

Sunday, April 2, 2023
Fifth Sunday of Great Lent -Tone 1
St. Mary of Egypt

Troparion:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body: Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, in spite of our honor and devotion we are unable to give you worthy praise, through your glorious and noble birth your mother's childlessness was ended, your father's tongue was freed, and the incarnation of the Son of God was proclaimed to the world.

The image of God was truly preserved in you, Mother, for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away; but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal. Therefore your spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion:

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself, Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished! Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee: Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!

Having been a sinful woman, you became through repentance a Bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life, you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross! Therefore, O most glorious Mary, you are a Bride of the Kingdom!

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, despise not the entreating cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, For you always ever protect those who honor you!

Prokeimenon in the 1st Tone:

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.
(Vs.) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

4th Tone: (St. Mary)

God is wondrous in His Saints, the God of Israel.

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews. (Heb. 9:11-14)

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Brethren, now before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. (Gal 3:23-29)

Alleluia Verses:

God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

(Vs.) He magnifies the salvation of the King, and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever.

Tone 1 (St. Mary):

I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Mark. (Chapter 10:32-45)

At that time Jesus took the Twelve, and began to tell them what would happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the Scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and will deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him and spit upon Him, and put Him to death; and on the third day He will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Master, we want you to do for us whatever we ask." But He said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" They said, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at your right hand and the other at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink of the cup of which I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am to be baptized? And they said to Him, "We can." And Jesus said to them, "Of the cup that I drink, you shall drink; and with the baptism with which I am to be baptized, you shall be baptized; but as for sitting at my right hand or at my left, that is not mine to give, but it belongs to those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard this, they were at first indignant at James and John. But Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers among the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wishes to become great shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the slave of all; for the Son of Man also has not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

At that time one of the Pharisees asked Jesus to dine with him; so He went into the house of the Pharisee, and reclined at table. And a woman in the town who was a sinner, upon learning that He was at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment; and standing behind Him at His feet and weeping, she began to bathe His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head, and kissed His feet, and anointed them with ointment. Now when the Pharisee, who had invited Him, saw it, he said to himself, "This man, were He a prophet, would surely know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." And he said, "Master, speak." "A certain money-lender had two debtors; the one owed five hundred denarii, the other fifty. Since they had no means of paying, he forgave them both. Which of them, therefore, will love him more?" Simon answered and said, "The one, I suppose, to whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged rightly." And turning to the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house; you gave me no water for my feet; but she has bathed my feet with tears, and has wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss; but she, from the moment she entered, has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil; but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I say to you, her many sins are forgiven her, because she has loved much. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." And He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." And those who were at table with Him began to say within themselves, "Who is this man, who even forgives sins?" But He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (Luke 7:36-50)