Hymns of the Festal Cycle

Nativity of the Theotokos (Sept 8/21)

Troparion - Tone 4

Your nativ-i-ty, O Vir-gin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!

The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you,
O The-oto-kos! By annul-ing the curse,
He bestowed a bless-ing.

By destroy-ing death, He has grant-ed
us e-t-er-nal life.

Kontakion - Tone 4

By your nativ-i-ty, O most Pure Vir-gin,
Jo-a-chim and An-na are freed from bar-ren-ness;
A-dam and Eve are freed from the corrup-tion of death.
And we your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you:
The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos,
The nourisher of our life.

Prokeimenon - Tone 3
My soul magnifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

Irmos - Tone 8
Magnify, O my soul,
the Virgin Mary born of a barren womb.
Virginity is foreign to mothers;
childbearing is strange for virgins.
But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished.

For this, all earthly nations unceasingly magnify you!

**Elevation of the Cross (Sept 14/27)**

**Troparion - Tone 1**

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversities; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

**Kontakion - Tone 4**

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy name;
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, 
granting them victories over their adversities, 
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7

Exalt the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for He is holy.

"Before Thy Cross" - Tone 2 (see pg. 61)

Irmos - Tone 8

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord.

You are the mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, through which Christ blossomed;
Through Him the life-bearing Wood of the Cross was planted on earth.

Now at its elevation, as we bow in worship before it, we magnify you!

Protection of the Theotokos (Oct 1/14)

Troparion - Tone 4

Today the faithful celebrate the feast with joy, illuminated by your coming, O Mother of God.

Behold your pure image, we fervently cry to you. Encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection and deliver us from every form of evil,
by entreaty treating Christ, your Son and our God

that He may save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 3

To day the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church,

and with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to

God for us. Angels and bishops worship;

apostles and prophets rejoice together,

since for our sake the Theotokos prays

to the eternal God.

Prokeimenon - Tone 3

My soul magnifies the Lord

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!
Venerable Mother Paraskeva (Oct 14/27)

Troparion - Tone 4

You loved the silent and solitary life,
and fervently followed Christ your Bridegroom.

Having taken His easy yoke in your youth,
and having manfully armed yourself by the sign
of the Cross against your spiritual enemies;
through ascetic labors fasting and prayers,
and by your tears, you extinguished the
coals of passions, O glorious Paraskeva.

And now as you stand in the heavenly bridechamber
of the wise virgins in the presence of Christ, pray for us who

Venereate your precious memory.
Let us all sing hymns to Saint Paraskeva,
a protector or of those who are in peril.
She forsook the life corruptible
and gained the one which is incorruptible;
wherefore, by the will of God, she was granted glory
and the power to perform miracles.

God is wonderful in His saints,
the God of Israel!
The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke (Oct 18/31)

Troparion I - Tone 3

O Holy Apostle Luke,
be seech the merciful Lord to grant forgiveness to our souls.

St. Luke: Troparion II - Tone 5

Let us praise through hymns the holy apostle Luke,
The greatly honored one, who is the narrator of apostolic acts and the illustrious compiler of Christ's gospel, which was preserved orally in the Church of Christ.

Let us praise him for being a physician,
healing human ailments, physical sicknesses

and spiritual wounds, and interceding

incessantly for our souls.

St. Luke: Kontakion - Tone 2

Let us praise Saint Luke, a genuine preacher of virtues, a proclaimer of ineffable mysteries, a star of the Church.

The Word, Who knoweth hearts hath chosen him together with the wise Paul, to be the teacher of ineffables.
The Holy and Great Martyr Demetrius (Oct 26/Nov 8)

**Troparion - Tone 3**

The world has seen you in afflictions,

O passion bearer, as a great warrior or vanquishing the nations.

You subdued the foolishness of Leo,

and in battle you bolstered the courage of Nestor. O holy Demetrius,

pray to Christ our God,

that He will grant us great mercy.

**Troparion of the Great Earthquake - Tone 8**

O Christ our God, Who lookest upon the earth

and it quakes, deliver us from the

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dreadful menace of earthquakes,

send upon us Thine abundant mercy,

and through the prayers of the Theotokos save us.

Troparion of the Theotokos: "Rejoice, O Virgin" - Tone 4 (see Volume I - pg. 107)

St. Demetrius: Kontakion - Tone 2

God, Who hath endowed you

with an invincible power,

tinged the Church with your blood, O Demetrius;

He also keeps your city unharmed,

for you are its protection.

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St. Arsenie - Serbian Archbishop (Oct 28/Nov 10)

Troparion: Tone 8

O instructor of mercy and treasury of virtues, which you made accessible to everyone,

O teacher of the True Faith and the divine ornament of archons,

our father Arsenie, you were the defender of the poor.

Beseech Christ our God to enlighten our souls that we may not meet our death unprepared.

St. Arsenie: Kontakion - Tone 2

Through the nourishment of your words, you fed your spiritual children with wisdom,
O God-bearing Arsenie;
praising with your tongue, offering hymns with your lips,
convincingly exclaiming:

O Christ, Thou art the Light Ineffable.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

St. Stefan Milutin - Serbian King (Oct 30Nov 12)
Troparion - Tone 3

On earth, you loved Christ with all your soul and observed His commandments.

Like a river, you abundantly watered with your

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generosity those who withered from poverty;
and you provided for the needs of your people.

Even the tomb with your relics offers the
pleasant scent of healing to everyone.

We therefore supplicate you, O saint,
pray that abundant mercy be granted to our souls.

St. Stefan Milutin - Serbian King: Kontakion - Tone 4

To your country you were a most glorious shoot
from an excellent root, of the same kind as your ancestors,
yet in a new manner; and to your people you are a precious image.
O commanders of the heavenly hosts,
we who are unworthy beseech you ceaselessly,
that you would encompass us with the shelter
of your prayers, and cover us beneath the wings of your
immortal glory.
We fall down before you, crying out,
protect us from all harm, O princes of the powers on high!
St. Archangel Michael: Kontakion - Tone 2

You princes and leaders of the armies of God.

Servants of the divine glory and guides of men.

Ask whatever is good for us and bountiful mercy,

O commanders of the heavenly host!

Prokeimenon - Tone 4

He makes His angels spirits,

and His ministers a flaming fire.
In accomplishing your heroic deeds,
you suffered manifold wounds,
and upon the end of your life, you received the crown from God and joined the ranks of the Martyrs, and were settled with honor in the dwellings of the meek.

O blessed one, pray Christ our God for us,
to grant His great mercy on our souls.
St. Stefan of Decani: Kontakion - Tone 4

Because of your piety,
meekness, righteousness and generosity,
the Church has in you another Constantine, O blessed one,
yet also a great martyr and true sufferer,
and for that reason the Church, taking pride in you, sings hymns to you:

Ste-fan is my praise and my strength.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord and hope in Him.
St. Paisius (Nov 15/28)

Troparion - Tone 4

O Paisius, the joy of Russia,

the boast of Athos, and the wonder of Moldavia,

by thy divinely inspired teaching,

thou didst direct us to the fount of wisdom and salvation. And now, enjoying in

heaven the vision of Christ, and entreat Him that He may give us His great mercy, and save our souls.
Chosen zealot of the monastic life.

Thou wast like a hard-working bee

nourishing the souls with thy fatherly writings,

 instructing all those who are on the path of salvation.

For this reason we call unto thee:

Rejoice, O wise Paisius, Renewer of the

Eldership in the Russian land.

Precious in the sight of the Lord

is the death of His saints.
Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (Nov 21/Dec 4)

Troparion - Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God,
of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.
The Virgin appears in the temple of God,
in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all.
Let us rejoice and sing to her:

Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation!
Entrance of the Theotokos: Kontakion - Tone 4

The most pure Temple of the Savior:

the precious Chamber and Virgin;

the sacred Treasure of the glory of God,

is presented today to the house of the Lord.

She brings with her the grace of the Spirit,

which the angels of God do praise. Truly this woman is the Abode of Heaven.

Prokeimenon - Tone 3

My soul magnifies the Lord

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!
Entrance of the Theotokos: Irmos - Tone 4

The angels beheld the entrance of the Pure One and were amazed! How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

As you are a living Temple of God, let no impure hand touch you, O Theotokos! But let the lips of all believers sing constantly magnifying you in joy with the angelic salutation: Truly you are above all creatures, O Pure One!
St. Nicholas the Wonderworker (Dec 6/19)

Troparion - Tone 4

You were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence.

Because of your lowliness heaven was opened to you. Because of your poverty riches were granted to you.

O holy bishop Nicholas,

pray to Christ our God that our souls may be saved.
St. Nicholas: Kontakion - Tone 3

You proved yourself to be a holy priest,

O Nicholas; you served God in Myra

and lived the Gospel of Christ.

You offered your life for your people;

and rescued the innocent from death.

Therefore God has glorified you

as a trustworthy guide of things divine.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7

The righteous shall rejoice in the

Lord and shall hope in Him.
Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Troparion - Tone 2

Through faith, You have justified the ancient Forefathers

O Christ our God, and through them You have espoused

in advance the Church, set apart from the Gentiles.

The saints rejoice in glory, for from the seed

of these Forefathers has come forth the glorious fruit,

who gave You birth without seed. Through their

intercession, O Christ God, save our souls!

Kontakion - Tone 6

Armed with God’s invisible power,

you shunned the adoration of man-made idols,

O thrice-holy children. Strengthened with this power

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Beyond words, you stood in the midst of a devouring fire and called upon God, saying: "Hasten, O Merciful One, and hurry to help us, for You are good and have the power to do as You please!"

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)*

*for the Holy Forefathers and Holy Fathers Sunday

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Troparion - Tone 2

Faith can accomplish great things.

Through it, the three holy children rejoice in the flame as if they had been in refreshing water,
and Daniel in the midst of the lions is like a shepherd among his sheep. Through their intercession, O Christ God, save our souls!

**Sunday of the Holy Fathers**

**Kontakion - Tone 1**

Rejoice, O Bethlehem, and be ready O Ephraatha!

Behold, the Virgin is on her way to give birth to the Great Shepherd she carries in her womb.

The God-bearing forefathers will rejoice at this sight and together with the shepherds, they will glorify the Virgin feeding Him.