

# The Rocky Mountain Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood



Saint Catherine  
Greek Orthodox Church

*5555 S. Yosemite St., Greenwood Village, CO*

and



**Proudly Host**

**BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF  
CHRIST, THE GOOD SAMARITAN**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023**

**Retreat Master: Fr. Alexii Altschul**

**RETREAT HANDBOOK**

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## RETREAT SCHEDULE

9:00 Meet & Greet w. Fr. Alexii

9:30 Morning Prayers

10:00 Introductions

10:30 Session 1: Serving our Neighbors:  
My Journey

11:30 Lunch & OCPM Project

1:15 Session 2: Serving our Neighbors:  
How we and our parishes can be  
the Hands & Feet of Christ

2:15 Break

2:30 Session 3: Q&A - Questions on  
how We Serve Our Neighbors

3:15 Opportunities to be Christ's  
Hands & Feet

3:30 Vespers

## FR. ALEXII ALTCHUL BIOGRAPHY:

### Founder:

- ◇ Holy Archangel Michael & All Angels Skete, Weatherby, MO, and
- ◇ Reconciliation Services, Kansas City, MO

Fr. Alexii began his journey to Orthodoxy as an insurance salesman, inspired by the scriptural command to love and serve the poor. He began taking food to families on Linwood Ave., an east-side community of Kansas City suffering multigenerational poverty and trauma. It was here that Fr. Alexii met the woman who would become his wife, Thelma Beaver. She was African American, considerably older, raised in poverty and had lived a life riddled with trauma, violence, and addictions. But despite her struggles, Thelma had the heart of a saint, housing and feeding strangers in her small apartment.

Fr. Alexii quit his job and with Thelma began caring for the residents and neighborhoods near Linwood. They were married in 1986 and founded Reconciliation Ministries. The ministry began by offering hot meals to anyone in need.

Their journey to Orthodoxy continued, and in the 1990s they committed their work to prayer. Eventually, their small community at Reconciliation Ministries became St. Mary of Egypt Orthodox Church under the Serbian Diocese of the Midwest. Thelma became Matushka Michaela, named for the Archangel Michael. After earning his master's degree in social work in 2005, Fr. Alexii transitioned Reconciliation Services into a nonprofit agency, functioning separately but as an extension of the Orthodox churches and other communities of compassion in Kansas City.

After Matushka Michaela passed away in 2012, Fr. Alexii began pursuing a life of monasticism. He was tonsured a hieromonk and founded a monastery in Weatherby, MO.



# THE GOOD SAMARITAN PROJECT

## **Vision:**

With the love of Christ, we will proclaim the Gospel and offer God's peace, liberty, and hope to the poor, the brokenhearted, and those in need.

## **Mission:**

To energize the Colorado Rocky Mountain Orthodox community to understand and serve our brothers and sisters in need, consistent with Christ's call to love in deed and truth.

(I John 3:18)

## **Goals:**

### **Immediate Goals:**

1. Embed an annual pan-Orthodox Colorado retreat into the DNA and calendars of our Colorado parishes. The retreats will explore the many ways we can be the Hands and Feet of Christ, the Good Samaritan.
2. Annually host an **Orthodox Day of Service** during Great Lent where Colorado Orthodox parishes join together in alms-giving to serve our neighbors who are in need.

Our hope is to encourage and help Colorado parishes build and expand their existing outreach efforts.

### **Longer Term Goals:**

There is strong desire from many people, representing many parishes to establish:

1. An Orthodox spiritual presence in one of Denver's neighborhoods of need. The Orthodox presence would include addressing the community's spiritual, physical and emotional needs.
2. A home for homeless women or women who have been trafficked. An exploratory committee has been established to identify how such a home might be established in Colorado.



<https://www.goodsamaritancolo.org>

## SERVICE OF GREAT VESPERS

*The priest, together with the other clergy, make three reverences before the Beautiful Gate, saying:*

**PRIEST:** O God cleanse me the sinner, and have mercy on me.  
(3x)

**PRIEST:** Blessed is our God, always, now, and ever, and to the ages of ages.

**ALL:** Amen.

**READER:** Come, let us + worship and bow down before our King and God.

Come, let us + worship and bow down before Christ, our King and God.

Come, let us + worship and bow down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

### Proemial Psalm 103 (104)

**READER:** Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, You are magnified exceedingly; You clothe Yourself with thanksgiving and majesty, Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain; You are He who covers His upper chambers with waters, Who makes the clouds His means of approach, Who walks on the wings of the winds, Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire. He established the earth on its stable foundation; It shall not be moved unto ages of ages. The deep like a garment is His covering; The waters shall stand upon the mountains; At Your rebuke they shall flee; At the sound of Your thunder, they shall be afraid. The mountains rise up, and the plains sink down To the place You founded for them. You set a boundary they shall not pass over; Neither shall they return to cover the earth. You are He who sends springs into the val-



ley; The waters shall pass between the mountains; They shall give drink to all the wild animals of the field; The wild asses shall quench their thirst; The birds of heaven shall dwell beside them; They shall sing from the midst of the rocks. You are He who waters the mountains from His higher places; The earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Your works. You are He who causes grass to grow for the cattle, And the green plant for the service of man, To bring forth bread from the earth; And wine gladdens the heart of man, To brighten his face with oil; And bread strengthens man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be full of fruit, The cedars of Lebanon, which You planted; There the sparrows shall make their nests; The house of the heron takes the lead among them. The high mountains are for the deer; The cliff is a refuge for the rabbits. He made the moon for seasons; The sun knows its setting. You established darkness, and it was night, Wherein all the wild animals of the forest will prowl about; The young lions roar and snatch their prey, And seek their food from God. The sun arises, and they are gathered together; And they shall be put to bed in their dens. Man shall go out to his work And to his labor until evening. O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom; The earth was filled with Your creation. There is this great and spacious sea: The creeping things are there without number; The living things are there, both small and great; There the ships pass through; There is this dragon You formed to play therein. All things wait upon You, That You may give them food in due season. When You give it to them, they shall gather it; When You open Your hand, all things shall be filled with Your goodness. But when You turn Your face away, they shall be troubled; When You take away their breath, they shall die And return

again to their dust. You shall send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, And You shall renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be forever; The Lord shall be glad in His works; He looks upon the earth and makes it tremble; He touches the mountains, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing to my God as long as I exist; May my words be pleasing to Him, And I shall be glad in the Lord. May sinners cease from the earth, And the lawless, so as to be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knows its setting. You established darkness, and it was night. O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom.

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

Alleluia, + Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (3X)

Lord, you are our hope, glory to you.

*The People go to page 7, the Great Litany.*

*While Psalm 103 (104) is read, the first priest, standing before the Holy Altar, says:*

## Lamplighting Prayers

### First Prayer

PRIEST: O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy: hear our prayer, and attend to the voice of our supplication. Work among us a sign for good; lead us in Your way, that we may walk in Your truth; gladden our hearts, that we may fear Your holy name: for You are great, and You work wonders; You alone are God, and there is no other like You among the gods, O Lord; You are powerful in mercy and You are gracious in strength, to assist, and to comfort, and to save all who place their hope in Your holy name. For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## Second Prayer

PRIEST: **O** Lord, do not rebuke us in Your indignation nor chasten us in Your wrath, but rather deal with us according to Your reason, O Physician and Healer of our souls. Guide us to the haven of Your will. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of Your truth; and grant that the remainder of this day, and all the rest of our lives, may be peaceful and without sin through the intercessions of the Theotokos and of all the saints. 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 ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## Third Prayer

PRIEST: **O** Lord our God, remember us sinners and unworthy servants as we call upon Your holy name, and do not put us to shame for expecting Your mercy, but graciously grant us, O Lord, all our petitions that are for salvation, and make us worthy to love and to fear You with all our hearts, and to do Your will in all things. For You are a good God Who loves mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## Fourth Prayer

PRIEST: **O** You Who are praised by the holy powers with never-silenced hymns and never-ceasing doxologies, fill our mouths with Your praise, so that we may magnify Your holy name; and grant us a portion and an inheritance with all who fear You in truth and who keep Your commandments; through the intercessions of the Theotokos and of all Your saints. For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

### Fifth Prayer

**PRIEST:** Lord, O Lord, Who holds all things together in Your spotless hands, Who are long-suffering toward all of us, and Who repents of our wickedness, remember Your compassion and Your mercy; watch over us in Your goodness; and grant that we may avoid the manifold deceits of the evil one throughout the remainder of the present day, and preserve our lives free from every assault, through the grace of Your All-Holy Spirit. Through the mercies and love for mankind of Your only-begotten Son with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

### Sixth Prayer

**PRIEST:** O God, great and wonderful, Who with ineffable goodness and rich providence orders all things; Who grants us the good things of this world, and Who assures us of obtaining the Kingdom through the good things already granted to us; O You, Who has made us shun all evil during that part of this day which is past, grant that we may also complete the remainder of the day without reproach, before Your holy glory, singing praise to You, the only good One, our God Who loves mankind. For You are our God, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

### Seventh Prayer

**PRIEST:** O great and most-high God, Who alone has immortality; Who dwells in unapproachable light, Who creates all things in wisdom; Who divides light from darkness; Who places the sun to govern the day, and Who establishes the moon and the stars to rule the night; Who makes us sinners worthy at this hour to enter before Your countenance in confession and to offer You

PRIEST: evening praise: O You, the Lord Who loves mankind, direct our prayer as incense before You, and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend this evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; save us from fears of the night, and protect us from all things that lurk in the darkness; and grant that the sleep which You give to refresh us from our weakness may be protected from every diabolic fantasy. Truly, O Master of all and Giver of every good thing, being moved to compunction upon our beds, may we remember Your name throughout the night, may we be enlightened by meditation on Your commandments, and may our souls rise up with gladness to praise Your goodness, coming before You offering prayers and supplications to Your compassion for our sins and for the sins of all Your people; visit us with mercy through the intercessions of the Theotokos. For You are a good God Who loves mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

### The Great Litany

*Standing before the Beautiful Gates, the first deacon or, standing before the Holy Altar, the first priest intones:*

DEACON: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord have mercy. *(After the first and following petitions.)*

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

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

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

DEACON: For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Archbishop ISAIAH, the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the laity, let us pray to the Lord.

For the president of our country, for all civil authorities, and for our armed forces on land, at sea, and in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

For travelers by sea, land and air; the sick, the suffering, the captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.

ALL: To you O Lord.

*The deacon enters the Holy of Holies through the south door*

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 ever, and to the ages of ages.

ALL: Amen.

## Psalm 140 (141)

### Tone 3

CHANTER: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; hearken unto me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry unto Thee: Hearken unto me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice; hearken unto me, O Lord.

*As the Reader chants "Lord, I have cried" the deacon (or priest) stands before the Holy Altar with the censer, and says to the celebrant "Master bless the incense." The first priest blesses the incense saying: "Blessed is our God, always, now, and ever, and to the ages of ages. We offer incense to You, Christ our God, as a scent of spiritual fragrance; accept it at Your supra-heavenly altar, and send down upon us in return the grace of Your all-holy Spirit." The censuring of the church begins at the words "Let my prayer be set forth..."*

CHANTER: 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.

CHANTER: 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

CHANTER: With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto the Lord have I made my 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.

### Resurrectional Stichera Tone of the Day

*Verse 1:* Bring my soul out of prison that I may confess Thy Name.

By virtue of Your crucifixion, O Christ our Savior, the dominion of death is overthrown, the devil's deceit has come to an end, and the human race, being saved by faith, offers praise to You every day.

*Verse 2:* The righteous shall wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.



By virtue of Your crucifixion, O Christ our Savior, the dominion of death is overthrown, the devil's deceit has come to an end, and the human race, being saved by faith, offers praise to You every day.

**Psalm 129 (130)**

*Verse 3:* Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and praise their authority. The undivided, uncreated Godhead, the consubstantial Trinity, shall reign forever and ever. [

*Verse 4:* Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

We venerate Your holy Cross and extol and glorify Your resurrection; for we all have been healed by Your bruises, O Christ.

*Verse 5:* If Thou shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

With the splendors of divine teachings / you destroyed the night of polytheism, Father Abercius! / You revealed the dawn in all-glorious miracles, / making those who were in darkness children of the day! / Therefore, we all celebrate your holy memory with faith, // singing hymns to you, divinely inspired one!

*Verse 6:* For Thy Name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord. You wrought a miracle, Father, / mingling wine and oil in a single vessel, preserving them in that way, / but when needed you caused them to separate by divine grace! / By your supplication you caused a gift of warm water to gush forth / healing the infirmities of those who approach you with faith // and call you blessed, Father Abercius!

*Verse 7:* From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord.

Cleaving wholly to God, Abercius, / you revealed yourself fulfilling the teachings of God. / You received grace from on high, venerable one, / driving away mankind's many infirmities! / You destroyed the temples of the idols, / planting the knowledge of God // in those who languished in wretched ignorance, blessed one!

**For the Holy Seven Youths**  
**Tone 4**

*Verse 8:* For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

The blessed youths spurned the evil commands: / Submitting to God, they were bound, breaking the bonds of falsehood! / Rejecting worldly rank they have received the glory of perfection // which won for them the joy of the heavenly Kingdom!

*Stichera/Hymn*

*Verse 9:* O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

You trained yourselves mightily for the struggles of suffering, Saints. / You hid in a cave, entreating the Lord. / With unceasing supplications you sought power and might from Him / through His wisdom and judgments as the Lover of mankind. // In a godly manner He commanded all of you to fall asleep in peace!

*Verse 10:* For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

Come, people, let us earnestly hymn the witnesses of piety, / The divinely assembled regiment, / The blessed choir, the invincible company of martyrs, / The beautiful triumph of the Church of God, / The indivisible assembly, // The unvanquished army and unshakable foundation of piety!

## For St. Abercius Tone 3

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

O devout Hierarch, all-blessed father Abercius, wonder-worker and servant of Christ, you were distinguished by your prophetic life, and you were granted apostolic gifts of grace. We pray you, who serve the Savior unceasingly with the Angels, intercede that He rescue our souls from every threat.

### Theotokion Tone of the Day

CHANTER: Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

How can we not marvel that you became the mother of the Son of God the Father, O all-honorable Virgin! You were wholly blameless, and you experienced no union with a man, and you gave birth to Him, unfathered in the flesh, who unmothered was begotten of the Father before all ages. He did not undergo any change or mixing or division, but He preserved intact the distinctive property of each nature. O Lady, we implore you, virgin Mother, to entreat Him for the salvation of the souls of all who profess the Orthodox belief that you are Theotokos.

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*The priest and the deacon prepare for the entrance with the Gospel by making three metanias in front of the altar.*

*Preceded by the candle bearers, the deacon exits through the north door, followed by the priest and concelebrating clergy in order of rank from junior to senior. As the Clergy exit, the deacon says:*

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PRIEST: In the evening, at dawn, and at midday, we praise You, we bless You, we thank You, and we beseech You, O Master of

PRIEST: all, the Lord Who loves mankind. Guide our prayers, as incense before You, and do not let our hearts be inclined toward words or thoughts of evil, but save us from all who pursue our souls; do not put us to shame, O our God, for our eyes are fixed on You, Lord, O Lord, and we have hoped in You. For to You is due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

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*Standing before the Beautiful Gates on the south side, the deacon points toward the Beautiful Gates with his orarion and says:*

DEACON: Master, bless the holy entrance.

*Blessing the entrance, the Priest:*

PRIEST: Blessed is the entrance of Your saints, always; now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*The Deacon, standing before the priest, quietly censens the iconostasion, the concelebrating Clergy and the faithful. At the end of the Theotokion, the deacon says:*

DEACON: Wisdom. Arise.

## Lamp Lighting Hymn of Thanksgiving

*Clergy/People sing:*

O Glad-some light of ho - ly glo - ry of the ho - ly,  
bless - ed, heav - enly, im-mortal Fa - ther, O Je - sus  
Christ. Now that we have come to the sun - set when

we be - hold the eve-ning light we praise You, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir-it, One God. It is wor - thy for You to be praised at all times with voi-ces of ho - ly song O Son of God, Giv - - - er of life. There - fore the whole world glo - ri - fies You.

*While the Entrance Hymn is sung, the Deacon finishes the censuring, if not done, and the clergy enters the Holy of Holies through the Beautiful Gates as the hymn is sung. The deacon censes the clergy as they enter.*

**Prokeimenon**

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon

*The remaining clergy enter. The first deacon censes the clergy as they enter the Holy of Holies. If a single priest celebrates Vespers, he raises the censer, making the Sign of the Cross at the words, "... we praise You ...," and enters the Holy of Holies.*

**Tone 6**

Refrain: The Lord reigns; ; He clothed Himself with majesty.

CHANTER: The Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.

**\*\*Refrain\*\***

CHANTER: And He established the world, which shall not be moved.

## Great Litany of Fervent Supplication

*Standing before the Beautiful Gates, the first deacon or, standing before the Holy Altar, the clergy in turn:*

DEACON: Let us say with all our soul, and with all our mind let us say.

ALL: Lord have mercy. *(After this and the following petition.)*

O Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we beseech You: hear us and have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we beseech You, hear us and have mercy.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. *(After this and the following petitions.)*

Again we pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

Again we pray for our Archbishop ISAIAH.

Again we pray for our brothers, the priests, hieromonks, hierodeacons, and monastics, and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness, and remission of sins of the servants of God, of all pious and Orthodox Christians, of those who dwell and are in this city, and of the members and the council of this holy church.

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable builders of this holy church (or monastery), and for all our fathers and brothers gone to their rest before us, and the Orthodox here and everywhere who piously lie asleep.

Again we pray for those who are fruitful 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.

**Priest:** For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

### Evening Payer

**ALL:** Make us worthy, O Lord, to be kept this evening without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name to the ages. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Master, give me understanding of Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, enlighten me by Your commandments.

Your mercy, O Lord, endures to the ages; do not disregard the works of Your hands. To You belongs praise, to You belongs song, to You belongs glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

### Completed Litany

*Standing before the Beautiful Gates, the Deacon intones:*

**DEACON:** Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

**ALL:** Lord have mercy. *(After this and the following petition.)*

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

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

ALL: Grant this, O Lord. (*And after the following petitions.*)  
An Angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.  
Forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.  
Those things which are good and beneficial to our souls, and peace in the world, let us ask of the Lord.  
To complete the remaining time of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.  
A Christian end of our lives, painless, unashamed, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.  
Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.  
To you O Lord.

PRIEST: For You are a good God Who loves mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

ALL: Amen

PRIEST: Peace be with all.

ALL: And with your spirit.

DEACON: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

ALL: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: (*in a low voice*) O Lord our God, Who bowed the heavens, and Who came down for the salvation of the human race, look upon Your servants and upon Your inheritance. For Your servants have bowed their heads, and they have bent their necks to You, the fearsome Judge Who loves mankind; they do not expect



**PRIEST:** help from men, but they await Your mercy, and look for Your expected salvation; protect them at all times, during both the present evening and the coming night, from every enemy, from every opposing work of the devil, and from vain thoughts and evil memories.

May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

**ALL:** Amen.

## Resurrectional Aposticha Tone 3

**CHANTER:** Accept our evening praise, O benevolent Lord, who darkened the sun when You suffered for us, and brightened every place, with the light of Your resurrection, O Christ. The first Apostichon hymn is chanted. Without an introductory verse.

*Verse: The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty; the Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.*

*The second Apostichon hymn is chanted.*

**CHANTER:** Your vivifying rising illumined the entire earth, and it revived Your creature, which had been ravaged. Now we, who are redeemed from the curse on Adam, cry out to You: Almighty Lord, glory to You!

*Verse: And He established the world, which shall not be moved.*

**CHANTER:** Even as You were unchanging God, You underwent a change as You suffered in the flesh. Creation could not bear it to see You crucified, so it quaked in fear, and it sighed and sang, extolling Your forbearance. You went down to the netherworld, and then You rose on the third day, and to the world You gave life and the great mercy.

*Verse: Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, unto length of days.*

**CHANTER:** O Christ, You experienced death, to rescue the human race from death. When on the third day You rose, with yourself You also raised those who acknowledged Your divinity, and You illumined the world. Glory to You, O Lord!

### **For the Holy Seven Youths Tone 8**

**CHANTER:** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Come, all creation, let us send up praise, according to the Psalms, with resounding and triumphant cymbals, to God, who showed us the resurrection, even before the general resurrection. For through the prayers of the pious Emperor, He resurrected from the earth the Seven Holy Youths, who had died three-hundred seventy-two years earlier, in order to put down the unbelieving opponents and send them to eternal shame, and for the glory and praise of those who fear Him. Indeed the Lord knows how to glorify those who glorify Him. And He does the will of those who fear Him in truth, as the only compassionate Lord who loves humanity.

### **Theotokion**

**CHANTER:** Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen. All-blameless Virgin, who did not know man yet infamously conceived God in the flesh, Mother of God Most High, hear our supplications when we pray to you, who provide the cleansing of offenses to all. Again we pray you, receive us who now entreat you, and implore your Son to save us all.

### **Song of Simeon the God Bearer**

**PRIEST:** Lord now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared in the presence of all people,

PRIEST: a light for revelation to the Nations, and for glory to Your people Israel.

## Trisagion

*The people read the Trisagion Prayers.*

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

Glory to + 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 on us. Lord, cleanse us of our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your 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 forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

ALL: 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 the evil one.

PRIEST: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

ALL: Amen.

## Resurrectional Apolytikion Tone 3

CHANTER: Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued

us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

### For St. Abercius Tone 4

CHANTER: **A** rule of faith are you, and an icon of gentleness, and a teacher of self-control. And to your flock this was evident, by the truth of your life and deeds. You were humble and therefore you acquired exalted gifts, treasure in heaven for being poor. Father holy hierarch Abercius, intercede with Christ our God, and entreat Him to save our souls.

### For the Martyrs

CHANTER: **G**lory to the + Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You \* the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. \* Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, \* dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. \* O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

### Theotokion

CHANTER: **N**ow and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**O** Theotokos, revealed through you to us on earth was the mystery, that was hidden for ages and unknown by the angels. God became incarnate, uniting natures without confusion, and for us He voluntarily accepted crucifixion, through which He resurrected the first-formed man, and He saved our souls from death.

### Dismissal

PRIEST: **B**lessed is Christ our God, the existing One, always, now, and ever, and to the ages of ages.

ALL: **Amen.**

CHANTER: **May the Lord God strengthen the holy and pure faith of pious and Orthodox Christians, together with His holy Church and this city, to the ages of ages.**

ALL: **Amen.**

PRIEST: **Most-holy Theotokos, save us.**

CHANTER: **More honorable than the Cherubim, and incomparably more glorious than the Seraphim, the one who incorruptibly gave birth to God the Word, truly the Theotokos, we magnify you.**

**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 lifegiving 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, St. Spyridon, 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.**

ALL: **Amen.**









# NOTES

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# NOTES

A decorative border with a repeating geometric pattern in gold surrounds the page. The central area is filled with horizontal dashed lines, providing a guide for writing notes.

# NOTES

A series of horizontal dashed lines for writing notes, arranged in a rectangular frame with a decorative border.

