

The 5th Day of July

**Ⓔ The Finding of the Relics of our Venerable Father Sergius,
Wonder-worker and Abbot of Rádonezh.**

Small Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 4 stichera, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “O venerable father...”*

The powers of heaven rejoice today /
And here on earth, mankind is glad, /
For we celebrate the discovery of the wonder-working relics /
Of our great and ven’rable father, Sergius. /
Through his prayer, O Christ God, save our souls.

We celebrate today the discovery of the wonder-working relics /
Of saint Sergius, who was consecrated to God from his mother’s womb, /
A man in heaven and on earth, an angel in the flesh, /
And the whole assembly of the Church ///
Comes together to send up glory to Christ our God.

The angels in heaven greatly rejoice today, /
And mankind, here on earth makes glad /
At the glorious discovery of thy precious relics, O father Sergius, /
And we all cry ot to Christ: ///
“Thou art our strength and confirmation, O Christ!

Glory..., in Tone 6:

Let us assemble from all the ends of the earth, /
And rejoice with psalms and spiritual hymns, /
Celebrating the holy translation of the wonder-working relics /
Of our venerable protector and defender, Sergius, /
And standing before his honorable and precious shrine /
Let us cry out to him, saying: /
“O most-blessèd father Sergius, /
Grant peace to thy spiritual children and all the nations, /
And through thy prayers help us to overcome the enemy ///
Strengthened in our battle against him, and save our souls.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine /
Who didst bud forth for us the Fruit of Life: /
We pray thee, O Lady, intercede together with Saint Sergius ///
That He will have mercy on our souls.

At the Aposticha, the stichera, in Tone 2: To the melody, "O house of Ephratha..."

As thou wast an abode of the Holy Spirit, /
O richly bless't and holy father,
Let us become the dwelling place of the Holy Trinity, ///
Through thy prayers, O divinely-wise Sergius.

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

Come all ye faithful,
And let us rejoice today. /
Let us enter into the Church with hearts of joy, /
And let us venerate the precious relics of the divinely-wise Sergius, ///
And through his prayers, let us receive healing and the remission of our sins.

Verse: Blessèd is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Accept the songs, O father Sergius, /
Of thy loving children /
Who praise the discovery of relics, ///
And grant us all that which is useful.

Glory..., now and ever, Theotokion in the same Tone: (and melody)

The choirs of heaven above sing with the choirs on earth below ///
And ceaselessly glorify thy most-pure giving birth, O Theotokos.

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

From thy youth thou didst accept Christ in thy soul, O ven' rable one, /
Serving only Him and despising all earthly cares. /
Courageously thou didst go to dwell in the wilderness /
Bearing spiritual children in obedience and reaping the fruits of humility, /
Through this becoming an abode of the Trinity /
Enlightening all, and granting abundant healing to those who come to thee in
faith, ///
O our father Sergius, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Glory..., now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in Tone 8: *“The King of heaven, in His love for man...”*



Great Vespers

After the Introductory Psalm, “Blessèd is the man...,” the first Kathisma.

At “Lord, I call...,” 8 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Called from on high...”*

Before knowing the world, O divinely-wise one, /
Thou didst know God and thou wast known by Him: /
When once, before thy birth thy mother came into the Church of God, /
Thou didst cry out three times in glory of the Trinity from within her womb, /
Revealing to all thy desire that the glory of God’s grace should come to rest on thee; /
Now, O father Sergius, /
Thy spiritual and physical purity are revealed by the light of thy countenance /
Which plainly shows that thou art truly a vessel chosen by Christ our God: ///
Beseech Him now that He may save and enlighten our souls. *(twice)*

When the love of God came down upon thee, /
O all-blessèd and divinely-wise one, /
Thou didst reject all the things of this world /
And from the depths of thy soul come to love Christ alone /
And following His Life-giving footsteps thou didst come to the wilderness, /
Where thou didst sow the seeds of thy labors /
And watering them with the clouds of thy tears, /
Thou didst increase the fruits of the virtues, O father Sergius /
With which thou didst feed thy spiritual children /
And led them all to Christ our God: ///
Beseech Him now that He may save and enlighten our souls. *(twice)*

When thou didst hear the divine voice saying: /
“Behold, the most pure Lady approaches thee,” /
Thou didst strive with fervent prayer and labor /
To make thyself worthy of this awesome visitation; /
And a light, more brilliant than that of the sun came down upon thee /
And thou wast found worthy of beholding the Mother of God /
With both thy physical and spiritual eyes, /
And with thine ears didst thou hear her sweet voice saying: /

“I shall never depart from this place and thy habitation shall never be in want.” ///
Entreat her now to save and enlighten our souls. *(twice)*

When the time of thy departure to God had come /
Thou didst ascend, like brilliant star climbing the heights, to the mansions of
heaven /
Coming to stand with the choirs of the saints at the throne of the consubstantial
Trinity; /
And now, thy bless’t and precious body, which had lain buried for many years, /
Has been given up by the earth /
And it shines like the dawn upon the earth with the light of thy miracles /
Illumining those who venerate its discovery, O divinely-wise Sergius. /
Grant all Orthodox Christians victory over their enemies, /
And beseech Christ our God that He grant the faithful the remission of their sins, ///
And that He may save and enlighten our souls.

Glory..., in Tone 8:

O come, ye assemblies of the faithful, /
And let us delight in the present and joyful feast; /
Come, ye assemblies of monastics and priests, /
And behold the glory of the Church of God: /
See how she is adorned with psalms and spiritual hymns, /
How the hon’rable and glorious monastery of Sergius, our father in God, /
Overflows with joy and happiness today; /
For the discovery of his relics calls the whole to world sing to Christ the Lord: /
“Thou hast given a great warrior to thy Church, /
An invincible weapon against the visible and invisible foe, /
An abundant treasury of gifts for the people of Christ. ///
Through His prayers, O Christ God, grant Thy great mercy to our souls

Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion, in the same Tone:

The King of heaven, in His love for man /
Appeared on earth and dwelt among men /
For He received flesh from the pure Virgin, /
And after assuming it, He was born of her: /
The one Son, two natures in one person, /
So proclaiming Him as the perfect man /
By proclaiming Him as the perfect God, /

Let us confess Christ the Lord. ///

Entreat Him, O Virgin Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

Or the Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week if a Resurrection Service.

The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the day.

Three Readings:

The Reading from Proverbs: (Composite 2, from Chapters 10 and 8)

^{10:7}**T**he memory of the just is blessed, and ⁶the blessing of the Lord is upon the head of the righteous. ¹³Blessed is the man that hath found wisdom, and the man that knoweth discernment. ¹⁴For it is better to traffick in her than in treasures of gold and silver. ¹⁵She is more precious than precious stones; and nothing that is precious is equal to her worth. ¹⁶For length of days and years of life are in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches and glory; out of her mouth proceedeth righteousness, and on her tongue she carrieth law and mercy. ^{8:32}Now therefore, hearken unto me, O my son, for I will speak of solemn things. Blessed are they that keep my ways; ³⁵For mine outgoings are the outgoings of life, and in them is prepared the favor of the Lord. ⁴“Therefore, O men, do I exhort you, and I lift up my voice unto the sons

of men. ¹² For I, Wisdom, have dwelt with counsel and have called upon understanding. ¹⁴Counsel is mine and safety; prudence is mine, strength also is mine. ¹⁷I love them that love me, and those that seek me shall find grace. ^{8:5}O ye simple, understand subtlety, and ye that are untaught, take heart. ⁶Hearken unto me, for I will speak of solemn things and bring forth that which is right out of my lips. ⁷For my throat shall speak truth, and false lips are an abomination in my sight. ⁸All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; there is nothing contrary or perverse in them. ⁹They are all plain to them that understand and upright to them that find knowledge. I shall instruct you in truth, so that your hope will be in the Lord and you shall be filled with the Spirit.

The Reading from Proverbs: (10:31-11:12)

^{10:31}**T**he mouth of the righteous bringeth forth wisdom, but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. ³²The lips of the righteous bring forth grace, but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. ^{11:1}False balances are an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is acceptable

to Him. ²Whosoever pride entereth, there will be also dishonor, but the mouth of the humble meditateth wisdom. ³When a righteous man dieth, he leaveth regret, but the destruction of the ungodly is hard at hand, and bringeth joy. ⁴The integrity of the

righteous shall guide them, but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them. ^{4a}Riches shall not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivereth from death. ⁵The virtue of the righteous makes straight their paths, but unrighteousness leadeth to deceit. ⁶The righteousness of the upright delivereth them, but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. ⁷When the righteous dieth, his hope perisheth not, but the boast of the ungodly

perisheth. ⁸A righteous man escapeth from a snare, but the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. ⁹A hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbor, but through knowledge shall the righteous be delivered. ¹⁰In the prosperity of the righteous a city doth prosper, ¹¹but it is overthrown by the mouth of the ungodly. ¹²A man that is void of understanding despiseth his neighbor, but a man of understanding holdeth his peace.

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.

At the Litya, the stichera of the Saint, in Tone 6:

O come, all ye who love ascetic labors /
 And ye lovers of the feasts of the Church, /
 Who with faith have assembled today, /
 Come, and let us honor Sergius,
 The true keeper of the fast, /
 Who followed in his Master's footsteps with gladness, /
 And trod the narrow path, living a life of dispassion; /
 Let us cry aloud to him with faith: /
 O most blessed one, companion of the venerable and boast of the ascetics, ///
 Entreat the Lord on our behalf, that He may grant mercy to our souls.

O ven'erable and God-bearing Sergius, /

FINDING OF THE RELICS OF SAINT SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

Thou didst forsake all things for the sake of love for Christ; /
And going into the wilderness, wast not frightened by the deceptions of the invisible
enemies; /
Though they descended upon thee many times, gnashing their teeth and displaying
their wrath, /
Thou didst cause them to vanish like smoke without a trace through thy prayers. /
Oh, the purity of thy soul and thy mighty endurance! ///
Ceaselessly beseech Christ, that our souls may be saved.

The great and most-holy Church of Russia, /
With her multitudes of faithful monks and people /
Drank deeply of the streams at the wellsprings of the Gospel. /
Therefore, let us rejoice in the Spirit /
On this appointed feast of her good shepherd and teacher, /
Standing 'round his healing relics, /
Let us lovingly venerate them and adorn them with hymns of praise /
As with flowers, saying: /
Rejoice, O blessèd Sergius, thou man of heaven and angel on the earth, /
Rejoice, O abode of the Holy Spirit! /
Rejoice, guide of many onto the path of salvation! /
Rejoice, boast and confirmation of all Orthodox people, ///
Rejoice, venerable and God-pleasing Sergius, radiant beacon of faith and intercessor for
our souls!

And these stichera, in Tone 1:

O come, all ye assemblies of priests /
And ye congregations of the faithful, /
Come, ye multitudes of monastics, /
And let us joyfully enter the Church of God. /
Let us stand before the wonderworking reliquary of our father Sergius /
And lovingly venerate his precious relics. /
Let us worthily be freed from our infirmities and attain salvation for our souls /
As we cry aloud to him: ///
O most blessèd father Sergius, beseech our most-blessèd God to protect us and to
save our souls.

Heaven rejoices today /
And the earth together with mankind makes glad, /
And the illuminated congregations of the faithful /
Together with the assemblies of monastics keep solemn festival. /
And the truly wonderful and holy Church of God, /

Enlightened by the brilliant light of miracles flowing from the relics of our father
Sergius, /
 Calls the whole world to praise his spiritual accomplishments. /
 So let us therefore celebrate the discovery of his relics with songs and joyful
 hymns ///
 And sing praises to Christ our God that through his prayers He may grant us peace
 and great mercy.

Today we commemorate the translation of the relics of our divinely-bless't father
Sergius /
 And we celebrate this bright and holy feast. /
Come, all ye faithful, let us adorn the Church of God with songs of praise, /
 And in her, let us glorify Christ our God praised in Trinity. /
 Let us cry aloud: O Christ the Master, Thou hast given us Thy saint, who is well
pleasing to Thee, /
 To be the strong defender and bestower of miracles to the Christian people, ///
 To heal their diseases, to be the terror of demons, and to intercede for our souls.

Glory..., in Tone 6:

Come, ye multitudes of monastics, /
 And let us praise Sergius today, /
 The emulator of piety, with psalms and hymns, /
 And let us venerate his precious and healing shrine with love and cry aloud: /
 Rejoice, all glorious Sergius, most radiant beacon of thy native land! /
 Rejoice, for uniting thyself in purity to the pure divine Light! /
 Rejoice, for thou standest with the angels before the Trinity, ///
 Ceaselessly pray that our souls be granted great mercy.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine /
 Who didst bud forth for us the Fruit of Life: /
 We pray thee, O Lady, intercede together with Saint Sergius ///
 That He will have mercy on our souls.

At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 4: To the melody, "Thou hast given us a sign...."

Thou hast adorned Thy Church, O Lord, /
 With the precious and healing relics of Saint Sergius /
 Thy ven'rable saint who is well-pleasing to Thee; /

She is arrayed in their beauty, greater than that of any royal jewels, /
And she rejoices as if wearing a brilliant crown, /
She calls together her children, begotten by him /
Of water and the Spirit, according to the Scripture. /
Therefore, we honor Thy loving dispensation, O Jesus, ///
Thou Lover of mankind and the Savior of our souls.

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

Thou hast given the holy and healing relics of Sergius, who loved thee, O Lord, /
To be the confirmation of his native land, /
A strong and firm defense for all its people
And an impregnable wall and rampart of his holy habitation. /
Therefore, we honor Thy great bounty, O Almighty Jesus, ///
Thou Lover of mankind and the Savior of our souls.

Verse: Blessèd is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

Thou hast given the holy relics of thrice-blessèd Sergius to the Orthodox faithful /
To be the adornment of their hierarchs, /
A strong defender and champion for their salvation, /
A fountain of healing given freely to the sick.
Therefore, we venerate them as we are healed from every infirmity, ///
And glorify Thy ineffable compassion, O Jesus, Thou Savior of our souls.

Glory..., in Tone 8:

We honor thee as the instructor of a multitude of monastics, /
O our father Sergius; /
For truly we have learned to walk aright by following in thy steps. /
Blessèd art thou, for having labored for Christ, /
Thou hast destroyed the power of the enemy, /
O converser with the angels and companion of the righteous, ///
Pray with them to the Lord that He may grant our souls great mercy.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

O Virgin unwedded, Mother of God on high, /
Thou hast ineffably conceived God in the flesh. /
Accept the entreaties of thy servants, O most immaculate one, /
And grant unto us all the purification of our transgressions /
And do thou, who hears our entreaties, ///
Pray for us all to be saved.

After the Blessing of the Loaves, the Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

From thy youth thou didst accept Christ in thy soul, O ven'rable one, /
Serving only Him and despising all earthly cares. /
Courageously thou didst go to dwell in the wilderness /
Bearing spiritual children in obedience and reaping the fruits of humility, /
Through this becoming an abode of the Trinity /
Enlightening all, and granting abundant healing to those who come to thee in
faith, ///
O our father Sergius, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved. *(twice)*

And the Theotokion: "Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos..." *(once)*

Matins

At "God is the Lord..." the Troparion of the Saint, (twice); Glory..., now and ever..., **Resurrectional Theotokion, in Tone 8:**

Thou wast born of a Virgin for our sake, O Good One, /
Thou didst endure crucifixion and didst destroy death by death. /
As God thou didst reveal the Resurrection. /
Despise not the work of Thy hands, but reveal Thy love for man, O Merciful One /
Accept the prayers of Thy Mother, the Theotokos, for us ///
And save Thy despairing people, O our Savior.

After the 1st Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 1: *To the melody, "When the stone had been sealed...."*

Today we celebrate thy memory, O father Sergius /
And we, thy chosen flock, rejoice, /
For we commemorate the finding of thy relics /
And we joyfully sing the praises of Christ our God, /
For He gave thee the grace of working miracles. /
Glory to Him who gave thee strength! /
Glory to Him who hath granted thee a crown! ///
Glory to Him who through thee grants healing to all! *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

When Gabriel greeted thee, O Virgin, /
He cried out like the righteous David, /
For in thee, O sacred ark, was the Master of all made flesh /

And thy womb became more spacious than the heavens /
For thou didst bear thy Creator. /
Glory to Him who dwelt in thee! /
Glory to Him who came forth from thee! ///
Glory to Him who freed us by being born of thee!

After the 2nd Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “Thy tomb, O Savior....”*

Let us praise our great pastor, Sergius the blessèd, /
And let us glorify him as the great pillar of light to all the faithful /
For he enlightens us with the light-bearing stream of miracles /
Proceeding from his precious relics, /
That, as a sprinkling of dew, extinguishes the fire of passions, ///
And refreshes the understanding of the faithful. (twice)

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion:

All-holy Virgin, the hope of all Christians, /
Thou gavest birth to God in a manner past speech and understanding, /
Ceaselessly implore Him in behalf of those who offer hymns to thee /
That He may grant remission of sins ///
And that we may correct the course of our lives, who with faith and love glorify
thee.

Polyeley and Magnification:

We bless thee, // O venerable father Sergius, / and we honor thy holy memory, /
instructor of monastics / and converser with the angels!

Selected Psalm verses:

I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer.
He set my feet upon a rock, and guided my footsteps.

After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 3: *To the melody, “The beauty of virginity...”*

We earnestly beseech thee, O favorite of Christ, /
Our great pastor and teacher Sergius, /
And we lovingly venerate thy precious relics /
As we cry out with joy from the depths of our souls: /
Bring all the assaults made against us to an end /
And may our enemies be trampled underfoot; /
Scatter the clouds of our passions /

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And chase all demonic visions away from the flock of thy disciples ///
And deliver from every temptation those who praise thee with love. (twice)

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion:

The awesome mystery of God which came upon thee /
Cannot be fathomed nor understood, /
For thou didst find favor with Him, O Lady, /
And brought forth, Him who cannot be contained, wrapped in the flesh from thy
precious womb. /
Ceaselessly entreat Him, O pure Virgin, for He is thy Son, ///
That He may save our souls.

1st Antiphon of the 4th Tone (The Song of Ascents), “From my youth...”

Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. *Verse:* What shall I
render unto the Lord for all His bounty to me?

Gospel: (43) Matthew 11:27-30

After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel sticheron, to the Saint, in Tone 8:

Having forsaken the fleeting beauty and the sweetness of this world /
Thou didst come to love the monastic way of life /
And come to converse with the angels. /
Shining now as a second sun over the Russian lands /
Remember us, for we are all thy children /
Following thy teachings as thy spiritual sheep /
Who now celebrate thy holy memory, /
And we cry out to thee for help ///
That through thee we may be granted peace and great mercy.

The Canon

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos (*Paraklesis*), with 6 troparia, including
the irmos, and the Canon of the Saint, with 8 troparia.

Ode 1

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos, Tone 8

*Irmos: **H**aving crossed the water as though it were dry land and escaped from
the wickedness of the Egyptians, the children of Israel cried aloud: Let us
sing to our Redeemer and our God.*

Refrain: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Distressed by many temptations, I flee to thee, seeking salvation. O Virgin and Mother of the Word, deliver me from my burdens and afflictions.

The increase of passions troubles me and fills me with great distress. Calm my soul, O Maiden, by the peace of thy Son and God, O all-blameless one.

I implore thee who gavest birth to our Savior and God, O Virgin: deliver me from perils, for, fleeing now unto thee for refuge, I lift up both my soul and my thoughts before thee.

Ailing am I in body and soul; do thou vouchsafe me the divine visitation and thy care, O thou who alone art the Mother of God, for thou art good and the Mother of the Good One.

The Canon of the Saint, Tone 4

Irmos: Having parted the depths of the Red Sea in two and drowning Pharaoh's chariots, God led Moses dry-shod into the wilderness, raining manna down as food for the people of Israel, in that He is almighty.

Refrain: Venerable father Sergius, pray to God for us!

Enlighten the darkened eyes of my soul and cleanse my heart, I pray, O my Creator, with the Triune Light of Thy divinity, that I may worthily praise the finding of the precious relics of venerable Sergius, Thy devoted saint.

Remember not the multitude of my sins, O Lord, but in Thy mercy, grant me the right words that I may open my mouth, and inspired by Thy grace, worthily praise Thy venerable saint, Sergius.

Glory...,

As thou didst proclaim the Holy Trinity from within thy mother's womb, so hast the Trinity glorified thee, O Sergius: for after lying hidden in the earth for many years, thy relics were discovered incorrupt, filling all with thy sweet fragrance and nourishing thy faithful with thy wonders.

Now and ever..., Amen.

Theotokion: **O** most pure Lady, more exalted than all the powers of heaven, who gavest birth to the Creator and Savior of all mankind, One in essence with the Father and the Spirit, grant us the words with which we may worthily praise thee, O defender of the human race.

Katavasia: "I shall open my mouth..."

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Ode 3

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

Irmos: O Lord, Creator of the vault of heaven and founder of the Church, strengthen me in Thy love, for Thou art our supreme desire and the support of the faithful, O thou who lovest mankind.

I have thee as the protection and intercession of my life, O Virgin, Mother of God. Pilot me to thy haven, O giver of blessings, O support of the faithful, O thou only all-praised one.

I pray thee, O Virgin, to dispel the tumult of my soul and the storm of my grief; for thou, O Bride of God, hast given birth to Christ, the Prince of Peace, O only immaculate one.

Pour forth on us from the wealth of thy generosity, O thou who hast brought forth the Benefactor and Cause of all good; for thou canst do all things, O blessed one of God, since thou didst bear Christ, the One mighty in power.

I am tortured by grievous sicknesses and morbid passions. Help thou me, O Virgin, for I know thee, O all-blameless one, to be an inexhaustible treasury of unfailing healing.

The Canon of the Saint

Irmos: We glory not in wisdom, but in knowing that there is none as Holy as our God who hast exalted the horn of His faithful, and given strength to our kings.

Strengthened by the power of the Cross, O Sergius, thou didst subdue the passions of the soul and the temptations of the flesh by the will of the spirit. Therefore, thou hast become the beautiful abode of the All-holy Spirit and the chosen habitation of the undivided Trinity.

Thy life hast become an example to all in this world who subject themselves, with all their souls, to Christ. Thou hast shone forth with the purity of the sun and by this, hast thou received thy reward a hundredfold from the hand of the Almighty. Therefore, O divinely-wise Sergius, we joyfully glorify thee.

Come, and let us gather on this feast day and let us see be filled with joy; let us glorify Christ who so glorifies those who glorify Him, and who hast given us the divinely bless't Saint Sergius as our invincible defense and the worker of wonders.

Theotokion: We offer thee our thanks and hymns of praise, O Lady, for thou hast brought forth God Almighty in the flesh, and we Christians have thee as our intercessor, O Mother of God.

Katavasia: "O Theotokos, living and abundant fountain..."

Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8:

Having sailed the sea of life displaying great feats of abstinence, /
Thou hast reached the calm haven of the heavenly mansions, /
And like a never-waning star thou dost enlighten the whole world, /
Illumining thy spiritual children with the brilliance of thy miracles, /
Granting to the faithful, the remission of their sins, /
Amending their lives, and defeating their adversaries. /
Now, joyfully standing before the shrine of thy precious and healing relics /
As to our loving father, we, thy children, cry out to thee: /
Beseech the Holy Trinity for whom thou hast labored all thy life, /
To grant us, who venerate thy holy relics, the remission of our sins, ///
O blessed father Sergius. (twice)

Glory..., now and ever.... Theotokion:

Thou, alone among women, O Virgin, /
Gave birth to God in the flesh without seed, /
And the race of mankind blesses thee, /
For the fire of Divinity made His dwelling place in thee, /
And thou didst nourish the Creator with thy milk when He was a babe. /
Therefore, together with the angels, we rightly glorify thy pure birthgiving, /
And with one voice we cry aloud to thee /
Beseech Christ thy Son and our God, ///
To grant remission of sins to us who worship in faith thy holy childbearing.

Ode 4

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

***Irmos:** I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation, O Lord; I have considered Thy works and glorified Thy Godhead.*

O Bride of God, who gavest birth to the Lord and Master, still thou the turmoil of my passions and the stormy seas of my sins.

O, bestow thy compassion on me, thy servant, out of the depths of thy tender mercy; for thou didst give birth to the Compassionate One, the Savior of all those who praise thee.

While delighting in thy gifts, O immaculate one, we sing a song of thanksgiving to thee, knowing thee to be the Mother of God.

As I lie on the bed of my pain and infirmity, do thou help me, as thou art a lover of goodness, O Ever-virgin Mary Theotokos.

Having thee as our staff and hope, and as our salvation's unshakable defense, we are then delivered from all adversity, O thou all-praised one.

The Canon of the Saint

***Irmos:** Thy virtues have covered the heavens, O Christ, and the earth hath been filled with thy glory. Therefore we faithfully cry aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!*

Thou wast cloven unto God from within thy mother's womb, O blessed Sergius, and from thence, thou didst nurture the fear of God as the beginning of all wisdom in thine heart, and the humility of the spirit didst thou come to love as root and foundation of all good. Therefore, Christ the Master hath given thee the riches of working miracles, O most blessed father Sergius.

Thy relics are like a fragrant lily sprung from the lap of the earth, and as a treasury of good, they shine forth with a splendid radiance of wonders making glad thy spiritual children, O most blessed father Sergius.

Today thy native land of Russia and the entire world are filled with joy; and thy holy monastery, O Sergius bless't in God, rejoices and is arrayed in beauty, for inside her walls reposes the wonderful and boundless treasure of thy precious relics.

***Theotokion:** O Virgin, beloved of God and Queen of all creation, foretold by many prophets, who hast brought forth the King of the powers of heaven! Grant victory to all Orthodox Christians over their adversaries and by thy prayers, O Lady, vouchsafes us all to attain the kingdom of heaven.*

Ode 5

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

***Irmos:** Enlighten us by Thy commandments, O Lord, and by Thine uplifted arm grant us Thy peace, O Lover of mankind.*

Fill my heart with gladness, O pure Lady, with thine incorruptible joy, for thou didst bear the Cause of all Joy.

Deliver us from dangers, O pure Theotokos, who gavest birth to Eternal Redemption, and to the Peace that passes all understanding.

Dispel the darkness of my sins by the radiance of thy splendor, O Bride of God, for thou didst bear the divine and pre-eternal Light.

Heal the infirmity of my soul, O pure Lady, when thou hast deemed me worthy of thy visitation, and grant me health by thy blessed intercessions.

The Canon of the Saint

FINDING OF THE RELICS OF SAINT SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

Irmos: *Thou art my portion, O Lord, and the glory of my face; thou hast delivered me from the darkness of ignorance to the understanding of God, and I pray Thee, O Christ, grant peace to the servant, O Lover of mankind.*

The holy Church of God in Trinity is truly glorious and arrayed in beauty on this day, and the multitudes of the faithful behold thee, O divinely-wise Sergius, being carried aloft upon the shoulders of the holy hierarchs of God.

Being inspired with joy and gladness at the visitation of the Mother of God, thou didst become like a lamp unto thy flock, O father Sergius, and the leader of the New Israel, guiding us all from earth to the heavenly mansions, where thou dost now delight in the ineffable light.

Thy mother's womb was sanctified at thy conception, and the city of Rostov was illumined by thy birth; thy great and most glorious Lavra has been glorified by thy labors, and the whole world is full of thy wonders, O venerable father Sergius.

Theotokion: **O** most pure Mother of God, thou firm defender of those who put their trust in thee, protectress and guardian of our land, and unshakeable bastion of the Church, save us all who reverently venerate thy holy icon of thine image.

Ode 6

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

Irmos: *I will pour out my prayer before the Lord; I will make known to Him my sorrow, for my soul has been filled with afflictions, and my life has drawn near to hell, and like Jonah I will pray: O God, raise me up from corruption.*

My nature, held by corruption and death, hath He saved out of death and corruption; for unto death hath He submitted Himself. Wherefore, O Virgin, do thou intercede with Him who is thy Lord and Son, to deliver me from the wickedness of the enemy.

I know thee as the protection of my life, and most safe fortress, O Virgin; disperse the horde of temptations, and drive away demonic vexation. Unceasingly I pray to thee: Deliver me from the corruption of passions!

We have acquired thee as a wall of refuge, and the perfect salvation of our souls, and a relief in afflictions, O Maiden, and we ever rejoice in thy light. O Sovereign Lady, do thou also now save us from passions and dangers.

Bedridden, I lie supine with sickness now and there is no healing for my flesh; but to thee, O good one who gavest birth to God, the Savior of the world and the Healer of infirmities, I pray: Raise me up from the corruption of illness.

The Canon of the Saint

Irmos: Let me not drown in the waters of the tempest nor let me be swallowed by the deep. For I have been cast into the heart of the sea because of my evil deeds. Therefore like Jonah I cry aloud to Thee: Lead my life out of the corruption of evil to Thee, O God.

From thy earliest years thou has loved Christ, O father Sergius, and following in His life-bearing steps, thou hast left the world behind and come to the never-setting light of understanding, where thou standest now with boldness before the Holy Trinity, ever praying on behalf of us all.

The ranks of heaven marvel at thy life on earth, and the armies of demons take to fright beholding the victories that God hath given thee over them. Therefore, we glorify thee as we stand before the shrine of thy relics, and glorify Christ who hath so glorified thee by thy miracles.

O most blessed father Sergius, grant unto all who commemorate with pure faith and love that glorious day on which thy precious and holy relics were found, and who honor thy holy memory, that which is beneficial for their souls.

Theotokion: Without seed hast thou conceived in thy womb the Creator and Savior of all mankind, O Lady Theotokos, and hast given birth to Christ our God in the flesh; by thy supplications, entreat Him to be merciful towards us that we may all be found worthy to behold Him in His kingdom.

Katavasia: “Let us clap our hands in gladness...”

The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 8: *To the melody “O victorious leader....”*

Today thy precious relics shine forth from the earth as the sun /
Showing incorruption as a fragrant flower, scented with miracles /
Granting healing to all the faithful and making glad thy flock. /
As thou standest now before the throne of the Trinity /
Entreat God’s help and grace for the victory of all Christians over their adversaries ///
That we may sing: Rejoice, O divinely-wise Sergius.

Ikos: Having rejected the things of this world, O divinely-wise father, thou hast attained unto the heavenly and incorruptible mansions; and having been made rich by the hand of Almighty God with the power to perform wonders equal to the number of thy virtues, and being honored with the crown of victory, do thou bestow thy miraculous gifts upon us who sing: Rejoice, thou, who before thy birth proclaimed three times the glory of the Trinity! Rejoice, thou, who became a chosen vessel of the Holy Spirit at thy birth! Rejoice, for thou didst scorn both the beauty and the glory of the world! Rejoice, for thou didst come to dwell in the wilderness. Rejoice, for thou didst transform it into a city of God. Rejoice, for thou didst build there a temple to the

glory of the Holy Trinity! Rejoice, for thou didst establish there a great and glorious habitation to the glory of God! Rejoice, for thou didst gather there a great multitude of monastics. Rejoice, for thou leadest them all to the Lord. Rejoice, thou, who didst serve the Mother of God as an angel in the flesh; Rejoice, thou, whom she didst mercifully honor by her appearance to thee! Rejoice, thou, who fervently prays before the Lord for those who honor thy precious relics. Rejoice, O invincible defender of Russia, the land of thy birth. Rejoice, O divinely-wise Sergius, beloved of God !

Ode 7

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

Irmos: The children of Judæa who dwelt of old in Babylon trampled underfoot the flames of the furnace by their faith in the Trinity, as they sang: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Having willed to accomplish our salvation, O Savior, Thou didst dwell in the womb of the Virgin, and didst show her forth unto the world as its intercessor. Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Pray to Him, the dispenser of mercy whom thou didst bear, O pure Mother, and implore Him to deliver from all transgressions and defilements the souls of those who with faith cry out: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

A treasury of salvation and a fountain of incorruption is she who gave Thee birth; a tower of safety, and a gate of repentance hast Thou proved her to those who cry: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Grant healing from physical weakness and spiritual infirmities to those who with love draw near to thy protection, O Virgin Theotokos, for thou gavest birth to Christ our Savior.

The Canon of the Saint

Irmos: O God of our fathers, let us not be utterly put to shame; break not Thy covenant nor take Thy mercy away from us, O Thou who art praised throughout all ages.

Thy precious body was preserved by divine protection for many years, O divinely-wise Sergius, and it came out of the earth untouched by corruption. At this sight we, thy children, sing aloud with joy: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Thou hast entered into the beauty of the heavenly chambers of Christ the King clad in the garments of joy and crowned with the crown of gladness, O Sergius; and receiving the due honors of all thy labors thou didst sing: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers.

Shining with the radiance of thy life in this world, and attaining the stature of the angels, O Sergius the wondrous, thou dost now stand rejoicing before the throne of

God. Entreat Him, we pray, that He will grant remission of sins to those who commemorate with love, the discovery of thy precious relics on this day.

Theotokion: **O** Lady Theotokos, entreat our God who was born of thee, who created Adam, and who renewed our human nature, that we may all cry out to thee: Blessèd is the Fruit of thy womb, O most pure Virgin!

Ode 8

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

Irmos: **The King of heaven whom the hosts of angels praise, let us praise and exalt throughout all ages.**

Disdain not those who need thy help, O Virgin, and who hymn and supremely exalt thee unto all ages.

Thou healest the infirmity of my soul and the pains of my body, O Virgin, that I may glorify thee, O pure one, unto all ages.

Thou pourest forth a wealth of healing, on those who with faith sing praises unto thee, O Virgin, and who supremely exalt thine ineffable Childbearing.

Thou drivest away the assaults of temptations, and the attacks of the passions, O Virgin; Therefore, we sing thee hymns unto all ages.

The Canon of the Saint

Irmos: **In wisdom hast Thou made all things, O Lord; Thou hast establish the earth according to thy will; Thou didst make firm the foundation of the earth upon deep waters, giving drink to all who cry aloud to Thee: All ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord throughout all ages!**

The Church of God is clothed today in royal porphyry and it greatly rejoices together with thy holy monastery that possesses the rich treasure of thy precious body, O beloved of God father Sergius, for that grants all manner of healing to those who sing in faith: O all ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord throughout all ages.

The temple of God is ablaze with heavenly light and the assembly of the pious rejoices within as they behold thee, O beloved of God father Sergius, borne by the hands of the hierarchs of the Church and venerated by the faithful who sing to Christ: O all ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord throughout all ages.

O thou who hast taken up his abode with the choirs of the saints and standest now with the hosts of heaven before the Trinity, beseech God for the pardon of their sins for all who commemorate thee in faith and who celebrate the solemn day of the discovery of thy precious relics, O father Sergius, and may we be granted salvation who joyfully sing: O all ye works of the Lord, bless the Lord throughout all ages.

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Theotokion: The pre-eternal God was conceived in thy womb and the perfect God was born of thee as a child in the flesh, O unwedded maiden, and He who is perfect God and perfect man, who sits on the throne of heaven with His Father and the Spirit was seen by man: Him do we exalt above all forever!

We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

Katavasia: “The Offspring of the Theotokos...”

The Magnificat is sung.

Ode 9

The Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

Irmos: *Saved through thee, O pure Virgin, we confess thee to be truly Theotokos, and with the choirs of angels we magnify thee.*

O Virgin, who didst give birth to Christ, who doth wipe away every tear from every face: turn not away from the torrent of my tears.

O Virgin, who didst receive the fullness of joy, and didst banish the grief of sin: fill my heart with joy.

Be thou the haven and protection, the unshakable wall, the refuge, the shelter, and the joy of those who flee to thee, O Virgin.

Illumine with the rays of thy light, O Virgin, those who piously confess thee to be the Theotokos, and banish from them the darkness of ignorance.

I am brought low by mine afflictions and infirmities, but do thou, O Virgin, heal me, bringing me from illness into health.

The Canon of the Saint

Irmos: *O most pure Virgin, whom Moses beheld in the bush not burned by fire, and whose ineffable childbearing was seen by Joseph in the cave, O Mother of God who knew not man, we magnify thee in song.*

Thou hast been taken up to the heights of heaven through the action of the virtues, O divinely-wise Sergius, and in the gladness of thy heart, thou dost now stand before the throne of the Holy Trinity: forget not us, thy children, and grant all Orthodox people perfect health and victory over their adversaries that we may all ceaselessly glorify thee in song.

Thine all-glorious memory, O God-bearing Sergius, enlightens more than the rays

of the sun, the faithful who piously venerate and worship with faith and love before the shrine of thy holy relics, and who glorify thee in song, O divinely-wise one.

Accept our meager prayers offered thee by unworthy hands but with heartfelt love, and grant our souls salvation, health to our bodies, and peace to the world, O father Sergius, that we may all ceaselessly glorify thee in song.

Theotokion: **O** all-praised Lady, Virgin Mother of Christ our God, save those who put their trust in thee, who hasten to thy protection, and who piously glorify thee in song as being truly Theotokos.

Katavasia: “Let every earth-born exult...”

Exapostilarion of the Saint:

Today the powers of heaven have come down and rejoice with us on the earth, and all the faithful, together with the priests and monastics are filled with spiritual gladness, and are enlightened by the gifts of thy miracles as they glorify the Lord on the day of the finding of thy precious relics. *(twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion:

O thou, who didst bring forth Wisdom in the flesh, the Word of God everlasting, the Christ, and the great Physician of mankind, do thou heal the wounds and sores of my heart and assuage the long and bitter battle waged against me by the passions of my flesh.

At the Praises, 4 stichera, in Tone 4: To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs...”

Thou dost illumine the ends of the earth with the brilliance of thy wonders, /
Like a radiant star of Christ, the never-setting Sun, /
Enlightening all with the brightness of thy virtues /
Who with faith and song honor thy holy memory
And the discovery of thy precious relics, ///
O divinely-wise Sergius, belovèd of God. *(twice)*

As a lamp burning with many facets of light, /
Thou art an amazing physician of the afflicted, /
A monastic pastor of great discernment, /
A sword of salvation for thy people, victorious over their enemies, /
The adornment of all the Russian lands, /
And a prayerful intercessor for all who call on thy name, ///
And celebrate the discovery of thy precious relics, O father Sergius.

O holy and most blessed Sergius, /
Thou art a most fragrant blossom; /
A sweet-smelling censer of incense divine /
Spreading the balm of thy fragrance throughout the land, /
And the light of thy brilliant miracles illumines the Christian people ///
Who with faith celebrate thy holy memory.

Glory..., in Tone 6:

The Christian faithful have joyfully gathered today /
To spiritually celebrate this solemn feast /
Of our venerable father Sergius, and to worship Christ with this song of praise: /
Thou hast given us a great wonderworker and defender, O Christ our Master! /
Do then, O holy and divinely-wise father Sergius, /
Earnestly beseech Christ our God, ///
On behalf of all who with faith and love honor thee.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:

Christ the Maker, Redeemer, and Lord proceeded from thy womb /
O all-pure Virgin, /
And putting on my nature, set man free from the ancestral curse; /
So we sing to thee without ceasing, O all-pure Virgin, as Mother of God /
With the salutation of the angel: /
Rejoice, O sovereign Lady, ///
Protection, refuge, and salvation of our souls.

The Great Doxology, and the Dismissal.

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia from the Third and Sixth Odes of the Canon of the Saint.

1. Strengthened by the power of the Cross, thou didst subdue the passions of the soul and the temptations of the flesh by the will of the spirit. Therefore, thou hast become the beautiful abode of the All-holy Spirit and the chosen habitation of the undivided Trinity.

2. Thy life hast become an example to all in this world who subject themselves, with all their souls, to Christ. Thou hast shone forth with the purity of the Sun and by this, hast thou received thy reward a hundredfold from the hand of the Almighty. Therefore, O divinely-wise Sergius, we joyfully glorify thee.

3. Come, and let us gather on this feast day and let us see be filled with joy; let us

glorify Christ who so glorifies those who glorify Him, and who hast given us the divinely bless't Saint Sergius as our invincible defense and the worker of wonders.

4. *Theotokion:* We offer thee our thanks and hymns of praise, O Lady, for thou hast brought forth God Almighty in the flesh, and we Christians have thee as our intercessor, O Mother of God.

5. From thy earliest years thou has loved Christ, O father Sergius, and following in His life-bearing steps, thou hast left the world behind and come to the never-setting light of understanding, where thou standest now with boldness before the Holy Trinity, ever praying on behalf of us all.

6. The ranks of heaven marvel at thy life on earth, and the armies of demons take to fright at the victories that God hath given thee over them. Therefore, we glorify thee as we stand before the shrine of thy relics, and glorify Christ who hath so glorified thee by thy miracles.

7. O most blessed father Sergius, grant unto all who commemorate with pure faith and love that glorious day on which thy precious and holy relics were found, and who honor thy holy memory, that which is beneficial for their souls.

8. *Theotokion:* Without seed hast thou conceived in thy womb the Creator and Savior of all mankind, O Lady Theotokos, and hast given birth to Christ our God in the flesh; by thy supplications, entreat Him to be merciful towards us that we may all be found worthy to behold Him in His kingdom.

The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 8:

From thy youth thou didst accept Christ in thy soul, O ven'rable one, /
Serving only Him and despising all earthly cares. /
Courageously thou didst go to dwell in the wilderness /
Bearing spiritual children in obedience and reaping the fruits of humility, /
Through this becoming an abode of the Trinity /
Enlightening all, and granting abundant healing to those who come to thee in
faith, ///
O our father Sergius, pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 8: *To the melody "O victorious leader...."*

Today thy precious relics shine forth from the earth as the sun /
Showing incorruption as a fragrant flower, scented with miracles /
Granting healing to all the faithful and making glad thy flock. /
As thou standest now before the throne of the Trinity /
Entreat God's help and grace for the victory of all Christians over their adversaries ///

FINDING OF THE RELICS OF SAINT SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

That we may sing: Rejoice, O divinely-wise Sergius.

The Prokeimenon, in Tone 7: Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. *Verse:* What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me?

The Epistle: (213) Galatians 5:22- 6:2

The Alleluia, in Tone 6: Blessèd is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. *Verse:* His seed shall be mighty in the land.

The Gospel: (24) Luke 6:17-23

Communion Hymn: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings. Alleluia....

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