



ЗАСТУПНИЦЯ ХРИСТІЯН—REFUGE OF CHRISTIANS

ПОЧИТАННЯ ПРЕСВЯТОЇ БОГОРОДИЦІ

Один католицький богослов сказав був раз так: «Якщо хочеш більше почитати й любити Пречисту Діву Марію, то відчини золоті книги Сходу й нехай твоя душа старається збагнути велич і багатство Божої Матері, які містяться в чудових висловах в її честь у богослуженнях візантійського обряду.

Краса нашого обряду полягає не тільки в чудових церемоніях, але передовсім у наших церковних піснях. Вони повні глибокого змісту, величавих образів і прегарних мелодій. Хто дійсно обзнайомлений з нашим східним обрядом, той зможе запримітити, якими великими почитателями Пресвятої Богородиці були Святі Отці Східньої Церкви. Вкладаючи церковні богослуження, вони передали нам велику й ніжну набожність до Божої Матері. Це почитання становить наче складову частину кожного богослуження, бо кожне богослуження є переплітане чудовими піснями в честь Богоматері, які постійно прославляють її велич, гідність і привілеї.

DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED MOTHER OF GOD

A Catholic theologian once said, "If you wish to honor and love the Blessed Virgin Mary, read the golden books of the East and let your soul strive to comprehend the excellence of the Blessed Mother which is beautifully expressed in the liturgical services of the Byzantine Rite."

The beauty of our Rite consists not only in the beautiful ceremonies, but especially in our church hymns. They are full of rich contents, majestic images and beautiful melodies. Whoever is acquainted with our Eastern Rite, can notice the great devotion which the Holy Fathers of the Eastern Church had for the Blessed Mother of God. In composing these church services they perpetuated a great and filial devotion to the Blessed Mother. This devotion has become a constituent part of each divine service, because every service contains beautiful songs in honor of the Blessed Mother which constantly extol her excellence, dignity and prerogatives.

MOLEBEN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and forever.

People: Amen.

(During the Easter season:)

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, by death He conquered death, and to those in the graves, He granted life.

People: Christ is risen . . .

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, by death He conquered death,

People: and to those in the graves, He granted life.

(All other times:)

Priest: Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You!

People: O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, You are everywhere present and fill all things. Treasury of good things, and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O Gracious One!

†Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us! (3)

†Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us! Lord, cleanse us of our sins! Master, forgive our transgressions! Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your Name's sake!

Lord, have mercy (3).

†Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. 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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever.

People: Amen.

Let us sinners humbly and diligently have recourse to the Mother of God. Prostrate in repentance, let us cry out from the depth of our soul: O Queen, in your compassion, come to our aid! Hasten, for we are perishing from the multitude of our sins. Do not turn away your servants empty-handed, for we have no protection besides you.

Glory be, now and ever . . .

Unworthy as we are, we shall never cease to proclaim your power, O Mother of God. If you no longer intercede for us, who will deliver us from so many misfortunes? Who will keep us free? We shall never leave you, O Queen: O blessed Lady, you always save your servants from every calamity.

Priest: Let us be attentive! Peace be † with all! Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

People: I shall remember your name from generation to generation.

Priest: Listen, daughter, look and incline your ear to us.

People: I shall remember your name from generation to generation.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy!

Priest: For you, our God, are holy, and we glorify you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever.

People: Amen. Let everything that breathes give praise to the Lord.

Verse: Praise God in his holy places, praise him in the establishment of his power.

Priest: That we may become worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy (3).

Priest: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to a reading of the holy Gospel. Peace † be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (Luke 1, 39-49, 56)

People: Glory be to you, O Lord, glory be to you!

Priest: Attention!

At that time Mary set out and went quickly to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and said in a loud voice, "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honored with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt with joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the

promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.” And Mary said: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my Savior; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name. Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

People: Glory be to you, O Lord, glory be to you!

PETITIONS TO THE VIRGIN MARY

Priest: Rejoice, Most holy virgin Mary, ever-merciful Mother of God, and save all those who place their trust in you.

People: O Mary, Mother of God, pray for us! (Or: O most Holy Mother of God, save us!)

Priest: Rejoice, Mother of Christ our God, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mother of Eternal Love, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mother of God’s grace, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Virgin immaculately conceived, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Virgin more honorable than the Cherubim, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Virgin, more glorious than the Seraphim, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, untainted Dove, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, fragrant Flower of incorruption, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, gracious Example of virgins, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, Canopy more boundless than the heavens, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, our Intercessor before the just Judge, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, Comfort to those in sorrow, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, Refuge of sinners, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, Advocate who did not abandon us after your Dormition, and save all those who place their trust in you.

Priest: Rejoice, Mary, the only chaste and most-blessed one, and save all those who place their trust in you.

HYMNS

People: Gracious Lady, you pray for all those who with faith take refuge in your powerful protection* we sinners ever in misery and affliction have no other recourse to God than you* we are burdened by many sins, O Mother of God* we bow down before you: save your servants from every calamity.

Verse: I shall remember your name from generation to generation.

O Joy of all the afflicted, patroness of the persecuted:*
Sustainer of the hungry, Consolation of those in exile,*
Haven to the storm-tossed, comfort to the sick;
Protectress and Patroness of the weak, Staff of the
aged* O Mother of God, you are most pure. Hasten to us,
we pray, that your servants may be saved.

Verse: Listen, daughter, look and incline your ear to us.

Rejoice, O Virgin most pure!* Rejoice, honorable
Scepter of Christ the King!* Rejoice, you who sprouted
the Mystical Vine!* Rejoice, Gate of Heaven and Bush
unconsumed!* Rejoice, Light, of the World!* Rejoice,
Salvation of the Faithful!* Rejoice, O Queen,
Protectress and Refuge of all Christians!*

Glory be, now and ever: Tone 8

Rejoice, Glory of the Universe!* Rejoice, Temple of the
Lord!* Rejoice, overshadowing Mountain!* Rejoice,
Refuge of All!* Rejoice, golden Candelabrum!* Rejoice,
precious Glory of true Christians!* Rejoice, Mother of
Christ our God!* Rejoice, O Paradise!* Rejoice, holy
Altar!* Rejoice, holy Sanctuary!* Rejoice, golden Hand!*
Rejoice, Hope of All!

Priest: Bowing our heads and bending our knees in all
humility, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy!

Priest: Our ever-gracious Queen, O Mother of God, our
hope, refuge of orphans, defence of the harborless, joy of
the afflicted, patroness of the harassed, you see our
misery and our afflictions, help us because we are weak,
lead us because we are strangers in this valley of tears,
for you know our sufferings. Help us to overcome them.
For we have no other helper but you. We have no other

defender, no other gracious consoler but you, O Mother of God, guard and protect us forever.

People: Amen.

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray to you, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy (3).

Priest: Again, let us pray that He may preserve this city and this holy church and every city, town, and countryside from famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, civil war, riot, and foreign invasion; and that our God who is kindly and the Lover of Mankind may forgive our sins and hold back his just wrath, and that He may have mercy on us.

People: Lord, have mercy (3).

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, Hope of all those who live at the far ends of the earth, and of those travelling by sea, air, and land; be kind to us, O Master, forgive us our sins and have mercy on us, for you are a gracious Lord who loves mankind, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever.

People: Amen.

Priest: Wisdom!

(During the Easter season:)

Shine in splendor, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. O Sion, exalt and rejoice today! O pure Mother of God, glory in the resurrection of your Son.

(All other seasons:)

People: More honorable than the Cherubim and incomparably more glorious than the Seraphim, bearing the Word of God without harm to your virginity, and being the true Mother of God, we glorify you.

Priest: Glory be to you, Christ God, our hope, glory be to you.

People: †Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now, always and forever, amen. . . Lord have mercy (3). Bless us.

(During Easter season)

People: Christ is risen from the dead, by death He conquered death, and to those in the graves, He granted life. Lord have mercy (3). Bless us.

(All other seasons:)

Priest: May Christ, our true God, through the prayers of his most pure Mother, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

People: Amen.



*МАТИ МИЛОСЕРДЯ
MOTHER OF MERCY*