

PANAGIA

Orthodox Hymns to the Mother of God

Recorded by Archangel Voices (2013)

Dr. Vladimir Morosan, Artistic Director

1) It Is Truly Meet

Dmitry Yaichkov

(arr. of Bulgarian Chant)

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God.

More honorable 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.

2) O Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us

Pavel Chesnokov

Let us pray to the Most Holy Theotokos!
O Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Deliver us your servants, from danger, for next to God, we run to your protection as to an impregnable rampart and steadfast hope.

Let us pray to the Most Holy Theotokos!
O Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Look down in your loving kindness, O All-praised Theotokos, upon the anguish and distress that my body suffers, and heal the deadly sickness of my soul.

Let us pray to the Most Holy Theotokos!
O Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

3) Open unto Us the Doors

Alexander Kastalsky

Open unto us the doors of your compassion, O blessed Theotokos, that we who put our hope in you may not perish, but be delivered from adversity, for you are the salvation of all Christian people.

4) Virgin Theotokos, Rejoice

Kurt Sander

Virgin Theotokos, rejoice! Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

5) General Canon to the Theotokos

Odes 1, 3, 6, 9

Pavel Chesnokov

1. I will open my mouth and it will be filled with the spirit, and I will utter a word for the Queen and Mother, and I will be seen keeping radiant festival, and rejoicing I will sing her wonders.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

3. O Theotokos, as a living and inexhaustible fount, establish those united in spiritual fellowship who sing you hymns of praise, and in your divine glory grant them crowns of glory.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

6. As we celebrate this divine and honored feast of the Mother of God, come, godly-minded people, let us clap our hands as we glorify God who was born of her.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

9. Let all those born of earth, bearing torches, leap for joy in spirit; let the nature of the immaterial Minds keep festival as it honors the sacred festival of the Mother of God, and let it cry out: "Hail, all-blessed Theotokos, pure and ever-virgin."

6) My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord

Pavel Chesnokov

My soul doth magnify, magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word, true Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

More honorable...

For He that is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name, and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

More honorable...

7) Praises for the Nativity of the Theotokos, Sticheron 1

Model melody "O most glorious wonder"
Tone 8

O most strange wonder! The fount of life is born of a barren woman, and grace begins gloriously to bear its fruit. Rejoice, O Joachim, inspired by God, who hast become the father of the Theotokos. There is no other father in mankind like unto thee, for through thee has been given to us the maiden in whom God came to dwell, the tabernacle of God, the most holy mountain.

8) Praises for the Nativity of the Theotokos, Sticheron 2

Model melody "O most glorious wonder"
Tone 8

O most strange wonder! At the behest of the Almighty Maker of all, a fruit has shone forth from a barren womb that has fully ended the world's barrenness in good. Ye mothers, dance with the mother of the Theotokos and cry: "Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee, granting the world through thee great mercy."

9) Praises for the Nativity of the Theotokos, Sticheron 1

Model melody "O most glorious wonder"
Tone 8, arr. N. Zakkak

Living pillar of chastity and bright vessel shining with grace, glorious Anna has brought into the world an offspring that is truly the divine flower of virginity, and who bestows the beauty of virginity on all who are virgins and desire this gift of grace, granting the faithful great mercy.

10) Praises for the Entrance of the Theotokos

Model melody "Joy of the Heavenly Hierarchies"

Virgins, bearing lamps to light the way for the ever-Virgin, truly prophesy in the Spirit that which is to come. For the Theotokos is the Temple of God, and from infancy is led

into the Temple in virginal glory.

The glorious fruit of a holy promise, the Theotokos is truly shown to the world as exalted over all. As she is brought with reverence into the house of God, she fulfills the prayer of her parents, being preserved by the Divine Spirit.

You were nourished by faith with heavenly bread, O Virgin, in the Temple of the Lord, and you brought forth for the world the Word, Who is the Bread of Life. As His chosen and immaculate Temple, you were betrothed mystically through the Spirit to be Bride of God the Father.

Let the gate of the Temple where God dwells be opened, for today Joachim takes into the Temple in glory the Temple and Throne of the King of all, and dedicates as an offering to God her whom the Lord has chosen to be His Mother.

11) I Will Receive the Cup of Salvation~

Vladimir Morosan

Refrain: I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me?

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

Precious, in the sight of the Lord, is the death of His saint.

O Lord, I am Your servant and son of your handmaid: You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the Name of the Lord.

In the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst O Jerusalem.

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

12) Verses 9th Ode; Presentation of the Lord

Nazo Zakkak,
(arr. of Byzantine Melody)

O Virgin Mother full of grace, accomplishing the Mystery, transcending every human mind, with heaven's host in company.

The Prophet Simeon once held
within his arms the mighty God,
Creator of the law, Who stands
and reigns in heaven: Lord and God.

And having willed it thus to pass,
to save mankind from settled fate,
God came from a Virgin's womb,
to share our low and humble state.

Your praise, O Virgin Mother pure
flows on every human tongue;
because of Christ, your firstborn Son,
You stand extolled and praised in song.

Lift up your eyes to Him on high
you princes ruling every land.
Behold our Lord and Christ is borne
on holy Simeon's humble hands.

Our earth, on seeing You, O God,
now shakes with fear throughout the land.
For how can you, transcending all,
be held within a human hand?

13) Today Is the Beginning of Our Salvation

Nazo Zakkak

Today is the beginning of our salvation—
the revelation of the eternal mystery:
The Son of God becomes the Son of the
Virgin, as Gabriel announces the coming of
Grace. Together with him, let us cry to the
Theotokos: “Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the
Lord is with you.”

14) With the Voice of the Archangel

Dmitry Bortniansky

With the voice of the Archangel we cry aloud
to thee, O Pure Virgin: “Rejoice, thou who art
full of grace, the Lord is with thee!”

15) The Mystery of God

Andrei Ilyashenko

The mystery of God from all eternity is
made manifest today: the Word of God in
His mercy becomes the Son of the Virgin,
and Gabriel proclaims the joy of the
Annunciation. Let us with him exclaim to
her: “Rejoice, O Mother of the Lord!”

16) O Victorious Leader

Pavel Chesnokov

O victorious leader of triumphant hosts, we
your servants delivered from evil, sing our
grateful thanks to you, O Theotokos, as you
possess invincible might, set us free from
every calamity, that we may cry to you,
“Rejoice, O bride without bridegroom!”

17) Akathist Hymn to the Mother God, Kontakion and Ikos 1

Traditional Moscow Melody

A prince of the angels was sent from heaven
to say to the Theotokos, “Rejoice!” And as,
at his bodiless voice, he saw You, Lord,
embodied, he was astounded and stood still,
crying out to her like this:

Rejoice, you through whom joy will shine out,
Rejoice, you through whom the curse will
cease.

Rejoice, recalling of fallen Adam,
Rejoice, redemption of the tears of Eve.
Rejoice, height hard to climb for human
thoughts,

Rejoice, depth hard to scan even for angels’
eyes.

Rejoice, for you are a throne for the King,
Rejoice, for you carry the One who carries all.
Rejoice, star that makes visible the Sun,
Rejoice, womb of divine incarnation.
Rejoice, you through whom creation is
renewed.

Rejoice, you through whom the Creator
becomes a babe.

Rejoice, Bride without bridegroom!

But the holy Virgin, seeing herself pure,
says boldly to Gabriel, “The strangeness of
you words seems hard for my soul to accept.
For from a conception without seed you
foretell pregnancy, as you cry: Alleluia!”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

18) Awed by the Beauty

*Richard Toensing
(arr. of Byzantine Chant)*

Awed by the beauty of thy virginity, and the exceeding of thy purity, Gabriel stood amazed and cried to thee, O Mother of God: "What praise may I offer thee that is worthy of thy beauty? By what name shall I call thee? I am lost and bewildered. But I shall greet thee as I was commanded: 'Hail, thou that art full of grace.'"

19) All of Creation

Kurt Sander

All of creation rejoices in thee: O full of grace: the assembly of angels, and the race of men, O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child, our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens! All of creation rejoices in thee: O full of grace. Glory to thee, glory to thee, glory to thee.

20) The Angel Cried Out

*Alexander Nikolsky
(arr. of Russian "Greek" Chant)*

The angel cried out to the Lady full of grace, "Rejoice, rejoice, O Pure Virgin, and again I say 'Rejoice,' your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself He has raised all the dead, rejoice, all ye people!" Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, exult and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O most pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son.

21) Rejoice, O Queen

Vladimir Morosan (arr. of Znamenny Chant)

The apostles, beholding the descent of the Comforter, were amazed, how the Holy Spirit appeared in the form of fiery tongues.

Rejoice, O Queen! Glory of mothers and virgins! No mouth, however sweet or fluent, is eloquent enough to praise you

worthily! Every mind is over-awed by your childbearing! Therefore with one voice we glorify You!

22) Stichera at Lord, I Have Cried for Dormition

The original pattern melody: "Oh, the marvelous wonder," Tone 1

Oh, the marvelous wonder!
The source of Life is laid in a grave, and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven. Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos! Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain: "Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, He that grants the world great mercy through you."

Oh, the wonder of you mysteries, pure Lady: you were made the throne of the Most High, and today you have passed from earth to heaven. Your glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness. Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King! Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, He that grants the world great mercy through you.

The Dominions and Thrones, the rulers, Principalities and Powers, the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify you falling asleep. All those born of earth rejoice, adorned with honor by your divine glory. Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels: "Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, He that grants the world great mercy through you."

23) Apostles, Assembled Here

Melody of the Kievan Caves Monastery

Apostles, assembled here from the ends of the earth, bury my body in Gethsemane; and Thou, my Son and God, receive my spirit.

24) Apostles, Assembled Here

*Grigory Lvovsky
(arr. of Kievan Caves Monastery Melody)*

(same as above)

25) Beneath Your Compassion

Dmitry Bortniansky

(arr. of a traditional hymn)

Beneath your compassion we take refuge,
O Virgin Theotokos. Do not despise our
supplications in adversity, but deliver us
from perils, O only Pure and only Blessed
One.

O Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

26) My Queen Most Blessed

Traditional Monastery Melody

My Queen most blessed,
O Theotokos my hope,
Guardian of orphans,
Intercessor for strangers,
Joy of the sorrowful,
Protectress of the wronged,
thou seest my misfortune,
thou seest mine affliction.
Help me for I am weak;
feed me for I am a stranger.
Thou knowest mine offense,
absolve it as thou wilt.
For I have no other help beside thee,
no other intercessor nor good consoler
except thee, O Mother of God,
do thou preserve and protect me
unto the ages of ages, amen.

27) I Have Thee as a Fountain

Nazo Zakkak

I have thee as a fountain, and defense of
my life, O Theotokos and Virgin.
Pilot me, govern me into thy sheltered port,
for thou art the author of blessings,
staff of the faithful, O thou only all-lauded
one.

28) We Have No Other Help

Cecil A. Bailey

We have no other help, we have no other
hope than you, O Lady; come to help us.
We have set our hope on you, and in you
alone we exult, for we are your servants.
Let us not be put to shame.

29) O Vineyard, Fair and New

Traditional Georgian Hymn

*(English adaptation of the original Georgian
text by Benedict Sheehan)*

O Vineyard fair and new, ever freshly
blooming.

Young, comely, fragrant Stem, springing
out of Eden.

May God Himself adorn you who are most
honored.

For you, O brilliant Sun, ever shine with
unwaning light.

30) We Learn From the Angel

Archpriest Paul Harrilchak

(arr. from a Galician Carol)

We learn from the angel, O Mary full of grace,
just how to greet you and say:

“Rejoice, destined maid and favorite of God
whose word you freely obey!”

Refrain: Blest are you in the house of the
Lord! Blest is the Son and Savior you bore!

Rejoice, O Full of Grace.

Rejoice, clay enclosing creation’s ancient
Potter, reforming Adam within,
Rejoice garden lush with the presence of the
Father, open to Eve once again!

Refrain.

Rejoice, living Book for the deathless Word
of God, who comes to the world through you!

Rejoice, precious flask filled with chrism of
the Spirit, making ev’rything new!

Refrain.

Rejoice, mystic star reflecting off the Sun to
guide us all in the Way!

Rejoice, brilliant lamp of the teaching of the
Church! Let none of us stumble or stray!

Refrain.

Rejoice, table set with the Bread come down
from heaven, nourishing all with His Life!

Rejoice, loving mother of each and every
Christian, model disciple of Christ!

Refrain.

Amen, and glory to God!