

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 5
The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most-holy Theotokos

Typika (Reader's Service)

When a priest is not present in order to celebrate the Divine Liturgy

NOTE: Choose one person to be the Reader.

Reader: Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

All: Amen.

O heavenly King,
the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,
Who are everywhere and fill 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!

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

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

All: 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 trespasses against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Reader: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

All: Amen.

Reader: Lord have mercy. **(12x)**

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

O come let us worship God our King.

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

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

The First Antiphon (Ps. 103)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; blessed are You, O Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

Who forgives all your iniquity, Who heals all your diseases.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful,

Longsuffering and of great goodness!

Bless the Lord, O my soul; blessed are You, O Lord.

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

The Second Antiphon (Ps. 146)

Praise the Lord, O my soul.

I will praise the Lord as long as I live,

I will sing praises to my God while I have being.

Put not your trust in princes,

In sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.

When his breath departs, he returns to his earth;

On that very day his plans perish.

The Lord will reign forever, Your God O Zion to all generations.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Hymn of St. Justinian

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God,
Who for our salvation willed to be incarnate
Of the Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary,
Who without change became man and were crucified,
Who are one of the Holy Trinity,
Glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
O Christ, our God, trampling down death by death,
Save us.

Third Antiphon (*Matthew 5*)

In Your kingdom remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your Kingdom
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when men shall revile you, and persecute you,
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Tone 5 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 8 Troparion *(for Theotokos)*

Ever Virgin Theotokos, protectress of mankind,
you have given your people a powerful legacy:
the robe and sash of your most honored body which remained
incorrupt throughout your seedless childbearing;
for through you time and nature are renewed.
Therefore we implore you: “Grant peace to your people and to our souls great mercy!”

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

Tone 5 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

You descended into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, //
and we cry to You: “O Lord, save us!”

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Theotokos)*

Today your flock celebrates the enshrinement of your precious sash,
and it earnestly cries out to you:
“Rejoice, O Virgin, boast of all Christians!”

Trisagion Hymn

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

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

Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

Prokeimenon

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone
You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.
(Ps 11/12:7)

All: You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: *Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly. (Ps 11/12:1)*

All: You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: In the 3rd Tone My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
(Lk 1:46-47)

All: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Epistle

Reader: The Reading is from the Second Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians –
2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4
Hebrews 9:1-7 *(Theotokos)*

Reader: In the 5th **Tone:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: *For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)*

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: In the 8th Tone - *Arise, O Lord, into Your resting place: You and the Ark of Your sanctification! (Ps 131/132:8)*

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Gospel

Reader: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

All: Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You!

Reader: Matthew 22:1-14
Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28 (*Theotokos*)

All: Glory to You, O Lord, Glory to You!

The Creed (Read Together)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages;
Light of Light, true God of true God;
begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father;
by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven,
and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man;
And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures;
And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father;
And He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; Who proceeds from the Father;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets.
In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come.
Amen.

Reader: Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offenses, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed
and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and thought;
forgive us all things, for You are good and the Lover of mankind.

All: 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 the evil one.

Reader: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

All: Amen.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. **(12x)**

All: One is Holy, One is the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Hymn to the Theotokos

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 defilement you gave birth to God the Word:
true Theotokos, we magnify you.

Litanies (optional) – Lead by Reader

General:

O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, in Your mercies and loving-kindness, You regard the humble prayers of all who call upon You with their whole heart. Incline Your ear and hear now our prayer, offered to You in humility.

Be mindful, O Lord, of Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. Confirm and strengthen it. Increase it and keep it in peace, and preserve it unconquerable forever.

Be mindful, O Lord, of our Father, Archbishop Irénée, and of every bishop of the Orthodox; the priests and deacons and all the clergy of the Church; which You have established to feed the flock of Your Word; and by their prayers have mercy on us sinners.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all civil authorities, of our armed forces, of this city in which we dwell, and of every city and country; grant them peaceful times that we, in their tranquility, may lead a calm and peaceful life in all godliness and holiness.

Be mindful, O Lord, of those who travel by land, by sea, and by air; of the old and the young; the orphans and widows; the sick, the suffering, the sorrowful, the afflicted, the captives, and the needy poor; and send down Your mercies on all of them, especially ___N___ for You are the Giver of all good things.

Be mindful of us, O Lord, Your humble servants; and grant us Your grace, that we may be diligent and faithful, avoiding evil company and influence resisting temptation ; that we may lead a godly and righteous life, blameless and peaceful, ever serving You; that we may be accounted worthy to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal, especially, _____N____; pardon all their transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, whether in word, or deed, or thought. Shelter them in a place of brightness, a place of green pastures, a place of repose, where all sickness, sorrow, and sighing have fled away, and where the sight of Your countenance rejoices all Your saints from all the ages. Grant them Your heavenly Kingdom and a portion in Your ineffable blessings, and the enjoyment of Your unending Life.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, for You are merciful and compassionate, and love mankind, and to You are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen

For the Sick

O holy Father, heavenly Physician of our souls and bodies, Who have sent Your Only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to heal all our ailments and deliver us from death: Visit and heal Your servant(s) ___N___, granting him/her/them release from pain and restoration to health and vigor, that he/she/they may give thanks unto You and bless Your holy Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen

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

All: O Lord, Bless.

Reader (Facing the Main Icons):

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

All: Amen.

The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most-holy Theotokos



The Placing of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos in a church of Constantinople's Chalcostrateia district took place during the reign of the emperor Theodosius the Younger. Before this the holy relic, entrusted to the Apostle Thomas by the Mother of God Herself, was kept by pious Christians at Jerusalem after Her Dormition. During the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise (886-911), his wife Zoe was afflicted with an unclean spirit, and he prayed that God would heal her.

The empress had a vision that she would be healed of her infirmity if the Belt of the Mother of God were placed upon her. The emperor then asked the Patriarch to open the coffer. The Patriarch removed the seal and opened the coffer in which the relic was kept, and the Belt of the Mother of God appeared completely whole and undamaged by time. The Patriarch placed the Belt on the sick empress, and immediately she was freed from her infirmity. They sang hymns of thanksgiving to the Most Holy Theotokos, then they placed the venerable Belt back into the coffer and resealed it.

In commemoration of the miraculous occurrence and the twofold Placing of the venerable Belt, the Feast of the Placing of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos was established. Parts of the holy Belt are in the Vatopedi monastery on Mt. Athos, in Trier monastery, and in Georgia.