Prayers for Holy Friday

Opening Prayers both Morning and Evening:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere and fillest all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O God One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(3x)*

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

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(3x)*

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Morning:

> In the night my soul rises early for Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
> Learn righteousness, you inhabitants of the earth. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
> Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
> Bring more evils on them, O Lord, bring more evils on those who are glorious on the earth. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
>
> ***The Troparion***
> When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the washing of their feet before the supper, then the impious Judas was darkened, ailing with avarice, and to the lawless judges he betrays Thee, the Righteous Judge. Behold, O lover of money, this man who

because of money hanged himself. Flee from the greedy soul which dared such things against the Master. O Lord who art good towards all men, glory to Thee!

Gospel Reading: John 13:31-18:1

Antiphon I (Tone 8)
Let us offer our pure senses to Christ. As His friends let us sacrifice our lives for His sake. Let us not be weighed down by earthly cares like Judas, but let us cry in the hidden chambers of our heart: "Our Father, who art in heaven, deliver us from evil."

Gospel Reading: Matthew 27:1-56

Antiphon VIII (Tone 2)
We have no boldness because of the multitude of our sins, but entreat Him who was born of you, O Virgin Theotokos, for the prayer of a mother has great power to win the favor of the Master. Do not despise the supplications of sinners, O all-pure one, for merciful and strong to save is He who willed to suffer for us.

Gospel Reading: Mark 15:16-47

Antiphon XV (Tone 6)
Today He who hung the earth upon the waters is hung on the tree. The King of the angels is decked with a crown of thorns. He who wraps the heavens in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery. He who freed Adam in the Jordan is slapped on the face. The Bridegroom of the Church is affixed to the cross with nails. The Son of the Virgin is pierced by a spear. We worship Thy passion, O Christ. We worship Thy passion, O Christ. We worship Thy passion, O Christ. Show us also Thy glorious resurrection.

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:32-49

Hymn of Light
The wise thief didst Thou make worthy of paradise in a single moment, O Lord; by the wood of Thy cross illumine me as well, and save me. *(3x)*

Gospel Reading: John 18:1-19:42

Praises Verse (Tone 3)
Every member of Thy holy flesh endured dishonor for us: Thy head – the thorns, Thy face – the spitting, Thy cheeks – the buffeting, Thy mouth – the taste of vinegar mingled with gall, Thine ears – the impious blasphemies, Thy back – the scourge, Thy hand – the reed, Thy whole body – extension upon the cross, Thy joints – the nails, Thy side – the spear. By Thy sufferings Thou hast set us free from suffering. In Thy love for man Thou didst stoop down to raise us up. O Almighty Savior, have mercy on us.

Evening:

Lord, I Call (Tone 1)
Lord, I call upon Thee; hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon Thee; hear me! Receive the voice my prayer when I call upon Thee. Hear me, O Lord! Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

We see a strange and fearful mystery accomplished today. He whom none may touch is seized. He who looses Adam from the curse is bound. He who tries the hearts of men is unjustly brought to trial. He who closed the abyss is shut in prison. He before whom the hosts of heaven stand with trembling stands before Pilate. The Creator is struck by the hand of His creature. He who comes to judge the living and the dead is condemned to the cross. The Conqueror of hell is enclosed in a tomb. O Thou, who hast endured all these things in Thy tender love, Thou hast saved all men from the curse, O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!

O Gladsome Light
O gladsome light of the holy glory of the immortal Father: heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ! Having come to the setting of the sun, and beheld the light of evening, we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: God! At all times Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy, of praise in sings as Son of God, Giver of life. Therefore the world glorifies Thee.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52:13-54:1

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:2

Gospel Reading: Matthew 27:1-61; Luke 23:39-43; John 19:31-37

Vouchsafe, O Lord
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, make me to understand Thy commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy precepts. Thy mercy, O Lord endures forever; O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongs worship, to thee belongs praise, to Thee belongs glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer with Heads Bowed
O Lord our God, who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of the human race, look upon Thy servant and upon Thine inheritance, for to Thee, the awesome Judge who lovest mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads and bent their necks, not expecting help from men, but hoping in Thy mercy and looking for Thy salvation. Protect them at all times, especially in this present evening and in the

coming night, from every enemy, from every adverse work of the devil, from vain thoughts, and from evil imaginations. Blessed and most glorified by the majesty of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Song of Simeon – Tone 6

Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Hymns of the Day

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen, and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb.

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

The angel came to the myrrh-bearing women at the tomb and said: Myrrh is fitting for the dead, but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption.

Closing Prayers both Morning and Evening:

Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word: true Theotokos, we magnify you.

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

May He who endured fearful suffering, the life-creating Cross, and voluntary burial in the flesh for us men and for our salvation, Christ our true God, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind. Amen.