

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2017
TONE 7 / EOTHINON 7
FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT &
LEAVE-TAKING OF THE ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS
THE SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL; STEPHEN THE CONFESSOR, ABBOT OF TRIGLIA

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Give the King Thy judgments, O God, and Thy righteousness unto the King's Son. May the mountains bring peace to Thy people, and the little hills righteousness.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Tell forth from day to day the glad tidings of the salvation of our God. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not turn from it; of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.
(Refrain)

Glory... Both now... *(Refrain)*

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

He shall come down as rain upon a fleece, and as the dew which falls upon the earth. The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast incarnate for our sake; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Our God shall plainly come, and shall not keep silence. *(Refrain)*

In His days righteousness shall shine forth; and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
(Refrain)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

His Name shall be blessed forever; His Name shall continue longer than the sun. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, Who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be His glorious Name unto the ages, and unto the ages of ages.

- *During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Annunciation. Then, the following:*

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE FEAST

Tell forth from day to day the glad tidings of the salvation of our God. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- *After the Entrance, sing the hymns in the following order below.*

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ANNUNCIATION IN TONE FOUR (CHANT) (CHORAL)

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the manifestation of the mystery from the ages; for the Son of God becometh the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel proclaimeth grace. Wherefore, do we shout with him to the Theotokos: Hail, O full of grace! The Lord is with thee.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION FOR THE ANNUNCIATION (AND GREAT LENT) IN TONE EIGHT (CHANT) (CHORAL)

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent)

The Lord will give strength to His people. The Lord will bless His people with peace.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by one greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath. So that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (9:16-30)

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou

canst do anything, have pity on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again.” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And Jesus said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.” They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day.”

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great continues as usual with the following variables:*

ST. BASIL LITURGY MEGALYNARION (CHANT) (CHORAL)

In thee rejoiceth, O full of grace, all creation: the angelic hosts, and the race of men, O hallowed Temple and noetic paradise, glory of Virgins, of whom God was incarnate and became a little child, even our God Who is before all the ages; for He made thy womb a throne, and thy body He made more spacious than the heavens. In thee rejoiceth, O full of grace, all creation; and it glorifieth thee.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR THE ANNUNCIATION IN TONE EIGHT

The Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath chosen it for His dwelling. Alleluia.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May He Who condescended to become incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary for us men and for our salvation, and rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother—whose Annunciation we now celebrate—by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven—especially Gabriel—whose synaxis we now celebrate—at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, Basil the Great, archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of our righteous father Stephen the Confessor, abbot of Triglia, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

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

Choir: Amen.

END NOTE

When the leave-taking of the Annunciation (March 26) falls on the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, our Typikon prescribes that we suppress the commemoration of St. John Climacus, but we include

hymnography for this Lenten Sunday reflecting the ascetical practice of the season and the ancient preparation for catechumens to enter the Church through baptism on Pascha. Thus, we keep the doxasticon in Orthros and the readings in the Divine Liturgy from the Triodion.