

ceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary for the salvation of our souls by the power of Thine All-Holy Spirit. O Master, Who came that we might have life more abundantly, we ask that Thou might enlighten the minds and hearts of those blinded to the truth that life begins at conception, and that the unborn in the womb are already adorned with Thine image and likeness; enable us to guard, cherish and protect the lives of all those who are unable to care for themselves. For Thou art the Bestower of Life, bringing each person from non-being into being, sealing each person with divine and infinite love. Be merciful, O Lord, to those who, through ignorance or willfulness, affront Thy divine goodness and providence through the evil act of abortion. May they, and all of us, come to the light of Thy Truth and glorify Thee, the Giver of Life, together with Thy Father and Thine All-Holy and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

### The Dismissal

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Priest:** Most holy Theotokos, save us.

**Choir:** More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Thou who without defilement barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

**Priest:** Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

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

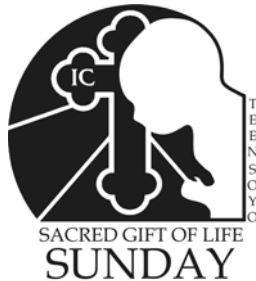
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Father, bless!

**Priest:** May Christ, our true God, through the prayers of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother, of Saint N. (patron saint of the church), and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

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

**People:** Amen.



January 22, 2006

## The Office of Prayer and Supplication for the Victims of Abortion

*(The Priest and Deacon take their places before the Icon of Christ placed in the center of the Temple or other suitable place. The Priest is vested in Riassa and Epitrachilion and the Deacon in Sticharion and Orarion.)*

**Priest:** Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Reader:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.  
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.  
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

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

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins.  
Master, pardon our iniquities. 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 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 Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the  
ages of ages.

**Reader:** Amen.

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 the very Christ, our King  
and our God.

### Psalm 143

**Reader:** Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my supplications. In Thy faithful-

ness answer me in Thy righteousness. Enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for no man living is righteous before Thee. For the enemy has pursued me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.

I remember the days of old, I meditate on all that Thou hast done; I muse on what Thy hands have wrought. I stretch out my hands to Thee; my soul thirsts for Thee like a parched land. Make haste to answer me, O Lord! My spirit falls! Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit. Let me hear in the morning of Thy steadfast love, for in Thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to thee I lift up my soul.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies! I have fled to Thee for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God! Let Thy good spirit lead me on a level path! For Thy Name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In Thy righteousness bring me out of trouble! And in Thy steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries. For I am Thy servant.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God.

### God Is the Lord (in the Second Tone)

**Deacon:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.

**Deacon:** All nations compassed me about, but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.

**Deacon:** I shall not die, but live; and declare the works of the Lord.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.

**Deacon:** The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner; this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray that the Lord our God will hear the voice of us sinners and protect His servants from all tribulation, wrath, danger, necessity, and from every ill of soul and body, and grant them health and length of days: we pray Thee, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray that the Lord our God will preserve this city and every city and country from pestilence, famine, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, the invasion of enemies, civil war, and sudden death and that our good God, who loves mankind, will be graciously favorable and easy to be entreated and will turn away from us all the wrath stirred up against us, and deliver us from all His righteous chastisement which impends against us, and have mercy on us.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray that the Lord will hearken unto the prayers of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** Hear us, O God our Saviour, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those far off upon the sea, and show mercy, show mercy O Master, upon us sinners. For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the most holy Theotokos.

**People:** Most holy Theotokos, save us!

**Priest:** O Mother of God, our queen and our hope, the refuge of the abandoned and the intercessor for those who have gone astray; the joy of all who sorrow and the protectress of the needy; you see our poverty, our affliction and misery. Help us who are weak; feed us who are hungry; intercede for us with your Son and our God, and may He deal with us as He pleases. For we have no other hope, no other intercessor, no other consolation except you, O Virgin Theotokos. Protect us beneath your veil, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** O Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son, Who are in the bosom of the Father, True God, source of life and immortality, Light of Light, who came into the world to enlighten it, Thou wast pleased to be con-

a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Vindicate me against my adversary,' For a while he refused; but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual pleadings.'

And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says, And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man returns, will he find faith on earth?"

**People:** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

*(All sing the Hymn to the Theotokos in Tone 6:)*

**People:** It is truly meet to bless thee, 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: Thou who without defilement barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

**Reader:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.  
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.  
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins.  
Master, pardon our iniquities. 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 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 Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

### The Augmented Litany

**Deacon:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

### Troparion (in Tone 2)

**People:** We bow before Thy most pure image, O Good One, Begging Thee to forgive us our sins, O Christ our God. Thou willingly didst ascend the cross in the flesh, To free us from Satan's snare.  
For this we thank Thee Lord, and we cry to Thee: Thou hast filled all things with joy, O Savior, When Thou camest to save the world.

### Psalm 51

**Reader:** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy loving kindness; 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 transgression and my sin is ever before me: against Thee, Thee only have I sinned and done that which is evil in Thy sight; that Thou might be justified in Thy word, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, Thou hast required truth in the inward parts; the unclear and hidden things of Thy wisdom Thou shalt reveal unto me. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken might rejoice. Turn away Thy 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. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and guide me with a princely spirit. Then shall I teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I would have given it, but Thou dost not delight in burnt offerings. The sacrifice of God is a contrite spirit, a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou shalt not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good will unto Sion, and build Thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

### Litany

**Deacon:** Let us say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say:

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray for our Father and Metropolitan (*N.*), our Bishop (*N.*), for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God who strive against the evil of abortion, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray that Thou wilt grant to the people of this nation the will to do good, to flee from all evil, and to practice all righteousness, making us respectful of life and sharers of Thy blessings, caring for one another in mercy and truth.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray that Thou wilt banish all evil from our hearts and wickedness from our laws, enabling us to be servants of Thy holy will and performers of Thy love.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray that Thou wilt kindle in our hearts the will to care for the needy, to show kindness to the poor, to aid the homeless and to help the helpless.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray for all those here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

### The Prokeimenon

**Deacon:** Let us attend

**Priest:** Peace be unto all.

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us Attend!

The Prokeimenon in the fourth tone:

Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy countenance and exult in Thy Name forever.

**Choir:** Lord we will walk in the light of Thy Countenance and exult in Thy Name forever.

**Deacon:** I will sing of Thy mercy, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy faithfulness to all generations.

**Choir:** Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy Countenance and exult in Thy Name forever.

**Deacon:** Lord, we will walk in the light of Thy countenance.

**Choir:** And exult in Thy Name forever.

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord,

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For holy art Thou, O our God, who rests in the saints, and unto Thee we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Deacon:** Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

**Choir:** Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

**Deacon:** Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament.

**Choir:** Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

**Deacon:** Let everything that has breath.

**Choir:** Praise the Lord.

### The Gospel Reading

**Deacon:** And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!

**Priest:** Peace be unto all.

**People:** And to thy spirit.

**Priest:** The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

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

**Deacon:** Let us attend!

**Priest:** At that time, Jesus told them a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was