

FESTAL CELEBRATIONS PATH TO PASCHA
ADDITIONAL READING FOR EACH SYMBOL

FIRST WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Path to Pascha #1, Child Jesus in Temple, Symbol: Temple, [Monday, 1st week of Lent](#)

Luke 2:41-52

Triodion, First Monday Matins, Second Canon

The pure One bears a Child;
the Virgin gives milk... How can this be?
The Virgin has borne; God has done it!
Do not ask me how this can be!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 9

Ineffable is the child bearing of a seedless conception,
a mother remaining pure.
For the birth of God renews nature,
so in all ages we magnify you as mother and bride of God.
Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on us.

Path to Pascha #2, Baptism of Christ, Symbol: Dove above water, [Tuesday, 1st week of Lent](#)

Matthew 3:13-17

Triodion, Tuesday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 3

Let us begin the pure fast, o people,
Which is the salvation of our souls.
Let us serve the Lord with fear;
Let us anoint our heads with the oil of good deeds.
Let us wash our faces with waters of purity.
Let us not use empty phrases in prayer,
But as we have been taught, let us cry out:
Our Father in heaven, forgive us our trespasses,//
For You are the lover of mankind.

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 9

John the Baptist, that "Dove who loved the desert," the "Light which went before Christ," the "Voice crying in the wilderness", heralded the preaching of repentance. But Herod, unwilling to listen to him, sinned with Herodias. By embracing repentance, O my soul, beware yourself of falling into the snares of the Wicked One.

When John the Forerunner of grace was living in the wilderness, all the people of Judea and Samaria came out to hear him. O my soul, why have you not imitated them by confessing your sins and receiving the washing of repentance?

Path to Pascha #3, Jesus Tempted, Symbol: Stones in Desert, [Wednesday, 1st week of Lent](#)

Matthew 4:1-11

Triodion, Wednesday Matins, Tone 2, Canticle 3

Irmos: at Your coming, Lord,
The desert, the barren church of the gentiles
Flowered as the lily,
And my heart as well, is established in that coming!

Triodion, Wednesday Matins, Tone 2, Canticle 9

Through Your Cross, loving Lord, You gave me strength:
grant that I may complete the time of the Fast with good courage!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 9

The Devil showed stones to Christ, which he could turn into bread, then led Him to the top of a mountain to show Him at a glance all the kingdoms of this world. O my soul, fear the Devil's craftiness, watch and pray to God at every hour!

Path to Pascha #4, Jesus Calls First Disciples, Symbol: Net with Fish, [Thursday, 1st week of Lent](#)

Luke 5:1-11

Triodion, Thursday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 8

Dressed in the armor of faith,
Armed with the sign of the Cross,
You were soldiers who were worthy of God.
Manfully you opposed the torturers,
Crushing the devil's deceptions.
You were victors, made worthy of crowns.//
Pray to Christ for us that He may save our souls!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 2

O Mary, as you sank into the depths of sin you reached out to our merciful God, and as He once saved Peter on the water, He caught you, desiring in His love for mankind your conversion.

Festal Hymn of Pentecost

Apolytikion (Plagal Tone Four)

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fisherman all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them, drawing all the world into Your net. O Loving One, glory be to You.

Path to Pascha #5, First Miracle, Symbol: Water and wine jugs, [Friday, 1st week of Lent](#)

John 2:1-12

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 9

Marriage is honourable and the marriage bed undefiled, for Christ blessed both by His presence at the marriage in Cana. He ate and transformed water into wine, thus performing His first miracle, that you, my soul, might be transformed.

Triodion, Friday Vespers, Tone 2

(For St. Theodore "the Recruit")

Come, all lovers of the martyrs:

Let us celebrate and rejoice in spirit!

Today the martyr Theodore offers a mystical banquet,

Making us glad in the feast that we might sing to him:

Rejoice, unconquerable bearer of suffering, victor over torturers!

Rejoice, for you gave your body over to torture for Christ God!

Rejoice, for by many trials you were revealed

As a true soldier of the heavenly army!//

Adornment of martyrs, pray for our souls!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 4

Wishing to marry Rachel, Jacob tended her father's sheep for seven years through the scorching heat of day and the frost of night. When given Leah by deceit he struggled and slaved yet another seven finally to win his chosen bride.

Now consider these two wives as images of diligence and wisdom Leah, who bore many children, is untiring labor, while Rachel is that wisdom which one acquires only through diligence. Neither, however, is possible, O my soul, without your effort.

Path to Pascha #6, Jesus and the Sabbath, Symbol: Withered hand, [Saturday, 1st week of Lent](#)

Mark 2:23-3:5

Triodion, Saturday Vespers, Tone 2

All who have passed from false doctrine to true worship,

Who are illumined with the light of knowledge:

Let us clap our hands with the psalms, offering praise to god.

Triodion, Saturday Matins, Tone 3

(For St. Theodore Tyron "the Recruit")

You burned with the orthodox faith,

Quenching the error of false teaching!

You destroyed the godless worship of idols.

You were sacrificed as a burnt offering to God!

With your miracles you bring joy to the end of the earth!//

Glorious martyr, pray to Christ our God that we may receive great mercy!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 5

Out of the night watching early for You,
enlighten me I pray, O Lover of man,
and guide me in Your commandments,
and teach me, O Saviour, to do Your will.
Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on us.

Path to Pascha #7, Disciples Follow Jesus, Symbol: Disciples, [Sunday, 1st week of Lent](#)

John 1:43-51

Triodion, Sunday, Canon, Canticle 8

Keeping the laws of the Church we received from the Fathers,
we paint icons of Christ and His saints,
and with our lips and heart and will
we venerate them as we cry aloud:
All works of the Lord, bless the Lord!

The honor and veneration we show to the icon
we ascribe to the prototype it represents,
following the teaching of the saints inspired by God,
and with faith we cry aloud to Christ:
All works of the Lord, bless the Lord!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 7

Simple and undivided, One in essence and nature, Light and Lights, One Holy and three Holies, God is
praised as Trinity. So sing praises to Him, O my soul, and glorify the Life and Lives, the God of all.

SECOND WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Path to Pascha #8, Sermon on the Mount, Symbol: Mountain, [Monday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 5:1-12

Triodion, Second Monday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 6

Direct our steps, O Lord,
As we set out on the second week of the fast.
Shine the sanctifying light of Your commandments on us
And make us worthy to offer You an acceptable prayer on bended knees:
For You are our Father and we are the work of Your hands://
We sing Your praise with fear and call on Your name!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 5

Out of the night watching early for You,
enlighten me I pray, O Lover of man,
and guide me in Your commandments,
and teach me, O Saviour, to do Your will.
Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on us.

Path to Pascha #9, Jesus Heals Centurian's Servant, Symbol: Centurian, [Tuesday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 8:5-13

Triodion, Second Tuesday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 8
Restraining the passions with the bridle of pure fasting,
Let us all in perfect faith
Strive to raise our mind to holy contemplation!
Let us despise the pleasures of this earthly life,//
That we may gain the life of heaven and divine enlightenment!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 9

The law has no power over you, O my soul. You have made the Gospel fruitless, scorned the Scriptures, and reaped yourself no value from the prophets or the writings of the just. Your wounds have increased and you have no physician to heal you.

...

Christ strengthened a paralytic, enabling him to rise and walk. He raised from death a widow's son, and healed the servant of a Roman officer. By revealing Himself to the woman in Samaria, He made clear to you, O my soul, how to worship God in Spirit.

Path to Pascha #10, Parable of the Sower, Symbol: Seeds with rocks & thorns, [Wednesday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 13:1-9

Triodion, Second Wednesday Vespers, Tone 1
Having undertaken the spiritual fast, brethren,
Let us speak no lies with our tongues,
Nor give each other a cause for scandal.
But illumining the light of our souls through repentance,
Let us cry to Christ with tears://
Remit our falls in sin, lover of mankind.

Martyrs, worthy of praise,
The earth did not cover you,
But heaven received you,
Opening to you the gates of paradise,
Where you dwell, delighting in the tree of life.//

Entreat Christ to grant our souls peace and great mercy!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 2

Listen, O heaven, and I will speak. O earth, hear the cry of one returning to God and singing His praises.

Path to Pascha #11, Death of John the Baptist, Symbol: Platter, [Thursday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Mark 6:14-29

Triodion, Thursday Vespers, Tone 5

Word, we sing of Your life-creating Cross:

It has blossomed life in the world by slaying death!

Canon of St. Andrew Ode 9

John the Baptist, that "Dove who loved the desert," the "Light which went before Christ," the "Voice crying in the wilderness", heralded the preaching of repentance. But Herod, unwilling to listen to him, sinned with Herodias. By embracing repentance, O my soul, beware yourself of falling into the snares of the Wicked One.

When John the Forerunner of grace was living in the wilderness, all the people of Judea and Samaria came out to hear him. O my soul, why have you not imitated them by confessing your sins and receiving the washing of repentance?

Ode 6

I am the lost coin bearing Your royal likeness, O Word. Therefore, light the lamp (which is John, Your Forerunner and Baptizer) to find and renew that which was created in Your image.

Path to Pascha #12, Jesus Walks on Water, Symbol: feet on water, [Friday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 14:22-33

Triodion, Friday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 8

The grace of Your Cross shines, O Lord,

As lightning upon all the inhabited earth!

It utterly destroys the power of devils!//

In its strength we shall complete the fast with ease!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 2

O compassionate One, as You saved Peter when he was about to sink, so reach out now to me, for a storm of evil surges around me.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed. Ode 2

My soul, you alone have opened the flood-gates of God's wrath anew, and as the earth was covered with water long ago, so have your flesh, your deeds, your whole life become covered with sin, and you remain outside the ark of salvation.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 2

O Mary, as you sank into the depths of sin you reached out to our merciful God, and as He once saved Peter on the water, He caught you, desiring in His love for mankind your conversion.

Path to Pascha #13, Jesus Heals Leper, Symbol: Leper Kneeling, [Saturday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Mark 1:35-44

Triodion, Saturday Vespers, Second Week of Lent, Tone 2, (Six stikhera of the Resurrection)

(The texts for this office, except for the two canons, were written by Patriarch Philotheos of Constantinople in 1368 when the feast of St. Gregory Palamas was appointed for this Sunday of Lent.)

What words of song shall we weave as a garland,
That we may crown the holy bishop?
He is the champion of true devotion,
The adversary of impiety,
The fervent protector of the faith,
The great guide and teacher,
The well-tuned harp of the spirit,
The golden tongue, the fountain flowing with waters
For healing the faithful; //

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 9

When a woman suffering from severe bleeding touched the hem of the Lord's garment, she received healing from Him. Just as by His words He healed lepers, gave sight to the blind, strength to cripples and hearing to the deaf and dumb, and straightened the crippled woman, all in order that you, my miserable soul, might believe and find salvation!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed. Ode 5

Because of Your love for mankind, O Saviour, You became incarnate and worked miracles, healing lepers, freeing paralytics, and stopping a woman's severe bleeding at just the touch of Your robe.

Path to Pascha #14, Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man, Symbol: Cot, [Sunday, 2nd week of Lent](#)

Mark 2:1-12

Triodion, Sunday Canon, Second Week of Lent, (Theotokion)

Withered by the passions' disease,
we have truly found a fount of healing in you,
from which we draw the waters of divine salvation,
and we cry: all-pure Virgin,
blessed is the fruit of your womb!

Triodion, Sunday Matins, Second Week of Lent, Hymn of Light (Of the Resurrection)

Rejoice, pride of the fathers;

Mouthpiece of those who speak in theology,
Dwelling of gentle peace and house of wisdom,
Leader of teachers and sea of intellect.
Rejoice, instrument of work,
Fulfillment of vision, and healer of human illness.
Rejoice, father, treasure of the spirit,//
Both in your life and your death.

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 9

Christ strengthened a paralytic, enabling him to rise and walk. He raised from death a widow's son, and healed the servant of a Roman officer. By revealing Himself to the woman in Samaria, He made clear to you, O my soul, how to worship God in Spirit.

THIRD WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Path to Pascha #15, Rich Young Man, Symbol: needle and camel, [Monday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Luke 18:18

Triodion, Monday Sixth Hour, Troparion of the Prophecy, Tone 4

Even though we are helpless, weakened by sin,
Heal our infirmities, physician of souls,//
For You know the mind of man, o lover of mankind.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 4

Job, once crowned and regally attired, abounding in both wealth and virtue, found himself suddenly a beggar, cut off from all his riches and the glory of the kingdom.
Job, whom God deemed more righteous and blameless than anyone else alive, did not escape the traps of the deceiver, so what will you do, O my sin-loving soul, if something unexpected befalls you?

Path to Pascha #16, Second Coming, Symbol: Alert Sign, [Tuesday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Mark 13:32-37

Triodion, Thursday 6th Hour, Tone 7

In the day of trouble, You are our salvation and defense, O Lord.//
Have mercy on us according to Your great mercy, lover of mankind!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 6, Kontakion Tone 6

My soul, my soul, Arise!
Why are you sleeping?
The end is drawing near,
and you will be confounded,
awake then and be watchful
that Christ our God may spare you,
Who is everywhere, and fills all things.

Path to Pascha #17, Woman of Canaan, Symbol: Dogs eating crumbs, [Wednesday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 15:22-28

Triodion, Wednesday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 2

As we continue the joyful celebration of the fast

Let us cry aloud:

Lord, keep us all in peace;

Deliver us from every snare of the enemy!

In Your surpassing love count us worthy

To venerate with fear Your precious Cross

Through which You grant Your mercy to all the world, //

Only merciful one!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 8

The ceaseless entreaty of the Canaanite woman moved You to compassion, so have mercy on me as well, O Lord...

Like the Canaanite woman I cry to You, "Have mercy on me, O Son of David!" Like the woman with severe bleeding I touch the hem of Your robe, and like Mary and Martha over Lazarus, I weep before You.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 9

O my soul, do not despair, for have you not heard how the daughter of the Canaanite woman was healed by a word from God? Therefore, imitate her faith and cry out to Christ from the depths of your heart, "O Son of David save me!"

Path to Pascha #18, Unforgiving Servant, Symbol: Prison, [Thursday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 18:23-35

Triodion, Thursday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 6

Our God has shown marvellous things

In his chosen and saints.

Rejoice and be glad, you his servants!

He has prepared crowns and his kingdom for you! //

But do not forget us, we entreat you!

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 9

Creation shook beholding Your crucifixion, O Jesus. The mountains and rocks split in fear; the earth quaked and Hell surrendered its prisoners. The sky grew dark at midday seeing You nailed in the flesh to a cross.

Path to Pascha #19, Jesus Feeds Five Thousand People, Symbol: Loaves & Fishes, [Friday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Matthew 14:13-21

Triodion, Friday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 6
In the memory of Your saints, Lord,
All creation feasts!
Heaven rejoices with angels and earth celebrates with men!//
By their prayers, have mercy on us.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 7
Heaven is shut to you, O my soul; a famine sent from God has laid hold of you as it once did Ahab for disobeying Elijah the Tishbite. But imitate how the woman of Zarepath who by feeding the prophet alone received food by a miracle.

Path to Pascha , Annunciation, Extra Symbol A: angel
New Calendar March 25, Old Calendar April 7

Luke 1:24-38

Triodion, Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent, Praises of the Theotokos, Troparion, Tone 8
When the archangel understood the mysterious command,
He came to the house of Joseph with haste and proclaimed to the unwedded lady:
The one who bowed the heavens by His condescension
Is contained wholly and without change in you!
As I behold him in your womb, taking the form of a servant, I am frightened, but cry://
Rejoice, unwedded bride!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 3
Without seed you gave birth in time to the timeless Son of the Father, O Theotokos, and, O strange wonder, you nourished Him at your breast while remaining a virgin!

Path to Pascha #20, Sinners are Welcome, Symbol: tax collection box, [Saturday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Mark 2:14-17

Triodion, Saturday Vespers, Tone 5
Wishing to restore all men to life,
You accepted crucifixion, Christ our God!
Burning with boundless love for man,
You took the quill of the Cross in your hand,
Dipping it in ink of royal crimson,
You signed our release with blood stained fingers.
Though temptations assault us, may we never forsake you again.

Have mercy on Your despairing people, long-suffering master!//
Arise and fight our enemies in Your almighty power!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 8

With the thief I cry to You, "Remember me!" Like Peter I weep bitterly, "Forgive me, O Lord!" Receive my broken spirit as once You accepted the tax-collector's prayer and the prostitute's tears. The ceaseless entreaty of the Canaanite woman moved You to compassion, so have mercy on me as well, O Lord.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 9

Christ the Word healed diseases, preached the Good News to the poor and cured cripples. He ate with tax collectors, spoke with outcasts, and by just the touch of His hand recalled Jairus' daughter from death.

Path to Pascha #21, Jesus' First Prophecy of His Passion, Symbol: Taking Up Cross,
Also Adoration of the Cross, [Sunday, 3rd week of Lent](#)

Mark 8:34-9:1

Triodion, Third Sunday Canon, Canticle Three, Tone 1

Come, let us sing a new song
to celebrate the conquering of hell,
for Christ is risen from the tomb;
He has taken death captive, saving the whole world!

Come, all faithful, let us drink,
not from a well of earthly water that passes away,
but as we venerate the Cross of Christ,
let us drink from the fountain of light,
for His Cross is our glory!

Now as we venerate Your Cross,
which Moses once prefigured with his outstretched arms,
we put to flight the invisible Amalek, O Christ our Master,
and so we gain salvation!

Faithful, let us joyfully venerate the Cross of the Lord
with pure eyes and lips,
singing a song of exultation!

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 5

Think of the staff that Moses stretched over the waters to divide them. It is an image of the Cross of Christ whereby you, my soul, can also accomplish great things.

FOURTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Path to Pascha #22, Jesus Teaches He is True Vine, Symbol: Grapevine with Grapes, [Monday, 4th week of Lent](#)

John 15:1-9

Triodion, Monday Vespers, Tone 8
Today, as we pass the middle of lent,
By the might of the Cross
Let us glorify the mighty God and Savior
Who was lifted up in the midst of the earth.
As we look, show us Your sufferings, Master,
And Your precious resurrection,//
Granting us purification and great mercy.

(Theotokion)

Virgin, you are the vine that has never known the husbandman,
Yet has borne the ripe cluster of grapes!
From him we receive the wine of salvation,
Making glad the souls and bodies of us all!
Therefore we call you blessed,
For you are the cause of all good things!
We cry out forever with the angels://
Rejoice, full of grace!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 9

The law has no power over you, O my soul. You have made the Gospel fruitless, scorned the Scriptures, and reaped yourself no value from the prophets or the writings of the just. Your wounds have increased and you have no physician to heal you.

Path to Pascha #23, Jesus and Jairus's Daughter, Symbol: Girl Sleeping, [Tuesday, 4th week of Lent](#)

Mark 5:35-43

Triodion, Tuesday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 8
You bound yourselves to noble tasks, o saints,
Enduring the tortures of lawless men steadfastly,
Confessing Christ before-the kings.
After departing from life, you still act in the world,
Healing the sick of their passions.//
Saints, pray that our souls may be saved!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 9

Christ the Word healed diseases, preached the Good News to the poor and cured cripples. He ate with tax collectors, spoke with outcasts, and by just the touch of His hand recalled Jairus' daughter from death.

Path to Pascha #24, Parable of Good Samaritan, Symbol: bandages and oil, [Wednesday, 4th week of Lent](#)

Luke 10:25-37

Triodion, Wednesday Vespers, Tone 5

Those who thirst for spiritual blessings
Perform their good deeds in secret,
Not noising them abroad in markets,
But cherishing and keeping them in their hearts.
For He who sees all that is done in secret
Will reward us for our abstinence.
Let us fulfill the fast without sad faces,
But ceaselessly praying in the depths of our hearts:
Our Father, in heaven,
Lead us not into temptation, //
But deliver us from evil!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 8

Heal my corrupt life, my only Saviour and Physician. Pour out Your grace on my heart like the Good Samaritan's ointments, that with Your help I may bear the fruits which will show that I have changed. Then all my wounds of sin shall be healed.

Path to Pascha #25, Parable of Lost Sheep, Symbol: one lost sheep, [Thursday, 4th week of Lent](#)

Luke 15:1-7

Triodion, Thursday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 7

Lord, we are Your people and the sheep of Your pasture!
Bring us back, for we have strayed into corruption.
As the shepherd, gather us together, for we have been scattered.
At the intercessions of the Theotokos,
In Your love, have mercy and take pity on Your flock, //
For You alone are free from sin.

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 3

As a Good Shepherd search for me, Your sheep who has gone astray, and do not forsake me.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 8

Spare me, O my Saviour, for I am the work of Your own hands. Seek me, Your lost sheep, O Good Shepherd, and deliver me from the jaws of the wolf including me as a lamb in Your royal fold.

Path to Pascha #26, Jesus Raises A Widow's Son, Symbol: open coffin, [Friday, 4th week of Lent](#)

Luke 7:11-17

Triodion, Friday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 4

When Your virgin mother saw You raised upon the Cross,

With a mother's grief, word of God, she cried:

What is this new and strange wonder, O my Son?

How can You suffer death, Life of All?//

It is because in Your compassion You will to bring the dead to life!

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 9

Christ strengthened a paralytic, enabling him to rise and walk. He raised from death a widow's son, and healed the servant of a Roman officer. By revealing Himself to the woman in Samaria, He made clear to you, O my soul, how to worship God in Spirit.

Path to Pascha #27, Jesus Heals a Deaf Man, Symbol: ear, [Saturday, 4th week of Lent](#)

Mark 7:31-37

Triodion, Saturday Vespers, St. John Climacus, (Six stikhera of the Resurrection), Tone 5

To the special melody Marvellous Wonder

Holy father,

Hearing the Lord's voice in the gospel,

You spurned the riches and glory of the world.

You cry out to all:

Love God, and find eternal grace!

Set nothing higher than his love,

So you will find rest with all the saints,

When He comes in glory!//

Through his prayers, guard and save our souls, O Christ!

Tone 8

Holy father John,

The Lord's praises were always on your lips!

With deep wisdom you searched the scriptures

Which teach us to deny ourselves.

You became rich in the blessings of grace,//

Overthrowing the craftiness of the devil.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 9

When a woman suffering from severe bleeding touched the hem of the Lord's garment, she received healing from Him. Just as by His words He healed lepers, gave sight to the blind, strength to cripples and hearing to the deaf and dumb, and straightened the crippled woman, all in order that you, my miserable soul, might believe and find salvation!

Path to Pascha #28, Jesus Heals Mute, Symbol: fire,

Also Commemoration of our Righteous Father John of the Ladder of Virtues, [Sunday, 4th week of Lent](#)

Mark 9:17-31

Triodion, Sunday Canon, St. John Climacus, Second Canon

You quenched the fiery darts of the enemy
with the sweat of your ascetic toil;
kindling the fire of faith,
you burnt up the proud insolence of unbelief and heresy!

Triodion, Sessional hymn, Tone 4

You went to dwell in the heights of heaven,
Shining with the glory of the virtues.
You entered the boundless depths of contemplation;
You exposed to mockery all the snares of the demons,
Protecting mankind from their cruel violence,
And now, John, ladder of the virtues,//
You intercede for the salvation of your servants.

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 4

The ladder which long ago Jacob the great patriarch saw is for you, O my soul, an image to consider. The bottom most rung is a first step towards doing the will of God, while those that follow lead to a true knowledge of Him. Therefore, renew your Life if you wish to do God's work, to receive knowledge and insight.

FIFTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Path to Pascha #29, Parable of the Mustard Seed, Symbol: mustard seed, [Monday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Matthew 13:31-32

Triodion, Monday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 8

What shall we call you, o saints?
Cherubim, for Christ rested on you?
Or seraphim, since you glorify him ceaselessly?
Angels, for you renounced the flesh?
Or powers, since you perform miracles?
Many are your names, and great are your gifts.//
Pray that our souls may be saved!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 3

One simple and uncreated nature without beginning Whom we praise as God in Trinity, save us who in faith worship Your power.

Path to Pascha #30, Parable of the Talents, Symbol: Buried coins, [Tuesday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Matthew 25:14-30

Triodion, Tuesday Vespers, Apostikha, Tone 5

You tore up the handwriting of my sins by the weapon of the Cross

Triodion, Wednesday Vespers, Lord I Call, Tone 4

Like the foolish servant,

I have hidden the talent that was given to me,

And I buried it in the ground;

I have been condemned as useless,

And no longer dare ask You for forgiveness!

But in Your mercy, have compassion on me that I may cry://

Save me before I utterly perish, O Lord!

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 6

I am the lost coin bearing Your royal likeness, O Word. Therefore, light the lamp (which is John, Your Forerunner and Baptizer) to find and renew that which was created in Your image.

Path to Pascha #31, Foolish Rich Man, Symbol: Full grain barn, [Wednesday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Luke 12:15-21

Triodion, Wednesday Vespers, Lord I Call, Tone 4

You are the lamb who takes away my sins:

Receive me each day as I sing to You.

Into Your hands I commend my entire being, soul and body,

And as my duty, I cry out to You night and day://

Save me before I utterly perish, O Lord!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 1

Come, my wretched soul, and confess your sins in the flesh to the Creator of all. From this moment forsake your former foolishness and offer to God tears of repentance.

Path to Pascha #32, Wheat and Tares, Symbol: wheat and weeds, [Thursday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Matthew 13:24-30

Triodion, Thursday Vespers, Lord I Call, Tone 8

I have forsaken the splendor of virtues

By my own will through my first sin.

But by Your condescension, Word of God,

I am now clothed in that splendor again!

You did not despise me,

Even when I was wounded by evil passions,

And trampled on the way as a transgressor.
You kept me safe by Your mighty strength;//
You have granted me Your protection, merciful Lord.

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 2

I lie naked and ashamed, for the beauty of the tree, which I saw in the middle of the garden, deceived me.

The demons have cut deep wounds of passion into my back; their lawlessness has made it like a plowed field.

Path to Pascha #33, Pharisee & Tax Collector, Symbol: megaphone, [Friday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Luke 18:10-14

Triodion, Friday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 8

You were crucified among thieves, O Christ God,

By Your wounds, healing my nature.

Save me now, for I have fallen with bodiless thieves.

They have stripped me of virtue, and wounded me.

No holy man of earth can heal me;

I am half-dead, just barely alive.

My only hope is in You, for You give life to the dead.

Heal my sores by pouring out Your goodness on me//

Only lover of mankind!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 9

Christ became a man and called both robbers and prostitutes to repentance. Return, therefore, O my soul, to Him. For the doors of the kingdom now stand open and the Pharisees, tax collectors and adulterers who have changed their ways are entering ahead of you!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 9

By repenting the tax collector was saved and the prostitute purified, but the outwardly righteous Pharisee was condemned for his pride. For the first cried, "O God, be merciful to me!" The second entreated mercy. But the last in his foolish vanity simply sought to justify himself.

Zacchaeus was a tax-collector yet obtained salvation, while Simon the Pharisee was saddened by the kindness Christ showed a prostitute, for she received complete forgiveness of her sins from Him Who has power to grant this. Now my soul imitate her and receive the same yourself.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 4

Like the Pharisee I am boastful and my heart is cold; my life I have passed in vanity. O my merciful and righteous Judge, do not condemn me with him, but grant me the tax-collector's humility and accept me.

Path to Pascha #34, Peter's Confession, Symbol: question mark, [Saturday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Mark 8:27-31

Triodion, Saturday Matins, Canticle Eight
Irmos: He who was born of the Theotokos
Saved the holy children in the furnace.
He who was then prefigured has now been born on earth
And He gathers all of creation to sing:
All works of the Lord, bless the Lord
And exalt Him above all forever!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 6

"I AM the Trinity, simple and undivided in essence, yet divided in Persons. I AM also the Unity, united in nature," says God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 9

Two thieves were crucified beside You, O Christ. The one abused You while the other confessed You to be God. O most merciful Lord open to me the doors of Your glorious kingdom as You did to the believing thief.

Path to Pascha #35, Jesus' Third Prophecy of His Passion, Symbol: Whip,
Also Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt, [Sunday, 5th week of Lent](#)

Mark 10:32-45

Triodion, Sunday Canon, Canticle Five, Second Canon
When in a mystical vision on Sinai
Moses beheld the back of God,
he shone with glory, manifesting dimly the strange mystery he had seen,
as Mary fell before the most pure icon of the Mother of God:
that golden vessel which received the divine manna,
and she chose the angelic life.

Longing, like the Psalmist, to behold the majesty of Your temple,
and the spiritual tabernacle of Your glory,
she who had profaned Your temple cried:
O Christ, through the spiritual prayers of the Virgin,
she who became Your temple,
make me a temple of the all-creating Spirit.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 8

The mother of the never-ending Sun enlightened you and freed you from the darkness of your passions. Since now you rejoice in the grace of the Spirit, O Mary, illumine all who praise you in faith.

SIXTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Path to Pascha #36, Transfiguration of Our Lord, Symbol: Clothing White as Light, [Monday, 6th week of Lent](#)

[The Orthodox Church celebrates the Transfiguration of Our Lord on August 6/Old Calendar August 19. It is included now as part of our Lenten journey through the Life of Christ.]

Matthew 17:1-11

Triodion, Monday Matins, Sessional Hymn, Tone 1

As we set out upon the sixth week of the fast,
Let us sing a hymn to Christ in preparation for the feast of palms!
He comes for our sake seated on the foal of an ass
To subdue as king the wild and unruly nations to his Father.
Let us prepare for him branches of the virtues, //
That with rejoicing, we may see his resurrection!

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 2

A soiled garment clothes me, one shamefully stained with blood flowing from a Life of passion and love of fleshly things.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 1

Grant me the brightness of grace from Divine Providence, O Mary, that escaping the darkness of passions I may eagerly sing of your blessed conversion.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 7

I have distorted Your image, O Saviour, and broken Your commands. The beauty of my soul has been spoiled and its light extinguished by my sins. But have pity on me and in David's words, "Give me again the joy that comes from Your salvation".

Path to Pascha #37, The Good Shepherd, Symbol: shepherd's staff, [Tuesday, 6th week of Lent](#)

John 10:11-15

Triodion, Tuesday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 5

Since you have slipped and are bound by the cords of sin,
Why are you lazy, my soul?
Why are you careless?
Flee, like lot from Sodom and Gomorrah!
Do not look back, lest you become a pillar of salt;
Instead, be saved on the mount of good works.
Always flee the burning of the merciless rich man;
Instead, go forward like Lazarus with humility,

Into the bosom of Abraham, //
Crying: Lord, my hope and refuge, glory to you!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 3

As a Good Shepherd search for me, Your sheep who has gone astray, and do not forsake me.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 8

Spare me, O my Saviour, for I am the work of Your own hands. Seek me, Your lost sheep, O Good Shepherd, and deliver me from the jaws of the wolf including me as a lamb in Your royal fold.

Path to Pascha #38, Jesus Heals Blind Man, Symbol: Clay Touching Eye, [Wednesday, 6th week of Lent](#)

Mark 10:32-45

Triodion, Wednesday Vespers, Lord I call, Tone 5

Jesus as You walked in the flesh,
On the other side of the Jordan,
You said to Your companions:
My friend Lazarus is already dead,
And now has been committed to the tomb.
And so for your sakes, I rejoice, my friends,
For by this you shall learn that I know all things.
For I am God, inseparable from the Father,
Though in my visible appearance I am man.
Let us go, then, to bring him back to life,
That death may feel the defeat and complete destruction I bring upon it, //
Granting the world great mercy.

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 9

When a woman suffering from severe bleeding touched the hem of the Lord's garment, she received healing from Him. Just as by His words He healed lepers, gave sight to the blind, strength to cripples and hearing to the deaf and dumb, and straightened the crippled woman, all in order that you, my miserable soul, might believe and find salvation!

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 1

You formed my flesh and bones as a Potter, O my Creator, my Redeemer and my Judge, by moulding clay into flesh and infusing in it the breath of Life. Accept me now as I return to You.

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 5

Let my tears, O Lord and Master, be for me a pool of Siloam in which to wash my spiritual senses that I may see You, the Light which existed before time began.

Path to Pascha #39, Parable of Great Feast, Symbol: invitation, [Thursday, 6th week of Lent](#)

Matthew 22:1-14

Triodion, Thursday Matins, Apostikha, Tone 5

Let us clothe ourselves in Him who clothes Himself in light as a garment,
So that by the intercessions of the most pure mother and Virgin Theotokos,
We may receive forgiveness of our sins,
And cry to Him with compunction:
Save us, Lord, from the condemnation of those on Your left hand,
And make us worthy to stand at Your right hand, //
For You are the merciful lover of man!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 4

Cast out of the banquet for lack of clothes fitting to wear, I awoke with empty lamp like the foolish virgins to find the door to the bridal chamber also closed to me. The supper is eaten but I lay cast out, bound tightly hand and foot.

Path to Pascha #40, Jesus Teaches About House Builders, Symbol: House Sinking/House Firm Foundation, [Friday, 6th week of Lent](#)

Luke 6:46-49

Triodion, Friday 6th Hour, Prokeimenon of the Prophecy, Tone 4,
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God * I will seek your good!
verse: I was glad when they said to me: let us go the house of the Lord!

Triodion, Friday Vespers, Lord I Call, Tone 8

We have completed the forty days which profit our souls.
Let us sing: rejoice, city of Bethany, home of Lazarus!
Rejoice, Mary and Martha, his sisters!
Tomorrow Christ will come and raise your dead brother to life.
Bitter and unsatisfied, hell will hear his voice.
Shaking and groaning, it will release bound Lazarus.
The assembly of Hebrews will be amazed.
They will greet him with palms and branches!
Though their priests and elders look on him with envy and malice,
The children shall praise him in song:
Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord, //
The king of Israel!

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 4

My soul, have you not heard of Job, who even while sitting on a dunghill was justified? Why then in times of temptation have you never imitated his courage or firmness of purpose, or endured with patience?

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 2

You, my soul, desire to build a tower as a fortress for your lusts, as the people of Babel erected a tower to increase their strength. But as He did with them, so will the Creator also overthrow your desires and shatter all your plans.

Path to Pascha #41, Lazarus Saturday, Symbol: Lazarus with gravecloths, [Saturday, 6th week of Lent](#)

John 11:1-45

Triodion, Lazarus Saturday Canon, Canticle Six

Irmos: Jonah was swallowed by the whale, O Lord.

Deliver me from corruption, as You delivered him;

For I am caught in the snares of the enemy.

Glory, Lord, to Your Holy Resurrection!

Love led You to Lazarus at Bethany, O Master.

Though his body was already corrupt,

You raised him up, for You are God.

You have rescued him from the bonds of hell.

Martha despaired, knowing that Lazarus had been dead four days,

But as God, Christ raised him from decay.

He restored him to life by His word.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 8

Like the Canaanite woman I cry to You, "Have mercy on me, O Son of David!" Like the woman with severe bleeding I touch the hem of Your robe, and like Mary and Martha over Lazarus, I weep before You.

Path to Pascha #42, Entry of the Lord Into Jerusalem, Symbol: palm brances, [Sunday, 6th week of Lent](#)

John 12:1-18

Triodion, Palm Sunday Matins, Praises, Tone 4

Before Your voluntary passion, Lord,

You foretold the universal resurrection to all:

In Bethany, by Your almighty power,

You raised Lazarus who was dead four days!

You gave sight to the blind, for You are the giver of light!

You have entered the holy city with Your disciples,

Seated on the colt of an ass, fulfilling the scriptures.

The children of the Hebrews met You with olive branches and palms.

We follow their example, crying to You in thanksgiving:

Blessed is He who comes, and will come again, //

In the name of the Lord!

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 8

Him Whom the hosts of heaven glorify, Whom the Cherubim and Seraphim dread,
let every breath and creature praise, bless and magnify throughout all ages.
Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on us.

HOLY WEEK

Path to Pascha #43, Barren Fig Tree, Symbol: barren fig tree, [Holy Week, Monday](#)

Matthew 24:3-35

Triodion, Bridegroom Matins, Apostikha, Tone 8
The fig tree was withered up because it was unfruitful.
We should fear the same punishment, o brethren,
And bring worthy fruits of repentance to Christ, //
Who brings to us great mercy.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 1

My soul has been wasted in evil habits, and now empty of the fruits of virtue I am in great hunger.
Therefore, I cry to You, O merciful Father, "Watch over me and have mercy on me".

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 9

O only Saviour, do not require of me in my weakness fruits which will show that I have changed my ways. Grant rather that finding contrition of heart and poverty in spirit, I may offer these to You as a pleasing sacrifice.

Path to Pascha #44, Parable of Ten Virgins, Symbol: oil lamp with flame, [Holy Week, Tuesday](#)

Matthew 24:36-26:2

Triodion, Bridegroom Matins, First Kathisma Hymn, Tone 4
Let us love the Bridegroom, brethren.
Let us keep our lamps aflame with virtues and true faith,
So that we, like the wise virgins of the Lord,
May be ready to enter with Him into the marriage feast. //
For the Bridegroom, as God, grants unto all an incorruptible crown.

Triodion, Bridegroom Matins, The Praises, Tone 2

O Christ the Bridegroom,
My soul has slumbered in laziness.
I have no lamp aflame with virtues.
Like the foolish virgins I wander aimlessly when it is time for work.
But do not close Your compassionate heart to me, o master.
Rouse me, shake off my heavy sleep.

Lead me with the wise virgins into the bridal chamber,
That I may hear the pure voice of those that feast and cry unceasingly://

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 2

Despite their calling to the Bridegroom, "Lord, Lord, let us in," the foolish virgins found the door to the feast still locked to them. Yet like them will I entreat You, O Lord, "Open Your door to me as I return".

Path to Pascha #45, Sinful Woman Anoints Feet, Symbol: tears on foot, [Holy Week, Wednesday](#)

Matthew 26:6-16

Triodion, Bridegroom Matins, Apostikha, Tone 6

The harlot spread out her hair to You, master;
Judas spread out his hands to lawless men:
She in order to receive forgiveness;
He in order to receive some silver.
We cry to You, for You were sold for us and yet set us free://
O Lord, glory to You!

The corrupt and filthy woman
Drew near to You, savior.
She poured out her tears on Your feet
And thus announced Your passion.

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 2

O compassionate One, like the prostitute who anointed Your feet so now do I offer You tears. Have mercy on me, O Saviour.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 9

O my soul, you have not imitated the prostitute who having washed the Saviour's feet with her tears and anointed them with perfumed ointment from a costly jar. For this the Lord proclaimed to her, "Go in peace. Your sins are forgiven, for your faith has saved you".

Path to Pascha #46, Last Supper, Symbol: chalice, [Holy Week, Thursday](#)

Matthew 26:21-39

Triodion, The Canon, Tone 6, Canticle One

Initiating His friends into the mystery,
the true Wisdom of God
has set a table that nourishes the soul,
and has mixed a cup of immortality for the faithful.
Let us draw near with reverence and cry out:
Gloriously has Christ our God been glorified!

Triodion, Bridegroom Matins, Aptostikha, Tone 8
Let no one be ignorant of the Lord's supper, believers.
Let no one approach the banquet with deceit like Judas,
For he received a morsel, yet abandoned the bread of life.
He looked like a disciple, but in fact he was a murderer.
He lived with the apostles, but he rejoiced with the Jews.
With hatred he kissed, and with a kiss he sold God, //
Who had redeemed us from the curse, the Savior of our souls.

Canon of St. Andrew, Wed, Ode 4
The Church has been given Your life creating side as a chalice, O Saviour, from which to drink both
deliverance and wisdom, which we understand as images of the two Testaments, both Old and New.

Path to Pascha #47, Crucifixion of Our Lord, Symbol: three crosses, [Holy Week](#), [Holy Friday](#)

Luke 23:39-43

Triodion, Holy Friday Matins, Post Gospel Antiphons, Antiphon X, Tone 6
He who clothes Himself with light as with a garment
Stood naked for trial.
He was struck on the cheek by hands that He Himself had formed.
A people that transgressed the law
Nailed the Lord of glory to the Cross.
Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two.
Then the sun was darkened,
Unable to bear the sight of God outraged,
Before whom all things tremble. //
Let us worship him.

Triodion, Holy Friday Matins, Post Gospel Antiphons, Antiphon XV, Tone 6
Today He who hung the earth upon the waters is hung on the tree.
The King of the angels is decked with a crown of thorns.
He who wraps the heavens in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery.
He who freed Adam in the Jordan is slapped on the face.

First Miracle (from Holy Friday)

Beholding her own lamb led to the slaughter, Mary followed with the
other women, in distress and crying out: Where do You go, my child?
Why do You run so swift a course? Surely there is not another wedding
in Cana to which You now hasten to change water into wine? Shall I
come with You, my child, or shall I wait for You? Give me a word, for
You are the Word. Do not pass me by in silence, for You kept me
pure //

Canon of St. Andrew, Thur, Ode 9

Creation shook beholding Your crucifixion, O Jesus. The mountains and rocks split in fear; the earth quaked and Hell surrendered its prisoners. The sky grew dark at midday seeing You nailed in the flesh to a cross.

Path to Pascha #48, Holy Saturday, Symbol: tomb, [Holy Week, Saturday](#)

Matthew 28:1-20

Triodion, Holy Saturday Matins, The Praises, The First Stasis, Tone 5

O life, how can You die?

How can You dwell in a tomb?

Yet by Your death You have destroyed the reign of death,
And raised all the dead from hell.

Canon of St. Andrew, Tues, Ode 3

In You, the Destroyer of death, have I found the Fountain of Life, and now from the heart cry out before my death, "I have sinned. Be merciful and save me!"

Path to Pascha #49, The Resurrection of Christ, Symbol: empty cave

John 1:1-17

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and on those in the tombs bestowing life!

Canon of St. Andrew, Mon, Ode 9

We glorify the Father, we exalt the Son, and we worship the Holy Spirit, the indivisible Trinity Who exists as One, the Light and Lights, the Life and Lives Who grants light and Life to the ends of the world.

Triodion excerpts found at:

<http://www.ocf.org/OrthodoxPage/prayers/triodion/>

Canon of St. Andrew excerpts found at:

<http://www.orthodoxchristian.info/pages/canon.htm>

Festal Celebrations Orthodox Yahoo Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FestalCelebrations/>