not for me, O Mother, beholding in the sepulchre the Son whom you conceived without seed in your womb. For I shall rise and shall be glorified, and as God I shall exalt in everlasting glory those who magnify you with faith and love.

† Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

O Son without beginning, in ways surpassing nature was I blessed at Your strange birth, for I was spared all travail. But now beholding You, my God, a lifeless corpse, I am pierced by the sword of bitter sorrow. But arise, that I may be magnified.

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

By My own will the earth covers me, O Mother, but the gate-keepers of Hades tremble as they see Me, clothed in the blood-stained garment of vengeance: for on the Cross as God have I struck down My enemies, and I shall rise again and magnify You.

† Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

Let the creation rejoice exceedingly, let all those born on earth be glad: for hell, the enemy, has been despoiled. Let the Women come to meet Me with sweet spices: for I am delivering Adam and Eve with all their offspring, and on the third day I shall rise again.

Weep not for Me. O Mother, beholding in the sepulchre the Son whom you conceived without seed in your womb. For I shall rise and shall be glorified, and as God I shall exalt in everlasting glory those who magnify you with faith and love.

People Holy God, holy mighty, holy immortal, have mercy upon us.
(*Thrice*).

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy upon us. Lord, cleanse us from
our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God visit and
heal our infirmities for your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and forever, and to 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**Priest For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory: of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and
forever, and to the ages of ages.**

People Amen.

Troparion

Tone Two

When You went down to death, O Life immortal, You destroyed hell by the radiancy of your Godhead; and when from the depths You raised the dead, then all the Powers of the Heaven cried aloud: 'O Giver of Life! O Christ our God! Glory be to You!'

Priest Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we pray You: hear us and have mercy.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest Again we pray for all pious and Rightly believing Christians.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest Again we pray for our Father and Metropolitan...

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest Again we pray for our brethren; the priests, deacons and Monks; and for all our brethren in Christ.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest Again we pray for those who govern this country, all civil authorities and our Armed Forces everywhere.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest And we pray for mercy, life, peace, health and salvation for the servants of God, the Orthodox Christians who dwell in this city. For those who are gathering in this Holy Church, for the Parish Council, for those who give and for their visitation, pardon and remission of their sins.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest Again we pray for the blessed and ever memorable founders of this holy Temple; 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.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

Priest Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable Temple; for those who serve and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

People Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*).

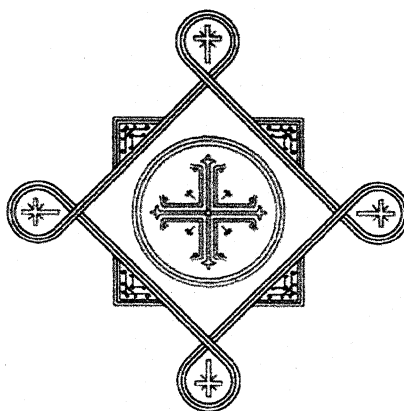
Priest For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

People Amen.

Priest May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers, and our father among the saints St Nicholas the wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra, patron saint of this Holy Church; 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 loves mankind.

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

People Amen.



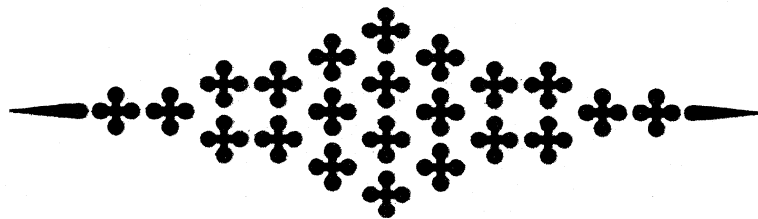
The Priest, lights a candle and stands at the Royal Doors chants aloud in tone five:

Priest Come, take light from the Light that is never overtaken by night. Come; glorify Christ, Who is risen from the dead.

The People repeats the Hymn until the Faithful light their candles. After that, the Faithful, People and Clergy exit the Church chanting the following troparion in tone six:

People The Angels in Heaven praise Your Resurrection,
O Christ, our Saviour; make us here on earth worthy to glorify
You with pure hearts.

(Repeated until they reach the nominated place)



THE GOSPEL

Priest And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

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

Priest Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

Choir And to your spirit.

Priest The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Choir Glory to You, O Lord, glory to you.

Priest *Reads from St. Mark 16:1-8.*

At that time, when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back - it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

Choir Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest **Glory to the Holy, consubstantial and life-giving Trinity always, now and for ever and to the ages of ages.**

Choir Amen.

Priest: *(Chants, raising the candle high)*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

Priest **Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered; let them that hate Him flee from before His face.**

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

Priest **As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire.**

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

Priest **So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.**

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

Priest This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

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

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

Priest Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life

Priest Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death

Choir and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

The Great Litany

Priest In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For the peace, from on high, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For this holy House, and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For all devout and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For our Father and Metropolitan .N..., for the venerable Priesthood, for the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For those who govern this country, for all civil authorities and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy

Priest For this city, for every city, and land, and for the faithful, who dwell in them; let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For favourable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times; let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For those who travel by sea, by land, by air, for the sick and suffering; for those in captivity; and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and necessity; let us pray to the Lord.

Choir Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, (*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For to You belong all glory, honour, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

The Priest knocks at the Church Door for reentry, using the words of Ps23:7-10.

**Priest Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up,
O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is the King of glory?

**Priest The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle!
Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient
doors! That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

**Priest The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle!
Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient
doors! That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

Priest The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Priest, Choir and People now reenter the lighted Church

Ode One

Irmos:

Priest It is the Day of Resurrection, O people, let us be radiant. Pascha, the Lord's Pascha; for Christ God has brought us from death unto life, and from earth unto Heaven as we sing the triumphal hymn.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

Let us purify our senses and we shall behold Christ radiant with the unapproachable light of the Resurrection, and we shall clearly hear Him say: Rejoice! as we sing the triumphal hymn.

- **Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

For it is right that the Heavens should rejoice, and that the earth should be glad, and that the whole world, both visible and invisible, should keep the feast; for Christ, our everlasting Joy, has risen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

The Little Litany

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and
glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary,
(*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us
entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to
Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For Yours is the dominion, and Yours is the kingdom, and
the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and
of the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Ode Three

Irmos:

Priest Come, let us drink a new drink. Not one marvellously brought forth from a barren rock, but the Source of incorruption, which springs forth from the grave of Christ, in Whom we are established.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

Now are all things filled with light; Heaven and earth, and the nethermost regions of the earth. Let all creation, therefore, celebrate the arising of Christ, whereby it is established.

- **Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

Yesterday I was buried with You, O Christ, and today I arise with Your arising. Yesterday was I crucified with You; may You Yourself glorify me with You, O Saviour, in Your Kingdom.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

The Little Litany

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and
glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary,
(*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us
entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to
Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For You are our God, and unto You do we send up glory, to
the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and
for ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

The Hypakoe

(*Fourth Tone*)

When they who were with Mary came, anticipating the dawn, and found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre, they heard from the Angel: Why do you seek among the dead, as though He were mortal man, He Who abides in everlasting light? Go quickly and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen, and has put Death to death. For He is the Son of God, Who saves the race of man.

Ode Four

Irmos:

Priest Let the inspired Prophet Habbakuk keep the divine watch with us, and show forth the radiant Angel who with resounding voice has declared: Today brings salvation to the world, for Christ is risen as omnipotent.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

Christ revealed Himself to be of the male sex when He opened the Virgin's womb, and to be mortal when He was called the Lamb. Thus without blemish is our Pascha, for He did not taste corruption; and since He is truly God, He was proclaimed perfect.

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

Christ, our blessed Crown, like unto a yearling lamb, of His own good will did sacrifice Himself for all, a Pascha of purification: and from the grave the beautiful Sun of Righteousness shone forth again upon us.

- **Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

David the ancestor of God, danced with leaping before the symbolical Ark of the Covenant. Let us also, the holy people of God, beholding the fulfilment of the symbols, rejoice in godly wise: For Christ is risen, as omnipotent.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

The Little Litany

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, (*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For You are good, O God and the lover of mankind, and to You we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Ode Five

Irmos:

Priest Let us arise in the deep dawn and instead of myrrh offer praise to the Master; and we shall see Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, Who causes life to dawn for all.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

Troparia: When those held captive in the bonds of Hades beheld your boundless compassion, O Christ, they hastened to the light with a joyful step, exalting the eternal Pascha.

- **Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

Bearing lights, let us go forth to meet Christ, Who comes forth from the grave like a bridegroom. And with the ranks of those that love and keep this festival, let us celebrate the saving Pascha of God.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

The Little Litany

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and
glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary,
(*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us
entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to
Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For sanctified and glorified is Your all-honourable and
majestic Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Now and for ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Ode Six

Irmos:

Priest You descended, O Christ, into the deepest parts of the earth, and shattered the everlasting bars that held fast those that were fettered. And on the third day, like Jonah from the sea monster, You arose from the grave.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

You rose from the tomb having kept the seals intact, O Christ, You who did not break the seal of the virgin by Your birth; and You have opened unto us the gates of Paradise.

- **Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

O my Saviour, the life-giving and unslain Sacrifice, when, as God, You of Your own will, had offered up Yourself unto the Father, You raised up with Yourself the whole race of Adam when You rose from the grave.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

The Little Litany

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glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary,
(*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us
entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to
Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For You are the King of Peace and the Saviour of our souls,
and unto You do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the
Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever and to the
ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Kontakion

Reader: Though You went down to the grave, O deathless One, You
destroyed the power of hell; and You arose in victory, O Christ our
God, saying to the women who brought myrrh, 'Rejoice!', giving
peace to Your apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Oikos

The myrrh-bearing maidens anticipated the dawn and sought, as those who seek the day, their Sun, Who was before the sun and Who had set in the tomb. And they cried out to each other: O friends, come, let us anoint with sweet-smelling spices the life-bringing and buried Body, even that flesh which raises fallen Adam, who lies in the grave. Let us go, like the Wise Men, let us make haste and let us worship; and let us bring Myrrh as a gift to Him, Who is no longer wrapped in swaddling bands, but in a winding sheet. Let us weep and cry out: Arise, O Master, and grant Resurrection to the fallen.

Synaxarion

On the Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the life-bearing Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Christ, going down alone to the struggle with Hades, Came forth again and brought with Him plenteous spoils of Victory. To Him be glory and dominion unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Then:

In that we have beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us bow down before the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. Your Cross do we adore, O Christ, and your holy Resurrection we praise and glorify: for You are our God, and we know none other beside You; we call upon your Name. O come, all you faithful, let us adore Christ's holy Resurrection. For lo, through the Cross is joy come into all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, let us sing his Resurrection: for in that he endured the Cross he has destroyed Death by death.

Jesus having risen from the grave, as He foretold, has given to us Eternal Life and the Great Mercy.

Ode Seven

Irmos: The only blessed and most glorious God of our Fathers, Who redeemed the Children from the furnace, is become man and as mortal suffers, and through suffering He clothes mortality with the grace of incorruption.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

The godly-wise women followed after You in haste with sweet-smelling myrrh. But Him whom they sought with tears as dead, they joyfully adored as the living God, and announced unto the disciples, O Christ, the glad tidings of the mystical Pascha.

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

We celebrate the death of death, the destruction of Hades, the beginning of everlasting life. And with leaps of joy we praise the Cause thereof, the only blessed and most glorious God of our Fathers.

- **Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

Truly sacred and supremely festive is this saving night, radiant with light, the forerunner of the bright-beaming Day of the Resurrection, whereon the Timeless Light in bodily form shone from the grave for all.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

The Little Litany

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and
glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary,
(*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us
entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to
Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For blessed and glorified be the might of Your Kingdom, of
the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Now and
for ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Ode Eight

Irmos: This chosen and holy day is the first of Sabbaths, the Mistress and Queen, the Feast of feasts and Festival of festivals, and on it Christ is glorified unto all Ages.

- **Glory to Your Holy Resurrection, O Lord!**

Come, on this auspicious day of the Resurrection, let us partake of the new fruit of the vine of divine gladness and of the Kingdom of Christ, praising Him as God unto the ages.

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

Cast your eyes about you, O Sion, and behold! For lo, like divinely-radiant luminaries, from the West, the North, the Sea and the East have your children assembled unto you, blessing Christ unto the ages.

- **Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

O Father Almighty, the Word, and the Spirit, one Nature united in three Hypostases, transcending essence and supremely Divine! In You have we been baptised, and You will we bless unto all the ages.

- **We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.**

This chosen and holy day is the first of Sabbaths, the Mistress and Queen, the Feast of feasts and Festival of festivals, and on it Christ is glorified unto all Ages.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

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Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, (*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For blessed is Your Name, and glorified is Your Kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Priest The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honour and magnify in song.

Ode Nine
(Tone One)

**Magnify, O my soul, Him Who willingly suffered
and was buried, and arose from the grave on the third day.**

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Rejoice and be glad, O Sion! and exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom you bore.

**Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of life,
Who arose from the grave on the third day.**

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Rejoice and be glad, O Sion! and exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom you bore.

**Christ is the new Pascha, the living sacrificial Victim,
the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.**

O Divine and beloved and most sweet voice! You, O Christ, have truly promised that You would be with us unto the end of all Ages. Wherefore, we, the faithful, rejoice, holding these Your words as an anchor of hope.

**Today the whole creation is glad and rejoices,
for Christ is risen, and Hades has been despoiled.**

O Divine and beloved and most sweet voice! You, O Christ, have truly promised that You would be with us unto the end of all Ages. Wherefore, we, the faithful, rejoice, holding these Your words as an anchor of hope.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Magnify, O my soul, the dominion of the undivided Godhead of
Three Hypostases.**

O Great and most sacred Pascha, Christ! O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God! Grant to us a most clear sign that we shall share with You in the unwaning Day of Your Kingdom.

Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Rejoice, O Virgin, rejoice; rejoice, O blessed one; rejoice,
O most glorified one, for your Son has risen from the grave on the
third day.**

O Great and most sacred Pascha, Christ! O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God! Grant to us a most clear sign that we shall share with You in the unwaning Day of Your Kingdom.

The Angel cried to her who was full of grace: Hail! Holy Virgin, and again, I say, hail! Your Son has risen from the grave on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Rejoice and be glad, O Sion! and exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom you bore.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (x3)

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

Choir Lord, have mercy.

Priest Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and Ever Virgin Mary, (*O most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir To You, O Lord.

Priest For all the powers of heaven praise You, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now, and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir Amen.

Exaposteilarion

Tone Two

When You had fallen asleep in the flesh as one mortal, O King and Lord, You rose again on the third day, raising up Adam from corruption, and abolishing death: O Pascha of incorruption! O Salvation of the world! (x3)

The Praises

Tone One

Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heavens: O praise him in the heights. To You, O God, is due our song.

Praise Him, all His angels: O praise Him, all His host. To You, O God, is due our song.

**Praise Him for His mighty acts;
Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.**

We praise Your saving Passion, O Christ, and glorify Your Resurrection.

**Praise Him in the blast of the ram's horn
Praise Him upon the lute and harp.**

You, O Lord, Who endured the Cross, abolished Death and arose from the dead. Make our life peaceful, O Lord, since You alone are Almighty

**Praise Him with the timbrel and dances
Praise Him upon the strings and pipe.**

You Who did despoil Hades and Who raised up man by Your Resurrection, O Christ: Deem us worthy to hymn and glorify You with purity of heart.

**Praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals
Praise Him upon the loud cymbals.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.**

We praise You, O Christ, and glorify Your Divine condescension: You were born from a Virgin, but remained inseparably with the Father. You suffered as man and of Your own will endured the Cross. You arose from the tomb as from a bridal chamber, so that You might save the world. O Lord, glory be to You.

The Sitchera of Pascha
with their Verses
Tone Five

**Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered
and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.**

A sacred Pascha has been shown forth to us today. A new and holy Pascha, a mystic Pascha, an all-venerable Pascha. A Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer. A spotless Pascha, a great Pascha, a Pascha of the faithful. A Pascha which has opened to us the gates of Paradise. A Pascha which hallows all the faithful.

**As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish;
As wax melts from before the fire.**

Come from that scene, O women, bearers of good tidings, and say to Sion: Receive from us the tidings of joy, of the Resurrection of Christ. Exult, dance and be glad, O Jerusalem, for you have seen Christ the King as a bridegroom come forth from the tomb.

**So let sinners perish at the presence of God
and let the righteous be glad.**

The myrrh-bearing women at deep dawn drew near to the tomb of the Giver of life; they found an Angel sitting upon the stone, and he, addressed them in this manner, saying: Why do you seek the Living among the dead? Why do you mourn the Incorruptible amid corruption? Go, proclaim it to His disciples.

**This is the day which the Lord has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad therein.**

A Pascha of delight, Pascha, the Lord's Pascha, an all-venerable Pascha has dawned for us, a Pascha whereon let us embrace one another with joy. O Pascha, ransom from sorrow! Today Christ has shone forth from the tomb as from a bridal chamber, and has filled the women with joy, saying: Proclaim it unto the Apostles.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

It is the day of Resurrection; let us be radiant for the festival, and let us embrace one another. Let us say, O brethren, even to those that hate us: Let us forgive all things on the Resurrection; and thus let us cry: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

THE RESURRECTION HYMN

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down Death by death,
and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.**

(Thrice)

Divine Liturgy

Blessed is the Kingdom..... ...

Priest Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb

Choir bestowing life

Priest Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead,...

Priest As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; As wax melts from before the fire.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead,...

Priest So let sinners perish at the presence of God and let the righteous be glad.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead,...

Priest This is the day which the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead,...

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

Choir Christ is risen from the dead,...

Priest Now and for ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Choir Christ is risen from the dead,...

Priest Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb

Choir bestowing life

First Antiphon

- **Shout with joy to God, all the earth. Sing a psalm to His Name; give glory to His praise.**

*Through the intercessions of the Theotokos,
O Saviour save us.*

- **Say to God: How terrible are Your works. Let all the earth adore You, and sing to You: Let it sing a psalm to Your nName, O most high**

*Through the intercessions of the Theotokos,
O Saviour save us.*

- **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now, and for ever, and to the ages of ages.
Amen**

*Through the intercessions of the Theotokos,
O Saviour save us.*

Priest Again and again....

For Yours is the might,.....

Second Antiphon

- **May God have mercy on us, and bless us. May He cause the Light of His countenance to shine upon us, and may He have mercy upon us.**

O Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

- **That we may know Your way upon the earth; Your salvation in all nations.**

O Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

- **Let the people confess to You, O God: let all people give praise to You.**

O Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

- **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now, and for ever, and to the ages of ages.**

Amen

Only begotten Son and Word of God, ...

Priest Again and again....

For You are good, O God...

Third Antiphon

- **Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.**

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

- **As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; As wax melts from before the fire.**

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

- **So let sinners perish at the presence of God and let the righteous be glad.**

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

- **This is the day which the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

Eisodikon:

In the gathering places bless God the Lord from the springs of His people.

Save us O Son of God risen from the dead, we who sing to You Alleluia.

Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life. (*Thrice*)

Then

The Hypakoe

(Fourth Tone)

When they who were with Mary came, anticipating the dawn, and found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre, they heard from the Angel: Why do you seek among the dead, as though He were mortal man. He Who abides in everlasting light? Go quickly and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen, and has put Death to death. For He is the Son of God, Who saves the race of man.

Kontakion of the Feast

Though You went down to the grave, O deathless One, You destroyed the power of hell; and You arose in victory, O Christ our God, saying to the women who brought myrrh, 'Rejoice!', giving peace to Your apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

And instead of Holy God sing;

As many as have been baptised into Christ, have put on Christ, Alleluia!

The Epistle

Prokeimenon

This is the day which the Lord has made Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
For his mercy endures for ever.

Section for the Epistle from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8.

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and to teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me, for John baptised with water, but before many days you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit.

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times and seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before Me, for He was before me.") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

And on Especially, the Hermos of the Ninth Ode is sung with its Magnification,
The angel did speak... and Shine, Shine.

Koinonikon :Receive the Body of Christ, and taste Him that is found deathless.

And instead of: We have seen the true Light... *and* Blessed be the Name of the Lord...sing:
Christ is risen ...(Thrice)

And after the Benediction the priest says:
O You Who rose from the Dead, O Christ our true God...

The the priest call out to the people: Christ is Risen (Thrice)
And the people respond : Indeed, He has risen!

Then the Priest concludes: Let us adore His third-day Resurrection. Amen

The Easter Homily of St. John Chrysostom

If any be a devout lover of God, let him partake with gladness from this fair and radiant feast.

If any be a faithful servant, let him enter rejoicing into the joy of his Lord.

If any have wearied himself with fasting, let him now enjoy his reward.

If any have laboured from the first hour, let him receive today his rightful due.

If any have come after the third, let him celebrate the feast with thankfulness.

If any have come after the sixth, let him not be in doubt, for he will suffer no loss.

If any have delayed until the ninth, let him not hesitate to draw near.

If any have arrived only at the eleventh, let him not be afraid because he comes so late. For the Master is generous and accepts the last even as the first. He gives rest to him who comes at the eleventh hour in the same way as to him who laboured from the first.

He accepts the deed and commends the intention.

Enter then, all of you, into the joy of our Lord.

First and last, receive alike your reward.

Rich and poor, dance together.

You who have fasted and you who have not fasted, rejoice today.

The table is fully laden: let all enjoy it. The calf is fatted: let none go away hungry.

Let none lament his poverty; for the universal kingdom is revealed.
Let none bewail his transgressions; for the light of forgiveness has risen from the tomb.

Let none fear; for the death of the Saviour has set us free. He has destroyed death by undergoing death. He has despoiled hell by descending into hell.

Hell was filled with bitterness when it met you face to face below; filled with bitterness, for it was brought to nothing; filled with bitterness, for it was mocked; filled with bitterness, for it was overthrown; filled with bitterness, for it was put in chains. It received a body, and encountered God. It received earth, and confronted heaven. O death, where is thy sting? O hell, where is your victory?

Christ is risen, and you are cast down.

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen.

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice.

Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of the dead;

For Christ, having risen from the dead, is become the firstfruits of those that have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

Reproduced with permission from: "Anthony Coniaris (Ed.) Daily Readings from the writings of St. John Chrysostom, Light and Life Publishing Co.

يُحفظ هذا الكتاب في الكنيسة - شكراً

This book to be kept in the Church - Thank you.

المسيح قام! حقاً قام!

**CHRIST IS RISEN!
TRULY HE IS RISEN**

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

كنيسة القديس نيقولاوس الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

Parish Priest: Fr. Dimitri Baroudi
176 Simpson St., East Melbourne, Victoria
Pascha 2010