



**SERVICE OF OUR FATHERS AMONG THE SAINTS
AND CHAMPIONS OF ORTHODOXY
PHOTIOS THE GREAT,
GREGORY PALAMAS,
AND MARK OF EPHESUS**

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On the First Sunday in November, we celebrate the memory of our Fathers among the Saints and champions of Orthodoxy, Photios the Great, Gregory Palamas, and Mark of Ephesus

AT SMALL VESPERS

We allow for four verses and chant the following *Stichera Prosoimoia*:

Second Tone. *When from the Tree*

Come, ye choirs of the Orthodox, and let us extol the Pillars and Divine Guardians of Orthodoxy, Photios the Great, the Divine Gregory of Thessalonica, and Mark, the Divinely-inspired Prelate of Ephesus, and let us cry unto them: Rejoice, ye Divinely-wise initiates and revealers of the Supraëssential Trinity.

A flood of Divine wisdom hath been bestowed in abundance upon your lips by God, O all-laudable Photios, Mark, and Gregory, ye blessed Hierarchs; hence, by your Divine words and teachings ye stopped the mouths of all who uttered grievous heresies, through the power of the Divine Spirit, as instructors of mysteries past comprehension.

By the power of the Holy Spirit thou dost cause the brilliance of Orthodox teachings to shine upon the world, O Photios; thou instructest all in godly wakefulness, O Divine Gregory; and thou, O most sacred Mark, dispellest the thick darkness of the error of the Latins. Wherefore, rejoicing, we sing of you together as Hierarchs of Christ and luminaries of the Church.

Illumined by Divine light and ablaze with zeal for Orthodoxy, O all-wondrous Photios, Divine Gregory, and God-inspired Father Mark, ye consumed all the tinder of heresies by the fire of your words. Wherefore, by your intercessions preserve us all unwavering on the rock of God-given dogmas.

Glory...

Second Tone

Nurslings of Christ, the Chief Shepherd, and Shepherds of His Church, ye have truly proved to be animate treasuries of the virtues and emulators of the Apostles, O Holy Fathers; for, made illustrious in God-befitting manner by the wisdom from on high, ye elucidated the word of the Gospel and the great Mystery of piety. O all-wondrous Photios, sacred Gregory, and all-blessed Mark, cease not to make supplication in behalf of our souls.

Both now...

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week.

*At the Aposticha, the first Resurrectional Sticheron in the
Tone of the week, and then the following:*

Second Tone. O house of Ephratha

Ever-shining lamps of Divine inspiration for the world have ye proved to be, O Fathers three in number, and proponents of the true Faith.

Verse. Thy priests, O Lord, shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice.

Rejoice, O most sacred trinity of Hierarchs, Divine Photios, thrice-blessed Gregory, and all-renowned Mark.

Verse. The saints shall rejoice in glory, and shall exult upon their beds.

O holy trinity of Hierarchs, guard ye the Church of Christ from every assault and error of heresies.

Glory...

Triadikon

O Father, Son, and Divine Spirit, Most Holy Trinity, by the intercessions of the three Fathers protect us.

Both now....

Theotokion

Thou didst conceive, O Virgin, the Word of the Father, Whose Œconomy the three wise Fathers proclaim in God-befitting manner.

*Now lettest Thou Thy servant, the Trisagion, the Apolytikia
from Great Vespers, and the Dismissal.*

AT GREAT VESPERS

After the Proëmial Psalm, we read the first *Kathisma*. At Lord, *I have cried*, we allow for ten verses and chant four Resurrectional *Stichera* in the Tone of the week and six *Stichera Prosoimoia* of the Hierarchs:

Fourth Tone. *As one valiant among Martyrs*

Ye truly proved to be sharers and partakers of Divine illumination, most godly champions of piety, teachers of Orthodoxy, and unshakeable pillars of the Church of Christ, O Divine Photios, together with Gregory and Mark; for this cause, as is meet, we bless you together.

As most radiant luminaries, by the rays of the Spirit ye illumine the minds of the faithful, and as great Hierarchs ye drive away all the darkness of heresies by the light of your teachings, O Father Photios, together with Gregory and Mark, ye unerring and Divinely-wise guides of the Orthodox.

Thou didst dawn from the East as an unsetting sun, O most wondrous Hierarch Photios, and didst destroy the madness of the Westerners, O Holy one; by the uncreated Light, O Divinely-eloquent Gregory, thou didst put Barlaam to flight, and by thine unwavering resistance, O Divinely-wise Mark, thou didst put to shame the mindless Eugenius.

As is meet, we, the assemblies of the Orthodox, celebrate today with gladness a feast for you; for ye have preserved us from the corruption of heresies and clever sophistries, O thrice-mighty Hierarchs, and by your Divinely-wise discourse, O blessed ones, ye have bequeathed to the Church intact your good Confession.

The all-wise Photios, as an abode of the Divine Spirit, shineth light to the ends of the earth; Gregory, the godly Shepherd of Thessalonica, showeth to all the fruits of noetic prayer; and Mark expoundeth the power of the Truth; these three together triumph over the error of the Westerners.

Divinely-inspired teachers and expounders of the mysteries of Grace and the dogmas of the Faith, O all-wondrous Father Photios, Divine Gregory, together with Mark the wise, ye have preserved the Church of Christ from all

heresy and swiftly shattered the teeth of the lions that rage insolently against her.

Glory....

Plagal of the Second Tone

Today the three wise Hierarchs have shone forth as a three-branched candlestick, Photios the Great, Gregory the Divinely-eloquent, and Mark the Divinely-wise, illuminating the assemblies of the Orthodox; for, as initiates of ineffable mysteries, they guide unto the splendor of the virtues and the exactitude of dogmas those who cry: Rejoice, ye who refuted the sophistries of heretics by the power of Divine wisdom and expounded the Grace of Orthodoxy; rejoice, Divine teachers of the Eastern Church and vigorous confuters of the Western rebellion; rejoice, clarions of the Truth and God-like proclaimers of the self-emptying of the Word. Intercede with the Holy Trinity in behalf of our souls.

Both now....

Dogmatikon in the Tone of the week.

Entrance, O joyous Light, the Prokeimenon of the day, and the Readings for the Hierarchs.

The Reading is from Deuteronomy (1:8-11, 15-17).

Moses said to the sons of Israel: Behold, I have delivered the land before you; go in and inherit the land, which the Lord sware to your fathers Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, to give it to them and to their seed after them. And I spake to you at that time saying: I shall not be able by myself to bear you. The Lord your God hath multiplied you, and behold, ye are today as the stars of heaven in multitude. The Lord God of your fathers add to you a thousandfold more than ye are, and bless you as He hath spoken to you. So I took of you wise and understanding and prudent men, and I set them to rule over you as rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, and rulers of tens, and instructors for your judges. And I commanded your judges at that time, saying: Hear causes between your brethren, and judge justly between a man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him. Thou shalt not have respect to persons in judgment, thou shalt judge small and great equally; thou shalt not shrink from before the person of a man, for the judgment is God's.

The Reading is from Deuteronomy (10:14-21).

Thus said Moses to the sons of Israel: Behold, the heaven, and the Heaven of heaven, belong to the Lord thy God, the earth and all things that are therein.

Yet the Lord chose your fathers to love them, and above all nations, as at this day He chose you out of their seed after them. Therefore ye shall circumcise the hardness of your heart, and ye shall not harden your neck. For the Lord our God, He is God of gods, and Lord of lords, the great and strong, and terrible God, Who doth not respect persons, nor will He by any means accept a bribe; executing judgment for the stranger and orphan and widow, and He loveth the stranger to give him food and raiment. Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve Him, and shalt cleave to Him, and shalt swear by His Name. He is thy boast, and He is thy God, Who hath wrought for thee these great and glorious things, which thine eyes have seen.

The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon (3:1-9).

The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, and their departure is taken for misery, and their going from us to be utter destruction, but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded; for God proved them and found them worthy for Himself. As gold in the furnace hath He tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge nations and have dominion over peoples, and their Lord shall reign unto the ages. They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth; and such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him; for grace and mercy is in His Saints, and visitation among His elect.

At the Lite, Stichera Idiomela:

First Tone

Rejoice in the Lord, O Eastern Church, for thou hast as all-radiant luminaries and unerring guides Photios the Great, Gregory Palamas, and Mark Evgenikos; for, rich in Apostolic zeal and wielding the sword of the Spirit, they excised legions of malignant heresies; each in his own time was eminent in word and deed, and together they offer much fruit unto the supremely Divine Trinity, interceding unceasingly in behalf of our souls.

Second Tone

Dignified by your practice of the virtues, ye put on the vesture of the Hierarchy, as worthy vessels of heavenly gifts. Hence, having subjected your secular learning to Divine wisdom, ye benefited the Church of Christ in divers

ways, O blessed Hierarchs; and by the splendor of your lives, ye guide us to ponder and seek the things above. By the power of your preaching ye dispelled as spume the babbling of the falsely-wise and the objections of the heretics. Yea, O all-wise Photios, sacred Gregory, and wondrous Mark, confirm in the good confession those who faithfully follow your teachings.

Third Tone

As an unshakable bulwark and an unbreakable rock, by virtue of the wisdom and Grace granted to thee, O greatly wondrous Photios, thou didst check and dry up the deluge inundating us from the West; by the fruits of the Spirit and the light of noetic prayer, thou didst put to shame the foolishness of Barlaam, O Gregory, thou theologian; by thine unwavering resistance and thy demonstrative discourses at the Council of Florence, O Divine Mark, thou didst delineate the exactitude of Orthodoxy. Yea, O blessed Fathers, emulators of the Apostles and true disciples of Christ, cease not interceding in behalf of our souls.

Fourth Tone

Denying yourselves for the sake of the Glory of Christ and of the Truth treasured up in the Holy Church, ye underwent many labors and struggles, persecutions and afflictions, with unwavering hearts, O Divine Hierarchs; and by your example and your wise teaching ye instruct us all to cleave to the Orthodox Confession and the Traditions of the Fathers, so that we might become partakers of the eternal good things, through your prayers, O blessed ones.

Glory...

Fourth Tone

Let us, all the People of God, acclaim with hymns and odes the threefold candelabrum, the Divinely-gushing fountain of three streams that wellethe the waters of eternal life, the three holy initiates and servants of the supremely Divine Trinity, Photios the Great, Gregory of Thessalonica, and Mark of Ephesus; for they are teachers of the Church, wise instructors, and true stewards of the manifold Grace of the Spirit, and, guiding us by deed and word to the paths of salvation, they ever intercede with the Lord, that He grant us remission of sins.

Both now...

Same Tone

From all manner of perils do thou protect thy servants, O blessed Theotokos, that we may glorify thee, the hope of our souls.

At the Aposticha, the first Resurrectional Sticheron in the Tone of the week and then the following Stichera Prosomoia of the Hierarchs:

Plagal of the First Tone. *Rejoice, joy of ascetics*

Rejoice, trinity of Hierarchs, rays gleaming from the Threefold Sun, luminous stars of the Church of Christ, mainstays of Orthodoxy, O all-great Photios, thou treasury of wisdom, Gregory, Shepherd of Thessalonica, and glorious Mark, Prelate of Ephesus, Divinely-sounded instruments of the dogmas of the Faith, downfall of heretics, and initiates of Divine goodness: Entreat Christ, that our souls be granted great mercy.

Verse. Thy priests, O Lord, shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice.

Rejoice, trinity of Hierarchs: rivers proceeding from Eden and ever inundating the inhabited earth with the life-giving streams of Orthodoxy; thrice-forged brand that ever exciseth the thorny outgrowths of the falsely-wise and the tares of all heresies; most wise orators of the Divine Incarnation; harps that sing of Uncreated Light, trumpets that sound forth the Divine attributes: Entreat Christ, that our souls be granted great mercy.

Verse. The saints shall rejoice in glory, and shall exult upon their beds.

Rejoice, trinity of Hierarchs, Photios, who art replete with Divine Light, Divinely-eloquent Gregory, luminary of Orthodoxy, and Mark, mighty support of the faithful: by your Divine discourse and by Divine Grace ye censured all the error of the Latins and their supercilious haughtiness, which was the cause of grievous dissensions. Wherefore, we implore you, O Saints, deliver the Church of Christ from their machinations and oppression, beseeching forgiveness, salvation, and Divine mercy for all.

Glory...

Plagal of the Fourth Tone

The illumination of the Spirit that filled the Apostles abode in you and showed you to be all-radiant luminaries, O great Hierarchs; hence, ye instruct the sons of the Church in excellence of life and correctness of dogmas, teaching them to participate in Divine Grace and to eschew all alien heresy, for ye are mouthpieces of Divine Energy. And now, O Holy Photios, together with

Gregory and Mark, deliver us from newfangled heresies, beseeching Divine mercy for all.

Both now....

Theotokion. Same Tone

O Virgin unwedded, who didst ineffably conceive God in the flesh, O Mother of God Most High, accept the supplications of thy servants, O All-Blameless one, for thou bestowest purification of offences upon all, and do thou, who now receivest our entreaties, implore that we all be saved.

Now lettest Thou Thy servant, the Trisagion and the Apolytikia, the Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Tone of the week and the following two Apolytikia of the Hierarchs.

First Tone. A citizen of the desert

Divine revealers of Orthodox dogmas, O wise Hierarch Photios; glorious Gregory, shining luminary of Thessalonica; and Mark, Shepherd of Ephesus, make steadfast on the unbreakable rock of the true Faith those who cry: Glory to Him that hath made you wondrous, glory to Him that hath magnified you, glory to Him that confirmeth the Orthodox Faith through you.

Glory....

Fourth Tone. Be swift to anticipate

As servants of the Trinity, wise expounders of correct dogma, and sacred mystagogues were ye shown forth to the world, O Hierarch Photios, Father Gregory, and Mark, Shepherd of Ephesus, protectors of the Orthodox and unbreakable foundations of the whole Church.

Both now....

Theotokion. Same Tone

The mystery hidden from all ages and unknown to the Angels was made manifest to those on earth through thee, O Theotokos: God took flesh in a union without confusion and for our sake willingly accepted the Cross; and thereby He raised the first-formed man and saved our souls from death.

AT MATINS

After the first reading from the Psalter, Sessional Hymns in the Tone of the week.

After the second reading from the Psalter, Sessional Hymns of the Hierarchs:

First Tone. *Thy tomb, O Savior*

As a thrice-radiant lamp of the Sun of Glory, ye shine forth on earth, O Hierarchs of the Lord, irradiating all with the brilliance of the virtues, O Divine Photios, in company with Gregory and Mark; hence, today we laud you together, rejoicing in a single commemoration.

Glory..., both now...

Theotokion. Same Tone

The Word of God was born from thy pure womb, O Virgin, without confusion or alteration, and He hath redeemed from the curse of our Forefather all who glorify thine ineffable birthingiving and acclaim thee as the Mother of God and succor of all.

Instead of the *Amomos* (Psalm 118), the *Polyeleos. Resurrectional Evlogetaria*, Small Litany, *Hypakoë* in the Tone of the week, and Sessional Hymns of the Hierarchs:

Fourth Tone. *Joseph was amazed*

Truly endued with the power of the Spirit, ye humbled to the earth the haughtiness of the Latins, proclaiming the majesty of the Divine dogmas, O wise Photios, boast of the East, renowned Gregory, thou vessel of Grace, and Divine Mark, thou all-wise orator of the Traditions of the Fathers; wherefore, with one accord we honor you, as is meet, O blessed ones.

Glory..., both now....

Theotokion. Same Tone

The Maker of all and King of Heaven, taking flesh from thine immaculate womb in manner past nature, in His compassion was born for the world two-fold in nature, and hath saved us from the ancient curse, having mortified the dominion of the Enemy, O Pure one; wherefore, we glorify thy splendor, crying with one voice: Rejoice, O Virgin, glory of the Angels and refuge of mortals.

The Hymns of Ascent in the Tone of the week, *Prokeimenon*, Matins Gospel, etc., as usual. Then the Canons: of the Resurrection (four *Troparia*, including the *Heirmos*), of the Theotokos (two *Troparia*), and of the Hierarchs (eight *Troparia*).

Ode 1. Fourth Tone

Heirmos: I shall open my mouth

O supraëssential Trinity, by the intercessions of Thy three servants, irradiate my mind, O Lord, I beseech Thee, that I may worthily extol their much-hymned company.

The power of your words and the illumination of your teachings have splendedored the Church of Christ, O Fathers Photios, Gregory, and Mark; wherefore, she acclaimeth you today with rejoicing.

Endued with the invincible might of the Spirit, as Divine revealers of Divine Grace, O Fathers three in number, ye confirm for all the good confession of Orthodoxy.

Theotokion: Thou art seen to be a tabernacle that containeth God, O All-Immaculate one, and a radiant palace of Christ, the King of all, Who became inexpressibly incarnate from thy blood; intercede with Him, O Lady, that all be saved.

Katabasia: I shall open my mouth to chant and with the Spirit shall it be filled, and words shall I now pour forth unto the Mother and Queen; and I shall be seen in joyous jubilation, acclaiming exultantly all of her wondrous deeds.

Ode 3

Heirmos: O Theotokos, as a living and abundant fountain

Cleansed of the slime of the passions, thou didst prove to be an all-radiant luminary of the Church, O Father Photios, and thou didst show unto all that the scandals of heresies proceed from the West.

Thou didst prove to be a preceptor of the Uncreated Light as a partaker thereof, O all-wondrous Gregory, Prelate of Thessalonica, who didst demonstrate that the witless Barlaam talked nonsense.

As an orator of Orthodox dogmas, thou didst wisely confute all the prattle of the Latins, O Mark, thou boast of Ephesus, showing them, O Father, to be perverters of the Faith.

Theotokion: Cure the pangs of my flesh, O Maiden, and heal the pain of my soul by thy Grace, and grant me repentance, that I, thy servant, may inherit the life to come.

Katabasia: O Theotokos, as a living and abundant fountain, do thou strengthen those who praise thee with hymns, and who are united in spiritual fellowship; and by thy Divine glory vouchsafe unto them crowns of glory.

Kontakion and Oikos of the Sunday, and then the Sessional Hymns of the Hierarchs:

Fourth Tone. Be swift to anticipate

O Fathers three in number, initiates of Christ God, all-wise Photios, Gregory, and Divinely-inspired Mark, deliver the Church of Christ from all harm, for ye are her Divine walls and bulwarks, interceding with the Lord in behalf of our souls.

Glory... Both now...

Theotokion. Same Tone

Since thou art a fount of goodness, as Mother of God, O Lady, take pity on us all and deliver, we pray, from every impending threat and calamity all who draw nigh to thy fervent intercession; for thou, O Virgin Mother, art our refuge.

Ode 4

Heirmos: Seated in His holy glory

Possessing wisdom from Heaven, O blessed ones, by the radiance of your lives ye destroyed all the devices of the Enemy and the webs of heresies, crying: Glory, O Christ, to Thy power.

Let me hymn today the choir of the three Fathers, Photios the Great, the unwaning light of the East, the Divinely-wise Gregory Palamas, and the glorious Mark Evgenikos.

Ye firmly refuted the error of old Rome and her veritable distortion and adulteration of the Faith, from which by your prayers do ye preserve us unharmed, O blessed Hierarchs.

Theotokion: Having given birth, O Virgin, to Jesus, the King and God of all creation, Who saveth us by His goodness, mortify by thy life-giving succor the sin that reigneth in me.

Katabasia: Seated in His holy glory on the Throne of Divinity, Jesus, God transcendent, cometh on a light cloud; and He hath saved by the pure Virgin those who cry to Him: Glory, O Christ, to Thy power.

Ode 5

Heirmos: All creatures were amazed

As flowing rivers of the waters of the Spirit, ye irrigate all of creation with the Divine streams of Orthodoxy and dry up the turbid streams of heresies, O Hierarchs three in number.

Ye endured bitter afflictions with unwavering mind for the Church of Christ, since ye had the same zeal as the Divine Apostles, O renowned Photios and Mark, and Divine Gregory, teachers of the Orthodox.

Imbued with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit through your most pure way of life, O thrice-great Hierarchs, ye truly proved to be wise teachers of Orthodoxy and Godlike mystagogues.

Theotokion: O All-Immaculate Mary, exultation of the Angels and salvation of all mortals, save me from the deception of Belial and guide the steps of my soul, O Pure one, to the path of salvation.

Katabasia: All creatures were amazed at thy Divine glory; for thou, O pure Virgin who hast not known wedlock, didst hold in thy womb the God of all, and gavest birth to the timeless Son, Who doth grant salvation unto all them that hymn thee.

Ode 6

Heirmos: Come, let us of godly mind

With resolute mind, O blessed ones, ye made firm the Church of Christ upon the correct dogmas and traditions of the Apostles, and she acclaimeth you.

Speaking with fiery tongues, O Gregory, Mark, and Photios, ye consumed all the rotten undergrowth of heresies, and ye made bright the minds of the faithful.

Following your Divine words and acclaiming you, O wise Photios, Gregory, and glorious Mark, we are firmly established upon the rock of Orthodoxy.

Theotokion: Thou wast seen to be a shaded mountain, as the wondrous Avvakoum said, from which the Lord leaped forth in the flesh for the world and saved those who glorify thee, O Virgin.

Katabasia: Come, let us of godly mind clap our hands together as we celebrate this Divine and most honored festival of the Mother of God, and let us glorify the God Who was born of her.

Kontakion. Second Tone. Thou hast taken to Thyself

Let us sing of the renowned Hierarchs Gregory and Photios, together with the illustrious Mark, as true guardians of Orthodoxy; for, by the correctness of their doctrines, they put to shame the arrogance of Western heresies, beseeching Divine illumination for all.

Oikos

Receiving Grace from the plenitude of the Thrice-Radiant Godhead, O Fathers three in number, Photios the Great, all-wondrous Gregory, Shepherd of Thessalonica, and Mark, Prelate of Ephesus, as a three-edged, Heaven-forged sword, excised all the tares of heresies, each being distinguished in his own era and rightly establishing the Church on the foundation of the Apostles. The first humbled the arrogance of the pernicious Nicholas, the second silenced the nonsense of the foolish Barlaam, and third cast down the might of the haughty Eugenius. The three of them together make clear the exactitude of Orthodoxy, beseeching Divine illumination for all.

Synaxarion

First, that of the Menaion, and then the following:

On the same day, the First Sunday in November, we celebrate the memory of our Fathers among the Saints and champions of Orthodoxy, Photios the Great, Archbishop of Constantinople, Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica, and Mark Evgenikos, Metropolitan of Ephesus.

Verses

It is right to honor the three Fathers together,
For they set up a trophy of Orthodoxy.

It behooveth us to sing a Divinely-inspired song to all three Hierarchs.

Of these three blessed Fathers, the great and most holy Photios flourished in the ninth century, being Archbishop of Constantinople and achiev-

ing a reputation as one mighty in wisdom, oratory, and the dogmas of the true Faith. St. Gregory Palamas, who was Archbishop of Thessalonica, flourished in the fourteenth century, being distinguished for his virtuous life and his illumination by Divine light and renowned for his discourses and struggles for the truth. The Holy Mark Evgenikos, who flourished in the fifteenth century, was Metropolitan of Ephesus and proved to be an invincible champion of Orthodoxy at the false Council of Florence.

These thrice-great Hierarchs, having taken up the panoply of the Holy Spirit, “at sundry times and in divers manners” struggled for the sake of the blameless and Orthodox Faith, and, having by their doctrines and struggles refuted and put to shame the false teachings of the Latin Church and the overweening and blasphemous claims of her chief Hierarch, the Pope of Rome, they both proclaimed and demonstrated to all the exactitude of the dogmas of the Eastern Church and the genuineness of her good confession. For this reason, they are worthily honored and acclaimed by us as our preceptors and teachers, and as champions and impregnable bulwarks of the Holy Church of Christ.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Ode 7

Heirmos: No created thing

Opening thy mouth, O wise Gregory, through the Holy Spirit thou didst correctly proclaim that no one can participate in the Essence of God, but that the creation can participate in His Grace and Energy.

Let us extol in canticles, as is meet, the great Photios, who was mighty in wisdom, and Mark, the glorious Prelate of Ephesus, who crushed all the deception of the Latins in Florence.

Partaking of superior glory, O blessed ones, as most inspired Hierarchs of Christ, O all-lauded Photios, Holy Mark, and Gregory, deliver us from all ignominy and calamity.

Theotokion: Since thou gavest birth to Christ the King, the Maker of creation, O Virgin endowed with Divine Grace, implore Him that He deliver me from every assault of the Enemy that warreth against me and that He save me.

Katabasia: No created thing, but only the Creator would the godly-minded Youths worship as God; but manfully trampling down the threat of fire, they cried out, rejoicing: O supremely-praised One, blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers.

Ode 8

Heirmos: The Holy Youths in the furnace

Resplendent with Divine knowledge, ye truly proved to be most inspired Shepherds of the Church through your superior good will, O Gregory, Photios, and Mark, chanting: Hymn the Lord, O ye works, and exalt Him exceedingly unto all the ages.

Illumined by Thy light, O Savior, Thine initiates Gregory and Photios, together with the Divine Mark, manifestly shone from the East as unsetting morning stars and obtunded all the heresy and pride of the West; we laud them together.

The Latins in Florence were astounded by thy Divinely-inspired words, O Mark; for thou didst wisely preach the genuine and undefiled Faith of the Apostles, O Saint, and didst refute every novelty added thereto as antithetical to the Holy Spirit.

Theotokion: Angels and men hymn the great mystery of thy birthgiving; for thou gavest birth to God Who had become man for the renewal of humanity, O Immaculate one; wherefore, we hymn thee, the Virgin, and exalt thee exceedingly unto all the ages.

Katabasia: The Holy Youths in the furnace were saved by the Offspring of the Theotokos, then in type, but now in very deed; and He gathereth all the world to chant: Ye works of His, praise ye the Lord, and exalt Him exceedingly unto all the ages.

Ode 9

Heirmos: Let every earth-born mortal

By the purity of your lives were ye seen by the world as conspicuous monuments of correct dogma, O ever-blessed Hierarchs, condemning all heretical thinking and all pride by your Divine discourse, and confirming the hearts of the faithful.

Strengthened by Thy power, O Thou Who lovest mankind, Thy three servants, Photios, Mark, and Gregory, were enabled to overthrow all blasphemous

mous heresy; by their intercessions, deliver us, O Lord, from the deception and pollution of heresy.

Ye were seen to be initiates of the goodness of Christ, O Venerable Fathers, bulwarks of the Church, wise teachers of Orthodoxy, Gregory, Photios, and glorious Mark; for this cause, the Master hath crowned you with Divine diadems.

Standing ever nigh unto the entire Light of the Trinity, O Saints, deified by adoption and partaking of everlasting life, O all-wise Gregory, Photios, and Mark, accept this my present hymn and drive away the darkness of my mind.

Theotokion: Having given birth inexpressibly unto Christ our God, the Water of life, O only Ever-Blessed one, thou hast proved to be a fount of Divine goodness; wherefore, gush forth for me the water of remission and quench the fire of my passions by the showers of thy goodness.

Katabasia: Let every earth-born mortal leap in spirit and carry torches; and let the whole nature of Angelic Minds celebrate and honor the sacred feast of the Mother of God, and let them cry: Rejoice, all-blessed, pure, and Ever-Virgin Theotokos.

Holy is the Lord our God. The Resurrectional Exaposteilarion and then those of the Hierarchs:

Second Tone. Hearken, O ye women

By the wisdom of the Spirit and the preaching of the Divine Faith ye finally repulsed vain heresies as causes of scandal, O most wondrous Photios, Mark, and Gregory; wherefore, we laud you as guides of the Orthodox.

Thou gavest birth, O Theotokos, to the supraessential God Who took our human essence from thee without change; wherefore, we hymn and glorify thy mighty deeds, for thou hast led us up from the ancient curse to the height of immortality.

At the Praises, we allow for eight verses, and chant four Resurrectional Stichera in the Tone of the week and the following four Stichera Prosoimoia of the Hierarchs:

Tone 1. Of the Heavenly Orders

Let us, the assemblies of the Orthodox, rejoice and honor with one accord the renowned Hierarchs, our teachers, the great and wondrous Photios and the Divine Gregory, together with Mark, the holy Shepherd of Ephesus.

Thy Divinely-sounding tongue, O all-wise Photios, proclaimeth in an Orthodox manner that the Spirit proceedeth only from the Father and it most

clearly exposeth the addition to the Symbol of Faith as a distortion and a well-spring of pernicious heresies.

Verse. Thy priests, O Lord, shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice.

Thou didst prove to be vigilant in all things, O Father Gregory, Shepherd of Thessalonica, thou protector of the Orthodox; and, having become a mouthpiece of sacred theologians, O Divine Mark, thou dost censure the deviation of the Latins in the dogmas of the Faith.

Verse. The saints shall rejoice in glory, and shall exult upon their beds.

Illumined by the mystical rays of the All-Holy Trinity, O God-bearing Fathers, all-blessed Photios, wise Mark, and Holy Gregory, deliver our souls, we pray, from every grievous heresy.

Glory....

Plagal of the First Tone

Let us, as is meet, hymn the threefold choir of God-bearing Hierarchs, Photios the Great, the Divine Gregory, and Mark the Divinely-inspired; for, governing the Church of Christ in accordance with the Gospel, they dispelled all the darkness of most evil heresy, and, resplendent with their words, deeds, and miracles, they safely guided the people of the Lord to the pastures of salvation. To them let us cry: O Divinely-eloquent Fathers, clarions of Orthodoxy, entreat Christ in behalf of our souls.

Both now....

Theotokion. Same Tone

Most blessed art Thou, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him Who became incarnate of thee is Hades led captive, Adam recalled, the curse annulled, Eve set free, death slain, and we are given life. Wherefore, we cry aloud in praise: Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast been thus well pleased, glory to Thee.

Great Doxology, Dismissal, and the First Hour.

AT THE DIVINE LITURGY

The Typical Psalms. At the Beatitudes, four Resurrectional *Troparia* in the Tone of the week, and the third and sixth odes from the Canon of the Hierarchs.

Epistle

Hebrews 13:7-16.

Gospel

St. Matthew 5:14-19

Megalyarion

Rejoice, O honored trinity of Fathers, * Photios all-blessed, * and thou, O sacred Gregory, * together with Divine Mark, * the three-branched candelabrum, * that shineth as a beacon on the whole Church of Christ.

Koinonikon

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.

Couplet

Accept, O trinity of Divinely-eloquent Fathers
The hymns which Gerasimos hath woven for you.