

Friday, October 9
Evening Prayer
Orthodox Saints

Opening Sentence

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7,8*

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most holy and merciful Father:

We confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Invitatory

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

O Gracious Light Phos hilaron

O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Psalm 141 *Domine, clamavi*

1

O LORD, I call to you; come to me quickly; *
hear my voice when I cry to you.

2

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, *
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

3

Set a watch before my mouth, O LORD,
and guard the door of my lips; *
let not my heart incline to any evil thing.

4

Let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers, *
nor eat of their choice foods.

5

Let the righteous smite me in friendly rebuke;
let not the oil of the unrighteous anoint my head; *
for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds.

6

Let their rulers be overthrown in stony places, *
that they may know my words are true.

7

As when a plowman turns over the earth in furrows, *
let their bones be scattered at the mouth of the grave.

8

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord GOD; *
in you I take refuge;
do not strip me of my life.

9

Protect me from the snare which they have laid for me *
and from the traps of the evildoers.

10

Let the wicked fall into their own nets, *
while I myself escape.

Psalm 143 *Domine, exaudi*

1

LORD, hear my prayer,
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; *
answer me in your righteousness.

2

Enter not into judgment with your servant, *
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.

3

For my enemy has sought my life;
he has crushed me to the ground; *
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.

4

My spirit faints within me; *
my heart within me is desolate.

5

I remember the time past;
I muse upon all your deeds; *
I consider the works of your hands.

6

I spread out my hands to you; *
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.

7

O LORD, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; *
do not hide your face from me
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

8

Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for I put my trust in you; *

show me the road that I must walk,
for I lift up my soul to you.

9

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD, *
for I flee to you for refuge.

10

Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; *
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

11

Revive me, O LORD, for your Name's sake; *
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Gospel

Matthew 9:27-34 (NRSV)

27 As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, crying loudly, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!" 28 When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." 29 Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you." 30 And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, "See that no one knows of this." 31 But they went away and spread the news about him throughout that district. 32 After they had gone away, a demoniac who was mute was brought to him. 33 And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, "Never has anything like this been seen in Israel." 34 But the Pharisees said, "By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15 The Song of Mary

Magnificat Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

- Martyrdom of Saints Abadir and Irai his sister
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Martyrdom of Saints Abadir and Irai his sister

On this day we commemorate the martyrdom of Saints Abadir and Irai his sister who were the children of Wasilides, the Prime Minister of Antioch.

Abadir was appointed in his father's position. He had a room

wherein he prayed and the Lord Jesus appeared to him in the middle of the night and told him: "Rise up, take your sister Irai and go to Egypt to receive the crown of martyrdom and I will instruct a man whose name is Samuel to take care of your bodies and prepare them for burial". The Lord blessed him and went up into heaven. This vision was seen by his sister also and she heard a voice saying: "Harken to your brother and do not transgress his command". When she woke up she trembled and she went to her brother and told him about the vision, declaring that she would not disobey him. They vowed to each other to go and shed their blood in the name of the Lord Jesus.

When their mother knew that she ripped her garments, she and her handmaidens, and they pleaded with Abadir not to become a martyr. He promised his mother that he would not go to Diocletian seeking martyrdom. Her heart was soothed, not knowing his intention of going to another place to become a martyr.

Every night he used to change his apparel and go disguised to give water to the prisoners all night, and

he asked the door-keeper not to tell anyone.

After this he saw a vision to remind him of travelling. He took his sister and went to Alexandria, then they came to Cairo and they went to St. Abekragon who recognized them and blessed them. From there they went to Tomwah and then to El-Ashmunin where they met with Samuel the Deacon. The following day he went with them to Ansena, and they confessed the Lord Jesus before Arianus the Governor, who tortured them severely. Meanwhile, St. Abadir prayed and entreated God to strengthen his faith and the faith of his sister Irai.

The Lord took their souls and carried them up to the heavenly Jerusalem and they saw the eminent ranks of luminous habitations of the righteous; then he brought them back to their bodies.

The Governor adjured Abadir by his God to tell him his name and who he was. The saint replied: "Swear to me that you shall not change what you have decreed" and the Governor did. He said: "I am Abadir El-Esfehselar". The Governor cried out, saying: "Woe to me my Lord, why did you not let me know that you are my master and let me go so far as to condemn you to all these severe tortures?" The saint replied: "Fear not because you too are about to receive a crown of martyrdom because the Emperor will seek for me and will not find me, and he will hear that you have killed me. Then he will call you and torture you and you will die in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. And now make haste to finish".

Straightaway the Governor ordered that their heads be cut off. The believers wrapped up their bodies in fine apparels and Samuel the Deacon took them to his house until the days of persecution were ended and a great church was built for them.

May their intercession be with us. Glory be to God forever. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day: Pentecost, proper 22

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Fridays

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

For Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

World Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the people of Mali.

All Africa: Mali

Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our sisters and brothers, members of the Advent Christian Church.

The Advent Christian Church

For Clergy and People

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Unity of the Church

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Monastic Orders and Vocations

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Prayer of Self-Dedication

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20,21