

THE DOMESTIC CHURCH PRAYS

Week of March 30-April 4, 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 – *Holy Week*

Use the Readings for each day of Holy Week as indicated below.

Prayer of Saint Ephrem (*Used Monday-Wednesday*)

-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.

HOLY MONDAY, 3/30



Troparion of the Bridegroom (*Tone 8*) *Sung three times*
Behold the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night. Blessed is the servant He shall find awake. But the one He shall find neglectful will not be worthy of Him. Beware therefore, O my soul, do not fall into a deep slumber, lest you be delivered to death, and the door of the Kingdom be closed on you. Watch instead and cry out: Holy, holy, holy are You, O our God.

- 1- Through the intercession of the Angels, have mercy on us.
- 2- Through the intercession of your Saints, have mercy on us.
- 3- For the sake of the Mother of God, have mercy on us.

We say the Prayer of Saint Ephrem at the end of our morning and evening prayers.

HOLY MONDAY NOON OFFICE – Ezekiel 1:1-20; EVENING VESPERS – Exodus 1:1-20, Job 1:1-12, Matthew 24:3-35; EVENING BRIDEGROOM SERVICE – Matthew 22:15-23:39

HOLY TUESDAY, 3/31

Troparion of the Bridegroom (*Tone 8*) *Sung three times*

Behold the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night. Blessed is the servant He shall find awake. But the one He shall find neglectful will not be worthy of Him. Beware therefore, O my soul, do not fall into a deep slumber, lest you be delivered to death, and the door of the Kingdom be closed on you. Watch instead and cry out: Holy, holy, holy are You, O our God.

1. Through the intercession of the Forerunner, have mercy on us.
2. Through the intercession of your Saints, have mercy on us.
3. For the sake of the Mother of God, have mercy on us.

We say the Prayer of Saint Ephrem at the end of our morning and evening prayers.

HOLY TUESDAY NOON OFFICE – Ezekiel 1:21-28; EVENING VESPERS – Exodus 2:5-10; Job 1:13-22; Matthew 24:36-26:2; EVENING BRIDEGROOM SERVICE – John 12:17-50

HOLY WEDNESDAY, April 1

Troparion of the Bridegroom (*Tone 8*) *Sung three times*

Behold the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night. Blessed is the servant He shall find awake. But the one He shall find neglectful will not be worthy of Him. Beware therefore, O my soul, do not fall into a deep slumber, lest you be delivered to death, and the door of the Kingdom be closed on you. Watch instead and cry out: Holy, holy, holy are You, O our God.

- 1- By the power of your cross, have mercy on us.
- 2- Through the intercession of your Saints, have mercy on us.
- 3- For the sake of the Mother of God, have mercy on us.

We say the Prayer of Saint Ephrem at the end of our morning and evening prayers.

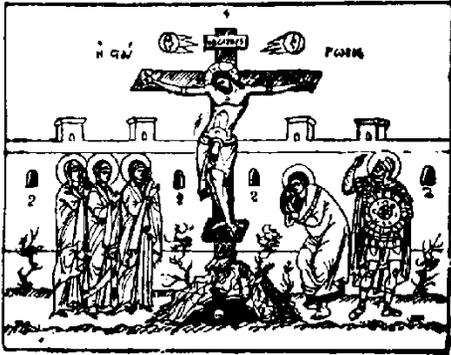
HOLY WEDNESDAY NOON OFFICE – Ezekiel 2:3-3:3; EVENING VESPERS – Exodus 2:11-22; Job 2:1-10; Matthew 26:6-16; EVENING BRIDEGROOM SERVICE – Luke 22:1-39

HOLY THURSDAY, 4/2

Troparion of Holy Thursday (Tone 8) Sung 3 times

While the glorious Disciples were enlightened at the washing of their feet at the Last Supper, then Judas, the wicked betrayer, sick with the love of money, fell into darkness; and he delivered You, the supremely righteous Judas, to lawless judges. Wherefore, O lover of money, look at the man who hung himself for this very love, and flee from the insatiable soul who boldly dared to betray the Master. O Lord, who are all good to all men, glory to You.

HOLY THURSDAY NOON OFFICE – Jeremiah 11:18-12:15; **EVENING VESPERS** – Exodus 19:10-19; Job 38:1-21, 42:1-5; Isaiah 50:4-11; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32; Matthew 26:2-27:2; **EVENING CRUCIFIXION SERVICE** – *We read the Passion of Christ, one of the following:* Matthew 26:36-27:66; or Mark 14:32-15:47; or Luke 22:39-23:56; or John 18:1-19:42



You.

HOLY FRIDAY NOON OFFICE – Isaiah 52:13-54:1; Hebrews 2:11-18; Luke 23:32-49; **EVENING VESPERS** – Exodus 33:11-23; Job 42:12-17; Isaiah 52:13-54:1; 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:2; **EVENING FUNERAL OF CHRIST** – Ezekiel 37:1-14; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 & Galatians 3:13-14; Matthew 27:62-66

HOLY SATURDAY OF LIGHT, 4/4

Troparia of Holy Saturday (Tone 2)

-The noble Joseph took down from the true your spotless body, and wrapped it in pure linen with spices, and laid it for burial in a new tomb.

-Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

-The Angel stood by the tomb and cried to the myrrh bearing women, Myrrh is proper for the dead, but Christ has shown Himself free from corruption.

HOLY SATURDAY – EVENING VESPERS – Genesis 1:1-13; Exodus 12:1-11; Daniel 3:1-23; Romans 6:3-11, Mathew 28:1-20

