Parastos and Funeral Hymns

Alleluia: Thou Only Creator - Tone 8

(at the parastos)

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!_ Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!_ Al-le-lu-ia!

Thou only Creator who with profound wisdom,

merci-fully or-ders all things, and gives to

all that which is use-ful: Give rest, O Lord,

to the soul(s) of Thy servant(s) who has fallen asleep; (have)

for he has placed his trust in Thee,

(trust in)

our Maker and fashioner, and our God.

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it,

now and ever and unto ages of ages. A-men.
We have you as a wall and a haven,
and an intercessor well-pleasing to God,
whom you have borne, O Virgin Theotokos,
the salvation of the faithful.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: The Choir of Saints - Tone 5
(at the parastos/funeral)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

The choir of the Saints have found the Fountain of Life and the Door of Paradise.

May I also find the way through repentance.

I am a lost sheep: call me, O Savior, and save me.

Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada: Central Church Liturgical Music Committee (2005)
Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

You holy Martyrs, who preached the Lamb of God, and like unto lambs were slain,

and are translated into life unfading and everlasting;

fervently beseech Him to grant us remission of our debts.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

You who have trod the narrow way of grief;

all you who in life have taken upon you the
Cross as a yoke, and followed me by faith;

Draw near and enjoy the honors and celestial crowns; I have prepared for you.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

I am the image of Thine ineffable glory,

though I bear the brands of transgressions:

Pity Thy creature, O Master,

and purify me by Thy loving kindness;

grant unto me my desired fatherland,

making me again a citizen of paradise.
Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

O Thou who of old didst form me from nothingness, and didst honor me with Thy divine image,

but by the transgression of Thy commandment hast returned me again unto the earth from which I was taken: Restore Thou me to the image, and to my former beauty.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

Give rest, O Lord, to the soul(s) of Thy servant(s), and establish him in paradise.

Where the choirs of the Saints, and of the Just, O Lord,
shine like the stars of heaven,
give rest to Thy servant(s) who has fallen asleep,
overlooking all his transgressions.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Devently let us praise the threefold Splendor
of the one Godhead, crying out:
Holy art Thou, O Father, who art from everlasting,
O Son, coeternal and Spirit divine!
Ilumine us who serve Thee with faith;
and deliver us from eternal.

Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada: Central Church Liturgical Music Committee (2005)
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Rejoice, O Pure One, who for the salvation of all didst bring forth God in the flesh;

through whom the human race has found salvation;

through you may we find paradise,

O Pure, most blessed Theotokos.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God!

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Litany for the Departed

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,

Lord have mercy. Grant it, O Lord.

Lord have mercy. Amen.

Give Rest With the Just - Tone 5

Give rest with the Just, O our Savior, unto Thy servant(s),

and establish him in Thy courts, as it is written:

Disregarding, as Thou art good, his trespasses

both voluntary and involuntary,

and all things done with knowledge or in ignorance, O Thou who lovest mankind.
Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it,
now and ev-er and un-to a-ges of a-ges. A-men.

O Christ our God, who from a Vir-gin didst
shine forth un-to the world, through her mak-ing us_
sons of light__ have mer-cy up-on______ us.
from the Canon - Tone 6

There is none so holy as Thou, O Lord my God,

who hast exalted the power of the faithful,

O Blessed One, and hast established us upon the rock of Thy confession.

Another preferred variation on the melody for the above Irmos (sung a little slower):

There is none so holy as Thou, O Lord my God,

who hast exalted the power of Thy faithful,

O Blessed One, and hast established us upon the rock of Thy confession.
Truly all things are vanity,
and life is but a shadow and a dream.

For in vain does everyone who is born of earth
disquite himself, as the scripture testifies.

When we have acquired the world, then do we take up
our abode in the grave, where kings and beggars
lie down together. Wherefore, O Christ our God, give rest
to Thy servant(s) departed this life;
for as much as Thou Lovest mankind.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Theotokion - Tone 6

O all holy Theotokos, for sake me not all the days of my life, and give me not over to the meditation of mortal man.

But grant me your help, and show mercy on me.

Ode VI.

Be holding the sea of life surg ing with the storm of temptations, and taking refuge in Thy calm haven I cry unto Thee:

Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One.

Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One.
Kontakion: With the Saints Give Rest - Tone 8

With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul(s) of Thy servant(s), where there is neither sickness, nor sorrow, nor sighing, but life, everlasting.

The Spirits and the Souls - Tone 6

The spirits and the souls of the righteous bless Thee, O Lord.
It is not possible for men to see God, upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze. But through you, O All-pure One was the Word incarnate revealed unto men: Whom magnifying together with the heavenly hosts, we call you Blessed.
The Hymns of St. John Damascene - Tones 1-8

(at the funeral) (Tone 1)

What earthly pleasure in life is not mixed with grief? What earthly glory endures forever? All things are feeble shadow and deluding dreams.

Death sweeps them away in a single moment.

But in the light of Thy face, O Christ,

and in the sweetness of Thy beauty,

give rest to him whom Thou hast chosen,

for Thou alone lovrest mankind.
Woe is me! What manner of ordeal does the soul endure when from the body it is parted!

Woe is me! How many then are its tears;

and there is none to show compassion! It turns its eyes to the angels; all unavailing is its prayer.

It stretches out its hand to men;

and finds none to help.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, meditating on the brevity of our life,

let us beseech of Christ rest for him who has departed here,

and for our souls great mercy.
All mortal things are vanity and exist not after death.

Riches endure not, neither does glory accompany on the way; for when death comes, all these things vanish utterly.

For which cause let us cry unto Christ the immortal:

Give rest, in the abode of those who are glad, to the dead translated from among us.
4.

Where is earthly prediction?

Where is the pomp of the transitory creatures of a day?

Where is the gold and the silver?

Where is the multitude of household servants and their clamor? All dust, all ashes, all shadows.

But come, let us cry aloud unto the deathless King:

O Lord, of Thine eternal good things vouchsafe unto him who has been translated from among us, giving unto him rest in Thy blessedness which does not grow old.

a)
5. I called to mind the prophet, how he cried:

I am earth and ashes. I looked again into the graves and beheld the bones laid bare;

and I said: Who is the king or the warrior, the rich man or the needy,

the upright or the sinner?

Yet give rest with Thy Saints unto Thy servant, O Lord.

Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada: Central Church Liturgical Music Committee (2005)
6. Thy creating command was my origin and my foundation.

For Thy pleasure it was out of nature visible and invisible to fashion me, a living creature.

From the earth Thou didst shape my body, and didst give me a soul by Thy divine and life-giving breathe.

Wherefore, O Christ, give rest to Thy servant in the land of the living, in the habitations of the Just.
When, in the beginning, Thou hadst created man in Thine own image and likeness, Thou didst set him in paradise to reign over Thy creatures. But, when beguiled by the malice of the Devil, he tasted of the food, he became a transgressor of Thy commandments. For which cause, O Lord, Thou didst condemn him to return again unto the earth whence he was taken, and to entertain response.
I weep and wail when I think of death, and behold our beauty, fashioned after the image of God, lying in the tomb disfigured, dishonored, bereft of form.

O marvel!

What is this mystery that befalls us?

Why have we been given over to corruption, and why have we been wedded to death?

Of a truth, as it is written, by the command of God, Who gives the departed rest.

Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada: Central Church Liturgical Music Committee (2005)
Beatitudes with the Troparia for the deceased - Tone 6

(at the funeral)

Bless-ed are the mer-ci-ful, for they ob-tain mer-cy.

A cit-i-zen of par-a-dise, O Christ, Thou didst make of the thief who, be-cause of his re-pent-ance up-on the cross, cried un-to Thee:

Re-mem-ber me! Make me, a sin-ner, wor-thy al-so of the same.

Bless-ed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

O Thou who reign-est o-ver life and death,

in the courts of the Saints grant un-to him

whom Thou hast re-moved from tem-poral things,

and who cries un-to Thee: Re-mem-ber me, al-so, O Lord,

when Thou com-est in-to Thy king-dom.
Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God.

O Thou Who rulest over souls and bodies, in whose hand is our breath, the consolation of the afflicted.

In the land of the Just give rest unto Thy servant whom Thou hast taken from us.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

May Christ give you rest in the land of the living, and open unto you the gates of paradise, and make you a citizen of His kingdom; and give you remission of those things wherein you in life have sinned,
O you who love Christ.

Blessed are you when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

Let us go forth, and gaze into the tombs: man is naked bones, food for worms and stench, and we shall learn what are riches, and comeliness and beauty and strength.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in heaven.

Let us listen to what the Almighty cries:

"Woe unto those who seek to behold the terrible day of the Lord! For lo, it is darkness, for all things shall be tried with fire."
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Him Who has no beginning in birth of cause,

the Father, I worship. Him Who is the

Only begotten Son, I glorify;

and unto the Holy Spirit who shines together with the Father and the Son, I sing praises.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

How do you press milk in abundance from your breasts, O Virgin? How do you nourish the Nourisher of creation? He knows it Who made the water to well forth from the rock, streams of water for a people that were thirsty, as it was written.
The Prokeimenon - Tone 6

(at the funeral)

Blessed is the way in which you shall walk today, O soul;

for a place of rest is prepared for you.

Stichera after the Gospel: The Last Kiss - Tone 2

Come, let us give the last kiss unto the dead,

rendering thanks unto God; for he has vanished

from among his kin and pressed onward to the grave,

and he troubles himself no longer with vanities

or with the flesh, which suffers sore distress.

Where now are his kinsfolk and his friends?

The remaining Stichera are sung after the same manner.

Let us beseech the Lord that He will give him rest.
Glory...As You Behold Me - Tone 6

(at the funeral)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,

As you behold me lying before you all speechless and bereft of breath, weep for me, O friends and brethren,

O kinsfolk and acquaintance.

For but yesterday I talked with you, and suddenly there came upon me the dread hour of death.

But come, all you who loved me, and kiss me with the last kiss.

For nevermore shall I walk or talk with you.
For I go hence unto the Judge with Whom is no respect of persons. For slave and master stand together before him, king and warrior the rich and the poor in equal honor or. For according to his deed shall every man receive glory or be put to shame. But I beg and implore you all, that you will pray without ceasing unto Christ God that I not be doomed according to my sins unto a place of torment, but that He will appoint unto me a place where there is the light of life.
Now and Ever... Theotokion - Tone 6

Now and ever

and unto ages of ages

Amen.

Through the prayers of her who gave Thee birth, O Christ,

and of Thy Forerunner, of the Apostles, Prophets,

Hierarchs and Holy ones, of the Just and of all the Saints, give rest unto Thy servant who is fallen asleep.

Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada: Central Church Liturgical Music Committee (2005)
With the souls of the Righteous departed, give rest to the soul(s) of Thy servant(s), O Savior; preserving it in the blessed life which is with Thee, who最爱 mankind.

In the place of Thy rest, O Lord, where all Thy Saints repose, give rest also to the soul(s) of Thy servant(s); for Thou alone最爱 mankind.

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

Thou art God who descended into Hell, and
loosed the bonds of the captives; do Thyself give rest also to the soul(s) of Thy servant(s).

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Virgin, alone pure and blameless, who did give birth to God without seed, intercede that the soul(s) of your servant(s) may be saved.

Memory Eternal

Memory Eternal, memory Eternal, memory Eternal.

Holy God

(at the funeral)

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