

**Vespers sung on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025**  
**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Chariton the Confessor, Abbot of Palestine**

**"LORD, I CALL ..."**

**Tone 7**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of 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!

*Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

**Tone 7 (For the Resurrection)**

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,

Who destroyed the dominion of death!

Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts,

for He enlightened the race of man!//

O our Maker and Saviour, glory to Thee!

**(9)** *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Thou didst endure the Cross and burial for our sake.

By Thy death, Thou didst destroy death as God.

We fall down before Thy Resurrection on the third day,//

O Saviour, glory to Thee!

*Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker,  
they were amazed and sang the angelic praise.

This is the glory of the Church.

This is the richness of the Kingdom.//

O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to Thee!

*Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ,

but to me, Thou art God, and I am not ashamed.

Thou wast smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny Thee.

Thou wast nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it,

for I glory in Thy Resurrection: Thy death is my life.//

O almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

*If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

Fulfilling the prophecy of David,

Christ manifested His greatness in Zion to the disciples.

He is praised and always glorified,

together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

At first as the Word, He was bodiless,

but then He took flesh and was slain for our sake.//

He rose in power as the Lover of man!

*For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Thou didst descend into hell as Thou didst will, O Christ,  
overthrowing death as God and rising on the third day as Master!  
With Thyself Thou didst raise Adam from the bonds of hell and from corruption!//  
Glory to Thy Resurrection, O only Lover of man!

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

**Tone 4 (for Venerable Chariton)**

By abstinence and fervent prayer, O venerable Chariton,  
thou didst cause thy body's passions to wither.  
With streams of tears thou didst drown the deceitful serpent, O blessed one.  
In great measure thou wast well-pleasing to God.  
Therefore Jesus, the Lover of mankind and the Saviour of our souls,//  
has adorned thee with heavenly gifts.

*For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

**Repeat:** By abstinence and fervent prayer ...

*Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

With the sweat of thy struggle, O truly wondrous one,  
thou didst quench the burning fire of the passions.  
Thou didst bear the fire of harsh wounds and tortures,  
confessing before evil tyrants the condescension of the incarnate Word.  
Thou wast a witness for Him, adorned with wounds from thy manifold torments,//  
O most blessed, God-bearing Chariton.

*For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

O most sacred and blessed Chariton,  
thou didst flee into the mountains and deserts.  
Preserving thy soul undefiled, thou wast revealed to be a dwelling of the Trinity,  
in Whose power thou didst found monasteries and holy dwellings  
for the building up and salvation of monastics,//  
who honour thy holy memory, O blessed one.

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

**Tone 4 (for Venerable Chariton)**

O God-bearing Chariton,  
even after death, thou dost live in the heavens in Christ.  
For His sake thou didst crucify thyself to the world,  
for thou wast above the world and the flesh,  
truly living in a manner transcending all visible things.  
Yet thou didst not live for thyself alone,  
but Christ our God dwelt within thee.//  
Entreat Him that our souls may be saved!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

### **Tone 7 (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*)**

No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing,  
for the order of nature was overruled by God.  
Thou wast revealed to be a Mother above nature,  
for thou didst remain a Virgin beyond reason and understanding.  
Thy conception was most glorious, O Theotokos!  
The manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin!  
Knowing thee to be the Mother of God,  
devoutly we pray to thee://  
“Beseech Him to save our souls!”

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### **OLD TESTAMENT READINGS**

#### **The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon**

[5:15-6:3]

The righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. He shall take to Him His jealousy for complete armour, and make the creature His weapon for the revenge of His enemies. He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of a helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall He sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with Him against the unwise. Then shall the right aiming thunderbolts go abroad; and from the clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast as out of a stone bow, and the water of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall cruelly drown them. Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away: thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. Hear, therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. For power is given you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Most High.

#### **The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon**

[3:1-9]

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: And their departure is taken for misery, and their going from us to be utter destruction: But they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: For God proved them, and found them worthy for Himself. As gold in the furnace hath He tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign forever. They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth: And such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him: For grace and mercy is to His saints, and He hath care for his elect.

#### **The reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.**

[4:7-15]

Though a righteous man may die before his time, he shall be at rest. For old age is not honoured for its length of existence, nor measured by its number of years; but discernment is grey hair for mankind, and a spotless life is the maturity of old age. There was once a man pleasing to God and loved by Him, and while living among sinners he was taken up. He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or deceit deceive his soul. For envy arising from lack of judgment obscures what is good, and a whirling of desire undermines an innocent heart. He was made perfect, for in a short time he fulfilled long years, for his soul was pleasing to the Lord; therefore, He took him early from the midst of evil. Yet peoples saw this but did not understand, nor take such a thing to heart, that the Lord's grace and mercy are with His elect and that He watches over His holy ones.

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### **APOSTICHA**

#### **Tone 7 (*For the Resurrection*)**

As the Saviour of the world Thou didst arise from the tomb.  
As God Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh.//  
O Lord, glory to Thee!

*V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead,  
and enlightened all creation!  
By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell.//  
By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

*V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

Thou didst descend into hell, capturing death, O Christ.  
In three days Thou didst rise again,  
resurrecting us who glorify Thy Resurrection,//  
O Lord and Lover of man.

*V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

When Thou wast placed in the tomb as one asleep,  
the sight was great and awesome.  
But when Thou didst rise on the third day as almighty God,  
Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself.//  
Glory to Thy Resurrection, only Lover of man!

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

**Tone 8 (For Venerable Chariton)**

We honour thee, O Chariton our father,  
as the instructor of a multitude of monks.  
We have indeed learned to walk rightly in thy footsteps.  
Blessed art thou, for having laboured for Christ,  
thou didst denounce the power of the enemy.  
Thou wast a converser with the Angels and a companion of the venerable and righteous.//  
Together with them, entreat the Lord that He grant mercy to our souls!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 8 (Theotokion)**

O unwedded Virgin,  
who ineffably didst conceive God in the flesh,  
O Mother of God most high,  
accept the cries of thy servants, O blameless one!  
Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//  
Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

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## TROPARIA

**Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 7**

[Music on website / Green Book page14]

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.  
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.  
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,  
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,  
to proclaim that Thou art risen,//  
granting the world great mercy.

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

**Troparion of Saint Chariton in Tone 8**

[Music on website / Sheet]

By a flood of tears thou didst make the desert fertile,  
and thy longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.  
By the radiance of miracles thou didst illumine the whole universe.//  
Our holy Father Chariton, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion Tone 8**

For our sake Thou wast born of the Virgin

and didst endure crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death.

Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of Thy hand!

Reveal Thy love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the Theotokos praying for us, //

and save the despairing people, O our Saviour!

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