

MAY 7

Rest of St. Alexis Toth, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 2 (from the Pentecostarion) (Joseph of Arimathea)

Hearing the joyful words
of the Angels sitting in the tomb of the Word,
the women who had run there with good intentions
knew that the purpose of their group would be changed.
No longer will they carry myrrh!
Instead, they will preach to the Apostles:
"He Who was hidden in the earth is risen from hell!"
Initiate them into the mystery//
of Him Who became Man for us!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Very early in the morning
the Myrrhbearing Women came to the tomb in fear,
bringing myrrh for the Giver of life:
Christ Who died to slay hell.
But the divine angel stood before them and cried:
"Why do you seek the life-bearing Lord among the dead?//
Go, proclaim the Resurrection!"

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

O blessed Joseph,
you bear in your arms the Word enthroned upon the cherubim.
You carried on your shoulders Him Who first took our flesh,
and then died to give life to us who lay dead.
Then, you mourned His death with the Myrrhbearers;//
now you see His Resurrection and rejoice.

v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Tone 6* *(from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)*

Come, all who love the saints,
let us honor the new Man of God,
a fruitful branch of Christ, the True Vine,
a defender of the Orthodox Church,
the thrice-blessed Priest Alexis,//
our father and teacher!

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Zealous for the Law of God,
King Josiah taught Israel to serve only the Lord.
Our divinely-wise Father Alexis
guided his people to the Orthodox Faith,
teaching them to cry aloud://
“O Lord, have mercy on us!”

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Our holy Father Alexis,
guided by the Spirit of Truth,
exposed the error of ignorance
and led his people to the True Faith.
In humility concealing his virtues from others,//
he thereby received a heavenly crown.

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

* Music for the stichera for St. Alexis from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org.

Today the Church celebrates a feast of great joy,
for the holy Priest Alexis guides his sheep back to the knowledge of the Truth,
watering them with the ever-flowing fountain of his teachings,
and instructing them to sing://
“Glory to God for His great mercy!”

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The righteous Priest Alexis
appears as a radiant star.
He shines with the light of holiness
as he nourishes his flock with the Word of God.
And having embraced the Orthodox Faith,
that flock in thanksgiving still cries aloud with joy://
“Glory to God for His great mercy!”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 6 *(from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)*

Come, Orthodox faithful,
let us praise Alexis, the new Man of God,
who shone forth as a radiant lamp,
dispelling the gloom of ignorance,
proclaiming the Truth to those deceived by error,
and restoring to them their blessed inheritance -//
the Orthodox faith of their fathers!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 1 *(from the Pentecostarion)*

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary
came to the tomb, seeking the Lord.
They saw an angel, like lightning, sitting upon the stone.
He said to them: “Why do you seek the Living among the dead?
He is risen, as He said!
You will find Him in Galilee.” //
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

Old Testament Readings

Composite 2 (Proverbs)

Composite 4 (Wisdom of Solomon)

Composite 5 (Wisdom of Solomon)

Aposticha

Tone 2 (from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)

Come, all you lovers of piety,
let us praise our Father Alexis in hymns!
He is the adornment of priests and the boast of the faithful,
a fearless defender of the Orthodox faith, //
and our heavenly intercessor.

v: Your priests shall be clothed in righteousness and Your saints shall rejoice. (Ps 131/132:9)

Rejoice, O people of America,
let us make a joyful noise to God!
Sing a new song to the Lord, O Minneapolis!
Exalt him, O Wilkes-Barre:
from you the sound of our Father Alexis went forth;
his words have put the hard of heart to shame, //
showing all where to seek the Truth.

v: My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps 48/49:3)

With what wreaths of victory
shall we crown our most wise teacher, Alexis?
What words can suffice to tell of his love for Christ's Church?
As a shepherd he protected his flock //
from all foes, visible and invisible.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 6 (from the Menaion, for St. Alexis)

Fleeing the harm that comes from vanity and pride,
you strove to hide your virtues from the eyes of others
and patiently endured trials and afflictions.
Therefore the Lord, Who sees all things, //
has glorified you, O our Father Alexis.

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 (from the Pentecostarion)

The women sprinkled spices mixed with tears on Your grave,
but their mouths were filled with joy //
when they said: "The Lord is risen!"

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 2 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

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

Tone 4 Troparion *(St. Alexis)*

O righteous Father Alexis,
our heavenly intercessor and teacher,
divine adornment of the Church of Christ,
entreat the Master of All
to strengthen the Orthodox Faith in America,
to grant peace to the world//
and to our souls great mercy!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 Troparion *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:
“Myrrh is fitting for the dead;
but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!
So proclaim: ‘The Lord is risen,//
granting the world great mercy.’”

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon’s Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.