

TONE ONE - APOSTICHA FOR SATURDAY EVENING

O Christ, by Your passion we have been freed from suffering;* and by Your resurrection we have been delivered from corruption.* O Lord, glory to You!

Verse: The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty.* Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.

Let all creation rejoice, let the heavens be glad,* let the nations clap their hands with joy.* For Christ our Saviour, in His love for mankind,* has nailed our sins to the cross;* He has put death to death,* and by raising our fallen forefather, Adam,* He has given life to all mankind.

Verse: For He has made the world firm,* which shall not be moved.

O God, You are above all understanding;* You are King and Lord of heaven and earth.* Yet of Your own free will,* You allowed Yourself to be crucified because of Your love for mankind.* When You descended below,* Hades was filled with bitterness as You confronted it;* but the souls of the just received You with great joy.* Adam arose when he saw You, his Creator, down in the depths.* What a wonder this is!* You are the life of all and have tasted death* in order to dispel the darkness of the world by Your light.* O Lord, risen from the dead,* glory to You!

Verse: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord,* for length of days.

The myrrh-bearing women were filled with grief* as they hastened with spices to Your tomb;* but they did not find Your most pure body.* Instead, they found an angel* who proclaimed Your unique and glorious resurrection,* and commanded them to announce to Your apostles.* The Lord is risen,* granting great mercy to the world.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Spirit,

now and forever* and ever. Amen.

Theotokion: O Mother of God, the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled,* since you remained a virgin both before and after giving birth.* For it was God who was born of you to restore our human nature.* Therefore, do not overlook your servants who supplicate you in your temple.* Since you have held the merciful Lord in your arms,* be compassionate toward your servants,* and beseech Him to save our souls.

We then to proceed to the Canticle of Simeon, pages 146-151.

TONE TWO - APOSTICHA FOR SATURDAY EVENING

Your resurrection, O Christ our Saviour,* has enlightened the whole universe;* and, through it, You call back to Yourself all Creation.* Almighty God, glory to You!

Verse: The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty.* Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.

By the wood of Your Cross, O Saviour,* You have abolished the curse of the tree;* by Your burial You have destroyed the power of death;* and by Your resurrection You enlightened the human race.* We, therefore, cry out to You:* O Christ our God, Giver of Life, glory to You!

Verse: For He has made the world firm,* which shall not be moved.

O Christ, when You were nailed to the Cross,* the distorted nature of creation was made manifest.* The soldiers showed their inhumanity by piercing Your side with a lance,* and the people showed their ignorance of Your power* by asking that Your tomb be sealed.* But in Your mercy You accepted burial* and then arose on the third day.* O Lord, glory to You!

Verse: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord,* for length of days.

O Christ, Giver of Life,* You freely endured the passion for the sake of mortals.* In Your power You descended into Hades;* and snatching, as from a mighty monster, the souls of those who awaited Your coming,* You placed them in paradise.* Therefore, show Your great mercy to us who glorify Your resurrection,* and cleanse us of our sins.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Spirit,

now and forever* and ever. Amen.

Theotokion: We now behold a new wonder,* greater than the wonders of old.* For who has ever known a mother to bear a Child without the help of man?* Who has known a mother to hold within her arms the Source of all creation!* It was God's own will to be born in this manner;* and you, O most pure Virgin, carried Him as an infant in your arms.* Because of this, you can approach God with the boldness of a mother.* Therefore, we venerate you, and ask you to always beseech Him* to have mercy on us and save our souls.

We then to proceed ☩ to the Canticle of Simeon, pages 146-151.

TONE THREE - APOSTICHA FOR SATURDAY EVENING

O Christ, who darkened the sun by Your passion* and enlightened all creation by Your resurrection,* accept our evening prayer for You love mankind.

Verse: The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty.* Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.

O Lord, Your life-giving resurrection has enlightened the entire universe* and has revived Your creation which lay in corruption.* Therefore, we, who have been released from the curse of Adam, cry out to You:* Almighty Lord, glory to You!

Verse: For He has made the world firm,* which shall not be moved.

O God, although in Your divine nature You are unchangeable,* yet in Your human nature You underwent change by suffering in the flesh.* All creation was prostrate with fear* when it saw You hanging on the Cross,* and it groaned in sorrow as it sang the praises of Your long-suffering.* But You descended into Hades and arose on the third day,* granting life and great mercy to the world.

Verse: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord,* for length of days.

You suffered death, O Christ, to deliver mankind from death.* And when You arose from the dead on the third day,* You enlightened the world* and resurrected all who acknowledge You as God.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Spirit,

now and forever* and ever. Amen.

Theotokion: O Virgin Mother, you Conceived the Son of God without seed* by the will of the Father and the power of the Holy Spirit.* He was begotten by the Father, without a mother, from all eternity.* Yet for our sake, He was born of you in the flesh without a human father,* and you nursed Him as an infant with your milk.* Therefore, never cease to entreat Him to deliver our souls from affliction.

We then proceed ☩ to the Canticle of Simeon, pages 146-151.