THE SERVICES

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THE

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HOROLOGION

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THE ORDER OF
THE SERVICE OF THE PANAGIA

As it is observed in monasteries daily.

After the dismissal of the Divine Liturgy, the superior goes out from the Temple to the Refectory. The brethren go after him, two-by-two, and they all say :

PSALM 144

I shall exalt You, O my God, and my King, and I shall bless Your name forever, and unto the ages of ages. Every day will I bless You, and praise Your name, forever, and unto the ages of ages. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and there is nothing beyond His majesty. Generation, and generation shall praise Your works, and make known Your power. And they shall speak of the glorious magnificence of Your holiness, and recount Your wonders. They shall speak of the power of Your terrible deeds, and recount Your majesty. They shall pour forth with the memory of Your abundant loving-kindness, and in Your righteousness shall they exult. The LORD is compassionate, and merciful, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy. The LORD is gracious to all things, and His compassions are for all His works. Let all Your works confess You, O LORD, and let Your holy ones bless You. They shall tell of the glory of Your Kingdom, and they shall speak of Your authority, so that the sons of Men may know of Your authority, and of the glory of the magnificence of Your Kingdom. Your Kingdom is a kingdom for all the ages, and Your dominion is for every generation, and generation. Faithful is the LORD in all His words, and holy is He in all His works. The LORD upholds all those who fall down, and sets upright all those who have been broken down. The eyes of all hope in You, and You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand, and out of Your good pleasure You fill up every living thing. Righteous is the LORD in all His ways, and holy is He in all His works. The LORD is near to all those who call upon Him, to all those who call on Him in truth. He shall do the will of those who fear Him ; and He shall hear their supplication, and save them. The LORD guards all those who love Him, and He shall exterminate all the sinners. My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless His holy name, forever, and unto the ages of ages.

Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Master bless.

In the Refectory, the Superior, or assigned presbyter says :

Presbyter : O Christ our God, bless the food, and drink to Your servants ; for You are holy, always, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Response : Amen.

And a portion, or a prosphora, which has been offered, is put in a dish, and it rests in an arranged place.

The community sits to eat, according to the custom.

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After the eating, the serving presbyter says :

Presbyter : Through the prayers of our holy *fathers*, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Response : Amen.

And having stood up, we say :

Response : Blessed is God who has been merciful, and fed us from our youth ; who gives food to all flesh, filling our hearts with joy, and gladness ; that always, all will have sufficient, so that we may be abundant in every good work, in Christ Jesus our Lord ; to whom with You is due glory, dominion, honour, and worship, together with the Holy Spirit, unto the ages.

Response : Amen.

Glory be to You, O Lord ; glory be to You, O holy One ; glory be to You, O King, for You have given us food in gladness. Fill us with the Holy Spirit, that we may be found to be well-pleasing, and unashamed before You, when You shall render to each according to his deeds.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Master, bless.

And he that is to lift up the All-holy makes a bow, and says :

Lifter : Bless me, holy *fathers*, and forgive me, the sinner.

Response : May God forgive you, and have mercy on you.

Then, taking the particle with his finger-tips, he raises it a little over the Icon of the Holy Trinity, and he says in a loud voice :

Lifter : Great is the name.

Superior : Of the Holy Trinity.

Placing it over the Icon of the Theotokos, he makes the sign of the Cross, and he says :

Lifter : O most holy Theotokos, come to our assistance.

Response : Through her intercessions, O God, have mercy on us, and save us.

Response : In all generations we call you blessed, O Virgin Theotokos, for in you the uncontainable Christ our God was pleased to be contained. Blessed are we also, having you as an advocate ; for day, and night you intercede for us, and the sceptres of kingdoms are strengthened by your entreaties. Therefore, in hymns we cry out to you, Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

Response : It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever blessed, and most pure, and the Mother of our God.
More honourable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

After all have partaken, the superior or presbyter says :

Presbyter : Unto the many intercessions of the most pure Lady, Theotokos, and Ever-virgin Mary.

Response : Through her intercessions, O God, have mercy on us, and save us.

Presbyter : Merciful, and compassionate is the Lord ; He has given food to those who fear Him, and His righteousness abides unto the the ages of ages.

Reader : **PSALM 121**

I was glad when they said to me, "We shall walk to the house of the LORD". Our feet are standing in your courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city, whose fellowship is one. For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the LORD, a testimony to Israel, to confess the Name of the LORD. For there thrones were set for judgement, thrones over the house of David. Ask for all that is for the peace of Jerusalem, and prosperity to those who love you. Let peace be in your power, and prosperity in your well-built towers. For the sake of my brothers, and my kinsfolk, I spoke peace concerning you. For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I have sought out good things for you.

Reader : Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(*three times*)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.[1] O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit, and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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[1] *Be propitious to*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Response : Amen.

If it be a feast of the Lord, we sing : Glory .... Now .... and the Festal Kontak.

Otherwise, we use these tropars :

Readers : We give thanks to You, O Christ our God, that You have satisfied us with Your earthly blessings. Deprive us not of Your Heavenly Kingdom ; but as You came amongst Your disciples, and gave them peace, so come to us, and save us, O Saviour.

Readers : Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
O God of our fathers, who ever deal by us according to Your mercy, do not withdraw Your mercy from us, but through their intercession guide our life in peace.
Now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Through the intercessions of all the saints, and of the Theotokos, grant us Your peace, and have mercy on us, O Lord, as the only compassionate One.

Then we continue :

Readers : Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Master, bless.

Presbyter : Blessed is God who has been merciful, and has fed us from His bountiful gifts, through His Grace, and love for Man, always, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Response : Amen.

Alternative prayer after the meal :

O Christ our God, bless the left-overs of these morsels, and multiply them for this Your city (monastery), and for this, Your world ; for You are holy, always, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Response : Amen.

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How, and why the offering of the Panagia came to be.

After the awesome Resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and the coming of the Holy Spirit, and before the dispersal of the holy Apostles for preaching, all the Apostles were together. And when, after prayer, they reclined at dinner, they left the place at the head of the table empty, and placed at the head a portion of the bread from which they partook, as being Christ's portion. After dinner, when they had stood up, and given thanks, they partook of the portion of bread which is called "the Lord's portion". When they lifted this up, they said, "Glory be to You, O our God, glory be to You. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit". And instead of "Great is the name", "Christ is risen", until the Ascension. After that, "Great is the name of the Holy Trinity. O Lord Jesus Christ, come to our assistance". This, then, is how things were performed ; and each of them performed this wherever he happened to be, until the Dormition of the Theotokos. But when the clouds accomplished the world-wide gathering for the sake of the repose of the lady Theotokos, who had reposed in majesty, on the third day after her burial they were having a commemorative meal. And after arising from dinner, and lifting up, according to custom, the portion of bread which lay in Christ's name, and saying, "Great is the name", they added "O

[**THE END OF THE PANAGIA**]