

THE ORDER OF DAILY VESPERS

PRIEST:

Blessed is our God, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

1. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Amen.

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

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

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

2. SIGN UP: Antonio Khoury

Psalm 103 (104)

Bless the Lord, O my soul! Lord my God You are very great! You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who covers Yourself with light as with a garment, Who has stretched out the heavens like a tent, Who has laid the beams of Your chambers on the waters, Who makes the clouds Your chariot, Who rides on the wings of the wind, Who makes the winds Your messengers, fire and flame Your ministers. You set the earth on its foundations so that it should never be shaken. You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled; at the sound of Your thunder they took to flight. The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which You appointed for them. You set a bound which they should not pass so that they might not again cover the earth. You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches. From Your lofty abode You water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your work. You cause the grass to grow for the cattle and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart. The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers. You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. You make darkness and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening. Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.

Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships and Leviathan which You formed to sport in it. These all look to You to give them their food in due season. When You give to them, they gather it up; When You open Your hand, they are filled with good things. When You hide Your face, they are dismayed; When You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the ground. May the glory of the Lord endure forever, may the Lord rejoice in His works, Who looks on the earth and it trembles, Who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the Lord. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! The sun knows its time for setting. You make darkness, and it is night. Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God. (2)

Alleluia alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God. Our Hope, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST:

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

3. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον. *(do all the responses for this section)*

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

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

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

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

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.

PEOPLE: Lord Have Mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord Have Mercy.

PRIEST: For our Archbishop Gerasimos, for the reverend presbyters, for the deacons in Christ, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord Have Mercy.

PRIEST: For the Holy and Great Church of Christ, for this Holy Metropolis, for this (camp/retreat center), for this city and every city, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

PRIEST: For temperate seasons, favorable weather, and an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

PRIEST: For the safety of those who travel by land, sea, and air; for the sick, the suffering, the captives, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

PRIEST: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord Have Mercy.

PRIEST: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by your grace.

PEOPLE: Lord Have Mercy.

PRIEST: Remembering our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and every-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

PEOPLE: Σοί, Κύριε

PRIEST: For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Evening Psalms Psalm 140 (141)

4. SIGN UP:

CHANTER: Κύριε, ἐκέκραξα πρὸς σέ, εἰσακουσὸν μου, εἰσακουσὸν μου, Κύριε. Κύριε, ἐκέκραξα πρὸς σέ, εἰσακουσὸν μου, πρὸς χεῖρας τῇ φωνῇ τῆς δεήσεώς μου, ἐν τῷ κεκραγέναι με πρὸς σέ εἰσακουσὸν μου, Κύριε.

Let my prayer be set forth as incense before You, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear me, O Lord.

(The Kekragaria hymns are traditionally chanted here.)

CHANTER: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Both now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

CHANTER: (Chants the appropriate Doxastikon of the day)

The Entrance Prayer

PRIEST: In the evening, the morning and at noon, we praise you, we bless You, we give thanks to You and we pray to You, O Master of All, O Lord and Lover of mankind: guide our prayers aright as an offering of incense before You; let not our hearts be led to words or thoughts of wickedness, but save us from all those who pursue our souls. For all glory, honor, and worship “are your due, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

(The Bishop, or in his absence, the Priest blesses, saying:)

Blessed is the Entrance of your Holy Ones, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

5. SIGN UP:

CHANTER:

O gladsome light of the holy glory, of the immortal, heavenly, holy, and blessed Father, O Jesus Christ, lo now that we have come, to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we praise You Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for You at all times to be magnified by holy voices, O Son of God and giver of life; wherefore, the whole world, glorifies You

The Evening Prokeimenon

PRIEST:

The evening prokeimenon.

6. SIGN UP:

Saturday: Mode, PI 2

The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty.

Verse: The Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.

The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty.

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

The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty.

7. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Grant, Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are You, Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen. Lord, let Your mercy come upon us, for we have trusted in You. Blessed are You, Lord; teach me Your commandments. Blessed are you, Master; make me to understand Your commandments. Blessed are You, Holy One; enlighten me with Your commandments.

Lord, Your Love endures forever; do not turn away from the work of Your hands. To You belongs praise, song and glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

PRIEST:

Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

8. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον. *(do all the responses for this section)*

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

PEOPLE: Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

PRIEST: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this O Lord.

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

PEOPLE: Παράσχου Κύριε.

PRIEST: Forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this O Lord.

PRIEST: All that is good and beneficial to our souls, and peace in the world, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Παράσχου Κύριε.

PRIEST: That we may live out our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this O Lord.

PRIEST: A Christian end to our life, peaceful, without suffering or shame, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Παράσχου Κύριε.

PRIEST: Remembering our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and every-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

PEOPLE: To You O Lord.

PRIEST: For You are a good and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be with you all. Ειρήνη πάσι.

PEOPLE: And with your spirit.

PRIEST: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST:
O Lord our God, Who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon Your servants and Your inheritance; for to You, the awesome Judge, Who love mankind, have Your servants

bowed their heads, and submissively inclined their necks, not awaiting help from men, but entreating Your mercy and looking confidently for Your salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and coming night, from every enemy, from all adverse powers of the Devil, and from vain thoughts and evil imaginations. (intoned) May the power 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.

PEOPLE: Amen.

(The Aposticha hymns are traditionally chanted here, along with a Doxastikon/Theotokion of the Aposticha.)

The Song of St. Symeon

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 peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory of Your people Israel.

9. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)
Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for the glory of Your Name.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father and the Son and 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 and the power and the glory, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

(The Apolytikion / Dismissal hymn of the Feast(s)/Saint(s) of the Day are chanted here)

10. SIGN UP:

Apolytikion to St. Nicholas: Tone 4

An Example of the faith and a life of humility, as a teacher of self-control you did inspire and lead your flock, and through the truthfulness of your deeds were exalted by greatness through your humility, uplifting all, and by poverty gaining strength. Father and Hierarch Saint Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God, that our souls may be saved.

PRIEST:

Wisdom.

11. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Father, bless.

PRIEST: Blessed is He Who Is, Christ our God, now and forever of ages.

12. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Amen. Lord our God; preserve the holy and pure faith of devout Orthodox Christians, together with this holy Metropolis, this camp, and city to the ages of ages. Amen.

PRIEST: Glory to You, Christ our God and our hope, glory to you.

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, as a good, loving, and merciful God, have mercy on us and save us, through the intercessions of His most pure and 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; the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy, apostles; the holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs; the holy and righteous ancestors Joachim and Anna; our holy and God-bearing Fathers; Saint(s) (of the day) whose memory we commemorate today, and all the saints

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

13. SIGN UP:

PEOPLE: Amen.