

*The
Little
Compline*

With Akathist Hymn to The Most-Holy Theotokos

{Sung on The Third Friday of Great Lent}

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH
2 NOTTINGHAM TERRACE
BUFFALO, NY 14216

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey of The Orthodox Church in America

THE LITTLE COMPLINE

(A Reader Service)

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

READER: Amen. O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth Who art everywhere and fillest all things. Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)

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

O Most-Holy Trinity: have mercy on us. Lord: cleanse us from our sins. Master: pardon our transgressions. Holy One: visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

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

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

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

READER: Amen. Lord, have mercy (12 times)

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

PSALM 51 (50)

READER: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy great mercy;: according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in Thy sight: So that Thou art justified in Thy sentence and blameless in Thy judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sins did my mother conceive me.

Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean, wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice.

Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners will return Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation: and my tongue will sing aloud of Thy deliverance.

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. For Thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, Thou would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou will not despise.

Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure: rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, Then will Thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings: then bulls will be offered on Thy altar.

READER:

PSALM 70 (69)

Make haste, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O Lord. Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt.

Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha. Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: and let such as love Thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified.

But I am poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: Thou art my help and my deliverer; O Lord, make no tarrying.

READER:

PSALM 143

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications: in Thy faithfulness answer me, and in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant: for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath made me to dwell in darkness, as those that have been long dead. Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate.

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Thy works; I muse on the work of Thy hands. I stretch forth my hands unto Thee: my soul thirsts after Thee, as a thirsty land.
Hear me speedily, O Lord: my spirit fails: hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.

Cause me to hear Thy loving-kindness in the morning; for in Thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto Thee. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies: I flee unto Thee to hide me. Teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my God: Thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

Thou shall quicken me, O Lord, for Thy name's sake: for Thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble. And of Thy mercy cut off my enemies, and destroy all them that afflict my soul: for I am Thy servant.

THE DOXOLOGY

READER:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory: O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord, God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Thou that takes away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For Thou alone art holy, Thou alone art Lord, Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless Thee, and praise Thy name forever and ever.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes (3)

O Lord, Thou has been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me! Heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee! O Lord, I flee unto Thee! Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.

For with Thee is the fountain of life, and in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy mercy unto those who know Thee.

Vouchsafe, Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me thy statutes. Blessed art thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me by Thy statutes. O Lord, Thy mercy is forever: despise not the works of Thy hands.

To Thee belongs praise, to Thee belongs worship, to Thee belongs glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE CREED

PEOPLE: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of light; true God of true God, begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He arose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

In One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Ikos 7

READER: A new creation hath the Creator revealed, manifesting Himself unto us His creatures. For He sprang from a seedless womb, and kept it incorrupt as it was, that seeing the miracle we might sing to Her, crying out:

Rejoice, flower of incorruptibility:

Rejoice, crown of continence!

Rejoice, Thou from whom shineth the Archetype of the Resurrection:

Rejoice, Thou Who revealest the life of the angels!

Rejoice, tree of shining fruit, whereby the faithful are nourished:

Rejoice, tree of goodly shade by which many are sheltered!

Rejoice, Thou that has carried in Thy womb the Redeemer of captives:

Rejoice, Thou that gavest birth to the Guide of those astray!

Rejoice, supplication before the Righteous Judge:

Rejoice, forgiveness of many sins!

Rejoice, robe of boldness for the naked:

Rejoice, love that doth vanquish all desire!

Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

CHOIR: Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

Kontakion 8

READER: Having beheld a strange nativity, let us estrange ourselves from the world and transport our minds to Heaven; for the Most High God appeared on earth as a lowly man, because He wished to draw to the heights them that cry to Him: Alleluia!

CHOIR: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ikos 8

READER: Wholly present was the Inexpressible Word among those here below, yet in no way absent from those on high; for this was a divine condescension and not a change of place, and His birth was from a God-receiving Virgin Who heard these things:

Rejoice, container of the Uncontainable God:

Rejoice, door of solemn mystery!

Rejoice, report doubtful to unbelievers:

Rejoice, undoubted boast of the faithful!

Rejoice, all-holy chariot of Him Who sitteth upon the Cherubim:

Rejoice, all-glorious temple of Him Who is above the Seraphim!

Rejoice, Thou Who hast united opposites:

Rejoice, Thou Who hast joined virginity and motherhood!

Rejoice, Thou through whom transgression hath been absolved:

Rejoice, Thou through whom Paradise is opened!

Rejoice, key to the kingdom of Christ:

Rejoice, hope of eternal good things!

Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

CHOIR: Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

Kontakion 9

READER: All the angels were amazed at the great act of Thine incarnation; for they saw the Unapproachable God as a man approachable to all, abiding with us, and hearing from all: Alleluia!

CHOIR: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ikos 9

READER: We see most eloquent orators mute as fish before Thee, O Theotokos; for they are at a loss to tell how Thou remainest a Virgin and could bear a child. But we, marveling at this mystery, cry out faithfully:

Rejoice, receptacle of the Wisdom of God:

Rejoice, treasury of His Providence!

Rejoice, Thou Who showest philosophers to be fools:

Rejoice, Thou Who exposest the learned as irrational!

Rejoice, for the clever critics have become foolish:

Rejoice, for the writers of myths have faded away!

Rejoice, Thou Who didst rend the webs of the Athenians:

Rejoice, Thou Who didst fill the nets of the fishermen!

Rejoice, Thou Who drawest us from the depths of ignorance:

Rejoice, Thou Who enlightenest many with knowledge!

Rejoice, ship for those who wish to be saved:

Rejoice, harbor for sailors on the sea of life!

Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

CHOIR: Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

Kontakion 10

READER: Desiring to save the world, He that is the Creator of all came to it according to His Own promise, and He that, as God, is the Shepherd, for our sake appeared unto us as a man; for like calling unto like, as God He heareth: Alleluia!

CHOIR: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Then the Choir chants the Kontakion:

(Tone 8)

To Thee, the Champion Leader, we Thy servants dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos: but as Thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do Thou deliver us, that we may cry to Thee: Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

THE LITTLE LITANY

READER: Lord have mercy., Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

CHOIR: *Amen.*

READER: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone:

Precious in the Sight of the Lord, is the death of His saints.

CHOIR: *Precious in the Sight of the Lord, is the death of His saints.*

READER: What shall I render to The Lord, for all His Bounties to me.

CHOIR: *Precious in the Sight of the Lord, is the death of His saints.*

READER: Precious in the Sight of the Lord.

CHOIR: *Is the death of His saints.*

READER: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

CHOIR: *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

READER: Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power.

CHOIR: *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.*

READER: Let everything that has breath.

CHOIR: *Praise the Lord.*

READER: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

CHOIR: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee.

READER: (Reads the Gospel: *John 15:1-7*)

(John 15:1-7)

The Lord said unto His disciples: I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

CHOIR: *Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee.*

PEOPLE: It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos. ever-blessed and Most-Pure and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you!

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us (3)

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

O Most-Holy Trinity: have mercy on us. Lord: cleanse us from our sins. Master: pardon our transgressions. Holy One: visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

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

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

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

READER: Amen.

(Tone 8)

To Thee, the Champion Leader, we Thy servants dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos: but as Thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do Thou deliver us, that we may cry to Thee: Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

Lord, have mercy. (12)

Thou, who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified; who art long-suffering, merciful and compassionate; who loves the just and shows mercy upon the sinner; who calls all sinners to salvation through the promise of blessings to come: O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications, and direct our lives according to Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls. Hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds; deliver us from all tribulations, evil and distress. Compass us about with Thy holy Angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of thine unapproachable glory, for Thou are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you! In the Name of the Lord, Father, Bless.

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

PEOPLE: Amen.

READER: O Sovereign Lady, Bride of God, spotless, blameless, pure and immaculate Virgin, thou who without stain, by the glorious birth-giving, has united God the Word to man, and joined the fallen nature of our race to heavenly things; who alone are the hope of the hopeless, the help of those who do battle; the ready help of those who flee unto thee, and the refuge of all Christians; despise me not, an accursed sinner, though I have rendered myself unworthy by my shameful thoughts, words and deeds, and through indolence have become a slave to the pleasure of life; but as the Mother of God who lovest mankind, mercifully have compassion upon me a sinner and a prodigal, and receive my prayer, though it be offered unto thee by unworthy lips; and using thy boldness as a mother, entreat thy Son our Lord and Master, that He may extend to me His goodness and mercy, so as to overlook my numberless transgressions and turn me to repentance and show me forth as a zealous doer of His commandments. And because thou art merciful, compassionate and full of loving-kindness, be thou ever near me in this present life as an ardent help and protection, defending me from the assaults of adversaries and leading me to salvation; and in the hour of

my death, care for my miserable soul and drive far from it the dark visions of evil spirits; and in the awful day of Judgment, deliver me from eternal punishment and present me as an inheritor of the ineffable glory of thy Son our God, May this be my lot, O Sovereign Lady, most holy Theotokos, through thy mediation and help, through the grace and love towards man of thine only-begotten Son, our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ: to whom are due all glory, honor and worship, with His eternal Father, and His all-holy and good and Life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And grant unto us, O Master, as we lay down to sleep, repose of body and soul; and protect us from the murky sleep of sin and from all the dark pleasures of the night. Calm the impulses of passion, and quench the fiery darts of evil which are craftily thrown against us; check the turbulence of our flesh and still all earthly and material thought. And grant us, O God, a watchful mind, a prudent reason, a vigilant heart, and a tranquil sleep from all the fantasies of Satan. Raise us up at the hour of prayer strengthened in Thy commandments, holding steadfast within us the remembrance of Thy judgments. Grant us grace to glorify Thee all through the night, that we may praise and bless and glorify Thine all-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Most-glorious, ever-virgin, blessed Theotokos, present our prayer to thy Son our God and intercede with Him that through thee He may save our souls.

The Father is my hope; the Son is my refuge; the Holy Spirit is my protection. O Holy Trinity, glory to Thee.

THE DISMISSAL

Everyone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. O Lord, bless us!

READER: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, through the prayers of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, through the protection of the honorable bodiless Powers of Heaven, through the prayers of holy, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, through the prayers of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, through the prayers of all the Saints who have shown forth in North America, through the prayers of all the faith-healing unmercenary Physicians, the Saints (*names*) *whom we commemorate today*, of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the Saints, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Everyone: Amen.

READER: Let us pray for His Beatitude the Most-Blessed Metropolitan TIKHON, for His Eminence the Most Reverend our Archbishop MICHAEL, and the Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, the Priests, Deacons, and all our Brotherhood in Christ:

PEOPLE: LORD, HAVE MERCY.

READER: Let us pray for the peace of the world:

And for the safety, protection, and healing of our brothers and sisters here and throughout the world:

And for all Civil Authorities of this land:

And for the welfare of all our Armed Forces:

And for all our fathers and brethren absent from among us:

And for those who hate us and those who love us:

And for those who are kind to us and minister unto us:

And for those who have requested our prayers, unworthy though we be:

And for the deliverance of captives:

And for travelers by land, sea, and air:

And for those who lie in sickness:

And for those who are afflicted and affected by the coronavirus

And let us pray for the abundance of the fruits of the earth:

Let us bless God-fearing rulers:

And for all clergy here and throughout the world

And for all doctors, nurses, researchers, and medical professionals

And for all of our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, husbands, wives, friends, and kinsfolk, and those departed due to the coronavirys and all brethren gone before us, who here and everywhere lie asleep in the Lord:

And let us say for ourselves:

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

(Family members come and venerate the precious cross and Icons in our Icon Corner)

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

Everyone: Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.