



Through the prayers of our holy fathers and mother, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things. Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x) Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. 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.

Lord, have mercy. (3x) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

PSALM 51 (50 LXX)
A prayer of repentance

Have mercy on me, O God, in Your great mercy,

and in the abundance of Your compassions
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness,
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
Against You alone have I sinned,
and done evil before You,
so that You are justified in Your words
and victorious in Your judgment.
For, behold, I was conceived in iniquity,
and in sin my mother gave birth to me.
For, behold, You love truth,
You revealed to me the unknown
and secret things of Your wisdom.
Sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed.
Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Make me to hear joy and gladness,
let the bones that You have humbled rejoice.
Turn Your face away from my sins,
and blot out all my transgressions.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right Spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from Your presence,
and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
and establish me with Your guiding Spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
and sinners will return to You.
Rescue me from bloodshed, O God, the God of my salvation,
and my tongue will rejoice at Your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise,
for if You had desired sacrifice, I would have given it,

You will not take pleasure in whole burnt offerings.
The sacrifice to God is a broken spirit,
a broken and humbled heart God will not despise.
Do good, O Lord, to Zion, in Your good pleasure,
and let the walls of Jerusalem be rebuilt.
Then You will be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness,
with offerings and whole-burnt offerings,
then bulls will be offered on Your altar.

Today's prayers are called stichera at "Lord, I call" taken from Vespers of Friday in the Sixth Week of Great Lent

Today is the last day of the 40-day Great Lent. Fasting period itself, however, is not yet over. Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday, and the Holy Week are not part of Great Lent itself, but they are still fasting days. Holy Week is marked by even stricter fasting than the 40 days of Great Lent.

If you are able, simplify your diet for the Holy Week more than before, spend more time in prayer, do more charitable acts.

Having completed the spiritually profitable forty days, we entreat You, O Lover of mankind: Grant us also to behold the Holy Week of Your Passion, that in it we may glorify Your mighty acts and Your inexpressible divine plan of our salvation, so that with one mind we may sing, "O Lord, glory to You."

O martyrs of the Lord, pray on our behalf to God, beseech Him to grant abundant mercy to our souls and the forgiveness of our many transgressions.

O Lord, wishing to see the tomb of Lazarus – for You were soon to be placed in a tomb by Your own choice – You asked, "Where have you laid him?" And, learning what was already known to YOU, You cried aloud to him whom You loved, "Lazarus, come out." And he who was without breath obeyed the One Who gave him breath, You, the Savior of our souls.

O Lord, after four days You came to the tomb of Lazarus, and shedding

tears over the tomb, You raised up him who was four days dead, O Wheat of life. Therefore death was bound by Your voice, and the grave-clothes were loosed by Your hands. Then the crowd of Your disciples were filled with joy, and with one voice cried aloud, “Blessed are You, O Savior, have mercy on us.”

O Lord, Your voice has destroyed the dominion of hell, and the Word of Your power has raised from the tomb, him who had been four days dead. And Lazarus became the first-fruit of the saving transformation of the world. All things are possible to You, O Lord and King of all. Bestow upon Your servants forgiveness and great mercy.

O Lord, wishing to grant Your disciples an assurance of Your Resurrection from the dead, You came to the tomb of Lazarus and having called him by name, hell was despoiled, and released the one that had been four days dead, as he called out to You, “O blessed Lord, glory to You.”

O Lord, taking Your disciples, You came to Bethany to awaken Lazarus, and You wept for him in accordance with the law of human nature, but as God You raised up the four-day corpse, and he cried out to You, O Savior, “O blessed Lord, glory to You.”

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

Standing before the tomb of Lazarus, O our Savior, and having called out to the dead man, You raised him as if from sleep. He shook off corruption through the Spirit of incorruption, and at Your word he came out bound with grave-clothes. All things are possible to You, all things work for You, O Lover of mankind, all things submit to You. O our Savior, glory to You.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Having completed the spiritually profitable forty days, let us cry: Rejoice, town of Bethany, home of Lazarus. Rejoice, Martha and Mary, his sisters. Tomorrow Christ will come, to bring your dead brother to life by His word. Hearing His voice, the bitter and unsatisfied hell will tremble with fear and groan aloud, and release Lazarus bound in his grave-clothes. Amazed by this miracle, a multitude of Jews will come to meet Him with palms and branches. Though their fathers will look on Him with contempt, the children will sing in praise of Him, “Blessed is He Who comes in the Name

of the Lord, the King of Israel.”

Please continue praying for Irina Gozick.

PRAYERS TO END THE PANDEMIC OF CORONAVIRUS

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

○ God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible: In Your inexpressible goodness, look down upon us, Your people gathered in Your Holy Name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction, for You know all our weaknesses and hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart. O loving Lord, deliver us from the impending threat of the coronavirus. Send Your angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of the physicians and heal Your servants through them. Grant wisdom to those who are working on the vaccine for this virus. And preserve those who are healthy. Enable us to continue to serve our suffering brothers and sisters in peace that together we may glorify Your most honorable and majestic Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

○ Lord Jesus Christ, in Your loving care, You traveled through towns and villages healing every disease and sickness, and at Your command, the sick were made well: Yourself now come to our aid, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, and grant us to experience the miracle Your healing love.

Comfort the families of those who are sick or have died. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. And as they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Guide the hands of the doctors and nurses and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. And impart Your wisdom on the researchers working on the vaccine for coronavirus.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim immunity to a disease that knows no boundaries. Instill the fear of You in the leaders of our nation and other nations of the world. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.

O Master and Lord, our Savior, Healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, stay with us as we patiently endure and mourn, persist and prepare.

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

PRAYER FOR DOCTORS AND NURSES

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Lover of mankind, Physician of our souls and bodies, You endured the pain of our infirmities, and by Your wounds we are healed. You gave sight to the man born blind and straightened the woman who was bent over for 18 years. You gave speech and sight to the mute man who was possessed by demons. You not only forgave the paralyzed man his sins, but healed him to walk. You restored the withered hand of a man in the synagogue and stopped the flow of blood of a woman who bled for 12 years. You raised Jairus' daughter back to life and resurrected Lazarus who was dead four days. You heal every infirmity under the sun: Yourself now, O Lord, grant Your grace to all the doctors, nurses, physicians, and researchers, who have labored and studied hour upon hour, to go into all the world, and also to heal by the talent You have given to each of them. Strengthen them by Your strength, that they may not fear evil or disease. Enlighten them to do no evil by the works of their hands, and preserve them and those they serve in peace. For You are our God, and to You we give glory together with Your Father, Who has no beginning, and Your Most Holy, Good, and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 49:33-50:26

³³ When Jacob ended his charge to his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was gathered to his people. **50** ¹ Then Joseph threw himself on his father's face and wept over him and kissed him. ² Joseph commanded the physicians in his service to embalm his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel; ³ they spent forty days in doing this, for that is the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him seventy days. ⁴ When the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph addressed the household of Pharaoh, "If now I have found favor with you, please speak to Pharaoh as follows: ⁵ My father made me swear an oath; he said, 'I am about to die. In the tomb that I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me.' Now therefore let me go up, so that I may bury my father; then I will return." ⁶ Pharaoh answered, "Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear to do." ⁷ So Joseph went up to bury his father. With him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his household, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, ⁸ as well as all the household of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's household. Only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the land of Goshen. ⁹ Both chariots and charioteers went up with him. It was a very great company. ¹⁰ When they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, they held there a very great and sorrowful lamentation; and he observed a time of mourning for his father seven days. ¹¹ When the Canaanite inhabitants of the land saw the mourning on the threshing floor of Atad, they said, "This is a grievous mourning on the part of the Egyptians." Therefore the place was named Abel-mizraim; it is beyond the Jordan. ¹² Thus his sons did for him as he had instructed them. ¹³ They carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave of the field at Machpelah, the field near Mamre, which Abraham bought as a burial site from Ephron the Hittite. ¹⁴ After he had buried his father, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone up with him to bury his father. ¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he

died, ¹⁷ ‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. ²² So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father’s household; and Joseph lived one hundred ten years. ²³ Joseph saw Ephraim’s children of the third generation; the children of Machir son of Manasseh were also born on Joseph’s knees. ²⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die; but God will surely come to you, and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” ²⁵ So Joseph made the Israelites swear, saying, “When God comes to you, you shall carry up my bones from here.” ²⁶ And Joseph died, being one hundred ten years old; he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.

Proverbs 31:8-31

⁸ Speak out for those who cannot speak,
for the rights of all the destitute.
⁹ Speak out, judge righteously,
defend the rights of the poor and needy.
¹⁰ A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
¹² She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
¹³ She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
¹⁴ She is like the ships of the merchant,

she brings her food from far away.

¹⁵ She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.

¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷ She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.

¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.

¹⁹ She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.

²⁰ She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.

²¹ She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.

²² She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.

²³ Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.

²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.

²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.

²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:

²⁹ “Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”

³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,

but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

³¹ Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

SAINT OF THE DAY

Venerable Hilarion the New, Abbot of Pelekete

From his youth, Hilarion devoted himself to the service of God and spent many years as a hermit. Because of his holy and blameless life, he was ordained to the holy priesthood, and later he was made abbot of the Pelekete monastery (near the Dardanelles; present-day northwestern Turkey). Hilarion was granted gifts of clairvoyance and wonderworking by the Lord.

Through prayer he brought down rain during a drought, and like the Prophet Elisha he separated the waters of a river, he drove harmful beasts from the fields, he filled the nets of fishermen when they had no success in fishing, and he did many other miracles. In addition to these things, he was able to heal the sick and cast out demons.

Hilarion suffered on Great and Holy Thursday in the year 754, when the military commander Lakhanodrakon suddenly descended upon the Pelekete monastery in pursuit of icon-venerators, boldly forcing his way into the church, disrupting the service and throwing the Holy Gifts upon the ground. Forty-two monks were arrested, slapped into chains, sent to the Edessa district and murdered. The remaining monks were horribly mutilated: they beat them, they burned their beards with fire, they smeared their faces with tar and cut off the noses of some of the confessors. Hilarion died for the veneration of icons during this persecution.

Hilarion left behind spiritual works containing moral directives for spiritual effort. Saint Joseph of Volokolamsk was well acquainted with the work of Saint Hilarion, and he also wrote about the significance of monastic struggles in his own theological works.

Troparion

Adorned with gladness of soul
as a pure vessel of the wisdom of Christ,
you were a reflection of the life in God.

Therefore you are resplendent with the light of virtues,
O Father Hilarion,
and you guide us unerringly to the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion

Righteous Hilarion, like a fruitful olive tree that has blossomed,
with your oil you mystically make radiant those who sing to you,
“Rejoice, unwavering rule of the righteous.”

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure,
and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more
glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave
birth to God the Word. True Theotokos we magnify you.

Through the prayers of our holy fathers and mother, O Lord Jesus Christ,
our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

