

The Order for a Moleben As a Reader Service

Senior Reader: Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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.

Senior Reader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

Psalm 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me 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 humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been

long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *Thrice.*

Choir: *(In the tone of the troparion to be chanted):*

God is the Lord, and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Reader: *Stichos 1:* O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever.

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Stichos 2: Surrounding me they compassed me, and by the name of the Lord I warded them off.

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Stichos 3: I shall not die, but live, and I shall tell of the works of the Lord.

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Stichos 4: The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared unto us. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Then the troparion to the Mother of God

Let us run now most earnestly, we sinners all and wretched ones, and fall down in repentance calling from the depths of our souls: O Lady, come unto our aid, have compassion upon us; hasten thou for we are lost in a throng of transgressions. Turn not thy servants away with empty hands, for thee alone do we have as our only hope.
Twice.

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

Never, O Mother of God, will we cease to speak of thy powers, unworthy as we are. For if thou didst not intercede in prayer, who would have delivered us from so many dangers? Who would have kept us free until now? Let us never forsake thee, O Lady, for thou dost ever save thy servants from all perils.

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine 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 with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

Senior Reader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Choir: Amen.

Tone Eight

ODE I

Irmos: Having passed through the water as on dry land, and having escaped the malice of the Egyptians, the Israelites cried aloud: Unto our God and Redeemer let us now sing.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Distressed by many temptations, I flee to thee, seeking salvation. O Mother of the Word, and Virgin, from ordeals and afflictions deliver me.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Outburst of passions trouble me and fill my soul with great despondency . Calm it, O Maiden, by the peace of thy Son and God, O all-blameless one.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

I implore thee who gavest birth to the Savior and God, O Virgin to deliver me from perils. For , fleeing now unto thee for refuge, I lift up both my soul and my reasoning.

Choir: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

Ailing am I in body and soul, do thou vouchsafe me the divine visitation, and thy care, O thou who alone art the Mother of God, for thou art good and the Mother of the Good.

Choir: Both now and ever etc

Irmos: Having passed through the water as on dry land, and having escaped the malice of the Egyptians, the Israelites cried aloud: Unto our God and Redeemer let us now sing

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

ODE III

Irmos: Of the vault of the heavens art Thou, O Lord, the Maker and Builder of the Church; do Thou establish in me love of Thee, O Summit of desire, O Support of the faithful, O only Lover of Mankind.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

I have chosen thee to be the protection and intercession of my life, O Virgin, Mother of God. Pilot me to thy haven, O author of blessings, O support of the faithful, O thou only

all lauded one.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

I pray thee, O Virgin, to dispel the tumult of my soul and the storm of my grief; for thou, O Bride of God, hast given birth to Christ, the Prince of Peace, O only immaculate one.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Since thou broughtest forth Him Who is the Benefactor and Cause of good, from the wealth of thy lovingkindness do thou pour forth on all; for thou canst do all things, since thou didst bear Christ, the One Who is mighty in power; for blessed of God art thou.

Choir: Glory to etc

I am tortured by grievous sicknesses and morbid passions: O Virgin, do thou help me; for I know thee to be an inexhaustible treasury of unfailing healing, O all-blameless one.

Choir: Both now etc

Irmos: Of the vault of the heavens art Thou, O Lord, the Maker and Builder of the Church; do Thou establish in me love of Thee, O Summit of desire, O Support of the faithful, O only Lover of Mankind.

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

After the Third Ode, "Glory, Both now."

Ode 3: Sessional Hymn:

O fervent advocate, invincible battlement, fountain of mercy, and sheltering retreat for the world, earnestly we cry to thee: O Lady Theotokos, hasten thou, and save us from all imperilment; for thou alone art our speedy protectress

ODE IV

Irmos: I have heard, O Lord, of the mystery of Thy dispensation, and I came to knowledge of Thy works, and glorify Thy Divinity .

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

The turmoil of my passions, and the storm of my sins do thou bestill, thou who gavest birth to the Lord and Pilot, O thou Bride of God.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

O bestow , out of the abyss of thy compassion, on me thy supplicant; for thou didst give birth to the Kindhearted One and Savior of all that hymn thee.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

While delighting in thy gifts, O spotless one, we sing a song of thanksgiving to thee, knowing thee to be the Mother of God.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

As I lie on the bed of my pain and infirmity , do thou help me, as thou art a lover of goodness, O Theotokos, who alone art Ever-Virgin.

Choir: Glory to etc

Having thee as our staff and hope, and as our salvation' s unshaken battlement, from all manner of adversity are we then redeemed, O thou all-lauded one.

Choir: Both now etc

Irmos: I have heard, O Lord, of the mystery of Thy dispensation, and I came to knowledge of Thy works, and glorify Thy Divinity .

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

ODE V

Irmos: Enlighten us by Thy commands, O Lord, and by Thy lofty arm bestow Thy peace upon us, O Lover of mankind.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Fill my heart with gladness, O pure one, by giving me thine incorruptible joy , O thou who didst bear the Cause of gladness.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Deliver us from dangers, O pure Theotokos, who didst give birth to Eternal Redemption, and the Peace that doth pass all understanding.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Dispel the darkness of my sins, O Bride of God, by the radiance of thy splendor , for

thou didst bear the Light Divine and Pre-eternal.

Choir: Glory to etc

Heal, O pure one, the infirmity of my soul, when thou hast deemed me worthy of thy visitation, and grant me health by thine intercessions.

Choir: Both now etc

Irmos: Enlighten us by Thy commands, O Lord, and by Thy lofty arm bestow Thy peace upon us, O Lover of mankind.

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

ODE VI

Irmos: I will pour out my prayer unto the Lord, and to Him will I proclaim my grief; for with evils my soul is filled, and my life unto hades hath drawn nigh, and like Jonah I will pray: From corruption raise me up, O God.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

My nature, held by corruption and death, hath He saved from out of death and corruption; for unto death He Himself hath submitted. Wherefore, O Virgin, do thou intercede with Him Who is thy Lord and Son, to deliver me from enemies' wickedness.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

I know thee as the protection of my life, and most safe fortification, O Virgin; disperse the horde of temptations, and drive away demonic vexation; unceasingly I pray to thee: From corruption of passions deliver me.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

We have acquired thee as a wall of refuge, and the perfect salvation of our souls, and a relief in afflictions, O Maiden, and we ever rejoice in thy light. O Sovereign Lady, do thou also now save us from passions and dangers.

Choir: Glory to etc

Bedridden, I lie supine with sickness now, and there is no healing for my flesh; but to thee, O good one who gavest birth to God and the Savior of the world and the Healer of

infirmities, I pray: From corruption of illness raise me up.

Choir; Both now and ever etc

Irmos: I will pour out my prayer unto the Lord, and to Him will I proclaim my grief; for with evils my soul is filled, and my life unto hades hath drawn nigh, and like Jonah I will pray: From corruption raise me up, O God.

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

After the Sixth Ode, "Glory, Both now,"

Then the Kontakion and the Sticheron.

Kontakion:

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, O mediation unto the creator unfailing, disdain not the suppliant voices of sinners, but be thou quick, O good one, to help us who in faith cry unto thee; hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honour thee.

Sticherion:

Entrust me not to human protection, O most holy Lady, but receive the supplication of thy servant; for sorrow hath fettered me, I cannot endure the demon's darts; a shelter have I not, neither place to run, I the wretched one; always I am fleeing and no consolation have I but thee, O Sovereign Lady of creation, hope and protection of the faithful; turn not away from my supplication, do that which will profit me.

Then, the Prokimenon appointed for the Mother of God:

Reader: The Prokimenon in the 4th Tone: I shall commemorate thy name in every generation and generation.

Choir: I shall commemorate....

Reader: My heart hath poured forth a good word.

Choir: I shall commemorate....

Reader: I shall commemorate thy name Choir: in every generation and generation.

Then, after the Prokimenon:

Senior Reader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Let every breath praise the Lord.

Choir: Let every breath praise the Lord.

Reader: Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power. Choir:
Let every breath praise the Lord.

Reader: Let every breath Choir: praise the Lord.

Senior Reader: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

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

The Gospel is then read in a normal voice. Lk 1 v39-49, 56

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

ODE VII

Irmos: Having gone down to Babylon from Judea, the Children of old by their faith in the Trinity trod down the flame of the furnace while chanting: O God of the fathers, blessed art Thou.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Having willed to accomplish our salvation, O Savior , Thou didst dwell in the womb of the Virgin, and didst show her to the world as the mediatress; O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

The Dispenser of mercy , Whom thou didst bear , O pure Mother , do thou implore to deliver from transgressions and defilements of the soul, those who with faith cry out: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

A treasury of salvation, and a fountain of incorruption is she who gave Thee birth; a tower of safety , and a door of repentance hast Thou proved her to them that shout: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

Choir: Glory to etc

For weakness of body and sickness of soul, O Theotokos, do thou vouchsafe healing to

those who with love draw near to thy protection, O Virgin, who for us gavest birth to Christ the Savior .

Choir: Both now etc

Irmos: Having gone down to Babylon from Judea, the Children of old by their faith in the Trinity trod down the flame of the furnace while chanting: O God of the fathers, blessed art Thou.

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

ODE VIII

Irmos: The King of Heaven, Whom hosts of angels hymn, praise ye and supremely exalt unto all ages.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Disdain not those who need thy help, O Virgin, and who hymn and supremely exalt thee unto the ages.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Thou healest the infirmity of my soul and the pains of my body , O Virgin, that I may glorify thee, O pure one, unto the ages.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Thou pourest forth a wealth of healing, on those who with faith hymn thee, O Virgin, and who supremely exalt thine ineffable Offspring

Choir: Glory to etc

Thou drivest away the assaults of temptations, and the attacks of the passions, O Virgin; wherefore do we hymn thee unto all ages.

Choir: Both now etc

Irmos: The King of Heaven, Whom hosts of angels hymn, praise ye and supremely exalt unto all ages.

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my

soul.

ODE IX

Irmos: Truly we confess thee to be the Theotokos, we who through thee have been saved, O pure Virgin; with the bodiless choirs, thee do we magnify .

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Turn not away from the torrent of my tears, O Virgin, thou who didst give birth to Christ, Who doth wipe away all tears from every face.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Fill my heart with joy , O Virgin, thou who didst receive the fullness of joy, and didst banish the grief of sin.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Be the haven and protection, and a wall unshaken, a refuge and shelter, and the gladness, O Virgin, of those who flee unto thee.

Choir: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

Illumine with the rays of thy light, O Virgin, those who piously confess thee to be the Theotokos, and do thou banish away all darkness of ignorance

Choir: Glory etc

In a place of affliction and infirmity am I brought low; O Virgin, do thou heal me, transforming mine illness into healthfulness.

Choir: Both now etc

Irmos: Truly we confess thee to be the Theotokos, we who through thee have been saved, O pure Virgin; with the bodiless choirs, thee do we magnify .

Choir: Save thy servants from harm, O Mother of God, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor. Look with loving-kindness, O all-hymned Mother of God, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

Then:

It is truly meet to bless thee, the Mother of God, ever-blessed and most blameless, and Mother of Our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Mother of God, thee do we magnify.

Pray unto God for this Parish, O Holy Mother of God, for we turn to you, who are a speedy helper and intercessor for our souls.

Holy Mother of God pray to Christ Our Lord and your Son with us, that the Lord Our God would hearken unto the voice of our supplication and prayer and have mercy on His Servant(s) **N.**

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That through His Grace and Compassion, Our God would fulfill all **his/her/their** petitions and pardon **him/her/them** all their transgressions voluntary and involuntary; let **his/her/their** prayers and alms be acceptable before the throne of His Dominion, and protect **him/her/them** from enemies visible and invisible, from every temptation, harm and sorrow, and deliver **him/her/them** from ailments **and the Coronavirus**, and grant **him/her/them** health and length of day; let us all say, O Lord hearken and have mercy.

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

Look down, O Master, Lover of mankind with Thy merciful eye, upon Thy Parish of St Alban here in Luton and hearken unto our supplication which is offered with faith, for Thou Thyself hast said: "All things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believe that ye shall receive and it shall be done unto you", and again "Ask and it shall be given you". Therefore we, though we be unworthy, yet hoping in Thy Mercy ask: Bestow Thy Kindness upon Thy Parish and in particular on our priest Stephen, and fulfil our good desires, particularly in terms of growth both in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and by adding to the Church such as should be saved. Deign to bless us with a priest and a deacon to serve this community, free of other responsibilities, and add to

the number of priests in our diocese to serve all those who live within its boundaries and desire to be saved, preserve us O Lord, all our days peacefully and calmly in health and length of days;

Let us all say: O Lord hearken and have mercy:

People: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy

Then:

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever,

and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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

Senior Reader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

Let us run now most earnestly, we sinners all and wretched ones, and fall down in repentance calling from the depths of our souls: O Lady, come unto our aid, have compassion upon us; hasten thou for we are lost in a throng of transgressions. Turn not thy servants away with empty hands, for thee alone do we have as our only hope.

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

Never, O Mother of God, will we cease to speak of thy powers, unworthy as we are. For if thou didst not intercede in prayer, who would have delivered us from so many dangers? Who would have kept us free until now? Let us never forsake thee, O Lady, for thou dost ever save thy servants from all perils.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. 40x.

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

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Mother of God, thee do we magnify.

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

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

O Lord, Bless.

Senior Reader (*Facing the East, rather than facing the people*): O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of St Alban, patron of our Parish, of St Alexei Mechev, of _____ (*saints of the day*) whose memory we keep today, of all the ancient saints of these islands of ours and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

Choir: Amen.