

## THE DOMESTIC CHURCH PRAYS

*Week of February 23-28, 2026*

The following prayers and Scripture Readings are meant to accompany the daily prayers of the family, which is called the “Domestic Church.” It is recommended that the *Horologion* (available from: melkite.org) be used in part, or the small green *A Book of Hours* published by Bishop Nicholas. If these are not available; in the evening say Psalm 141 (140) *Lord to You I call...*; and in the morning say Psalms 148-150. To these add the troparia of the day, (and the Scripture Readings, if desired), and your petitions to God.

### Readings of the Week – 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent

MONDAY NOON OFFICE – Isaiah 4:2-6, 5:1-7; EVENING VESPERS - Genesis 3:21-4:7; Proverbs 3:34-4:17, & Readings of February 24

TUESDAY NOON OFFICE – Isaiah 5:7-16; EVENING VESPERS - Genesis 4:8-15; Proverbs 5:1-15 & Readings of February 24

WEDNESDAY NOON OFFICE – Isaiah 5:16-25; EVENING VESPERS - Genesis 4:16-end; Proverbs 5:15-6:2.

THURSDAY NOON OFFICE – Isaiah 6:1-12; EVENING VESPERS - Genesis 5:1-24; Proverbs 6:3-20

FRIDAY NOON OFFICE – Isaiah 7:1-15; EVENING VESPERS - Genesis 5:32-6:8; Proverbs 6:20-7:2

SATURDAY - Hebrews 3:12-16; Mark 1:35-44

### Troparia for the end of Lenten Vespers (Tone 5) Monday-Friday

-Hail, O Mother of God, Virgin Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have given birth to the Savior of our souls.

-O you Baptizer of Christ, remember us all, that we may be forgiven, for you have been favored with the grace of interceding in our behalf.

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

-O holy apostles and all you saints, intercede for us, that we may be protected against danger and distress, for we have obtained you as our eager intercessors before the Savior.

-Now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

-O Mother of God, we have sought refuge in your tenderness: do not turn away from our supplications while we are being tempted. Protect us instead against danger, O you who alone are Virgin and blessed.

### Prayer of Saint Ephrem (*Used Monday-Friday*)

-O Lord and Master of my Life, grant that I may not be infected with the spirit of slothfulness and inquisitiveness, with the spirit of ambition and vain talking.

-Grant instead to me your servant the spirit of purity and humility, the spirit of patience and neighborly love.

-O Lord and King, bestow upon me the grace of being aware of my sins and of not thinking evil of those of my brethren.

-For You are blessed forever and ever. Amen.

### Troparion for the end of Lenten Orthros (*Used Monday-Friday*)

As we stand within the nave of your glory, we feel as if we were in heaven, O Mother of God, O Heavenly Door! Open to us the portals of your mercy.

*Then the Prayer of Saint Ephrem is said.*

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### MONDAY, 2/23 – SAINT POLYCARP OF SMYRNA

#### Troparion of Saint Polycarp of Smyrna (*Tone 4*)

O holy Hieromartyr Polycarp, you lent yourself to the Apostles’ way of life and succeeded them on their throne. Inspired by God, you found the way to contemplation through the practice of virtue; wherefore you became a perfect teacher of truth, fighting for the faith unto the shedding of your blood.

Intercede with Christ God that He may save our souls.

*The Lenten Office is used.*

### TUESDAY, 2/24 – FINDING THE HEAD OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST – 3<sup>rd</sup> Class

#### Troparion Of John (*Tone 4*)

The head of the Forerunner arose from the earth like a star, sending out rays of healing and immortality. In heaven, it gathers together the choirs of Angels, while on earth it assembles the human race in a single voice to sing the glory of Christ God.

#### Theotokion of the Resurrection (*Tone 4*)

The mystery which was hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels has been revealed through you O Theotokos to those on earth, for God took flesh in a union without commixture, and willingly took up the cross by which He elevated the first man, and saved our souls from death

#### Kontakion Of John (*Tone 2*)

O Prophet of God and Forerunner of grace: within the earth we have discovered your head, a rose of great holiness whence healing always comes to us. As you did of old, now also do you preach repentance to the world.

### **Apostichon Psalm of Saint John: Psalm 115**

1. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.
2. The just will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar.
3. Glory to the Father... Now and always...

**Vespers' Readings:** *(Optional)* Isaiah 40:1-5, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1; Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 19, 17, 22-24; Wisdom 4:7, 16-17, 19-20; 5:1

**Orthros Gospel:** Luke 7:17-30

**Presanctified Liturgy:** 2 Corinthians 4:6-15; Matthew 11:2-15

### **WEDNESDAY, 2/25 – SAINT TARASIOS OF CONSTANTINOPLE**

#### **Troparion of Saint Tarasios (Tone 4)**

O Father and Pontiff Tarasios, the holiness of your life was set before your flock as a rule of faith, and an example meekness. You acquired greatness through humility and spiritual wealth through poverty. Pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

*The Lenten Office is used.*

### **THURSDAY, 2/26 – SAINT PORPHYRIUS OF GAZA**

#### **Troparion of Saint Porphyrius (Tone 4)**

O Father and Pontiff Porphyrius, the holiness of your life was set before your flock as a rule of faith, and an example meekness. You acquired greatness through humility and spiritual wealth through poverty. Pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

*The Lenten Office is used.*

### **FRIDAY, 2/27 – SAINT PROCOPIUS, CONFESSOR**

#### **Troparion of Saint Procopius (Tone 8)**

Your abundant tears made the wilderness sprout and bloom, and your deep sighings made your labors fruitful a hundred-fold. You became a star shining over the world with miracles. Holy Father Procopius pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

*The Lenten Office is used.*

### **SATURDAY, 2/28 – SAINT BASIL, CONFESSOR AND COMPANION OF SAINT PROCOPIOS**

*At Vespers do the Troparion of the Saint and the Resurrection Theotokion and the Prayer of Saint Ephrem*

*At Matins, instead of the Lord is God..., do the Alleluias for the Departed and the following Troparia:*

#### **All-Saints (Tone 2)**

O you Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, righteous ones and holy women who have fought the good fight and kept the faith, since you have acquired the favor with the Savior, we beseech you to intercede with Him in his goodness that He may save our souls.

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

#### **Of the Dead (Tone 8)**

O Lord, in your goodness remember your servants and forgive every sin they have committed in their life, for there is none without sin but Yourself who have the power to grant rest to the departed.

*Now and always...*

#### **Theotokion (Tone 2)**

O holy Mother, Mother of the Inexpressible Light, we honor you with angelic hymns and we all exalt you with great devotion.

*At the end of Lauds use the Troparion of the Saint of the Day and the Theotokion.*

#### **Troparion of Basil (Tone 1)**

You made the wilderness your dwelling place, O our Father Basil, the Bearer of God; you became an angel in the flesh and a wonderworker. Through fast, vigils, and prayers, you obtained from God special graces to heal the sick and sanctify the souls of those who come to you with trust. Glory to the One who gave you strength! Glory to the One who crowned you! Glory to the One who, through your intercession, grants healing to all!

#### **Resurrection Theotokion (Tone 1)**

When Gabriel greeted you, O Virgin, with his voice the Lord of All took flesh in you. O Holy Ark, as the just David called you, you have been revealed as more spacious than the heavens in bearing your Creator. Glory to Him who dwelt in you, glory to Him who came from you, glory to Him who delivered us through your maternity.