

Great and Holy Saturday: Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great if it is taken without Vespers.

Text from "[*The Divine Liturgy: An Anthology for Worship*](#)"; Pg. 651

Liturgical Instruction: Normally this service is adjoined to vespers, but for pastoral reasons the vespers portion of the service is at times abbreviated. The "Anthology for Worship" offers one suggestion on how this abbreviation may look; nevertheless, it is up to the pastor of the parish to decide how to proceed. The full text can be found on the eparchial website.

Troparion (Tone 2): The noble Joseph took down Your most pure body from the tree.* He wrapped it in a clean shroud, and with aromatic spices* and placed it in burial in a new tomb.* But on the third day You arose, O Lord,* granting the world Your great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 2): When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity.* When You raised the dead from the nether world,* all the powers of heaven cried out:* "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Troparion (Tone 2): An angel appeared to the myrrh-bearing women at the tomb and cried out:* "Myrrh is suitable for the dead!* Christ is a stranger to corruption!"

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (Tone 6): He who confines the deep is seen dead,* wrapped in spices and shroud.* Like a mortal the immortal Lord is placed in a tomb.* Women come to anoint him with myrrh weeping bitter tears and crying out:* "This is the most blessed Sabbath on which Christ has fallen asleep;* on the third day He will rise again."

Instead of "Holy God...": All you, who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ! Alleluia!

Prokimenon (Tone 8): Let all the earth worship and sing to You,* let it sing to Your name, O most High (Ps 65:4).

verse: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing now to His name, give glory to His praise (Ps 65:2).

Epistle (Rm 6:3b-11): *Brethren*, all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was

crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Instead of Alleluia Psalm 81 (82) (Tone 7) (Clergy change into bright vestments and altar coverings are changed to bright ones.):

Refrain: Arise, O God, and judge the earth, for You shall inherit all the nations. (Ps 81:8).

Lector: God stands in the assembly of the gods, in their midst He will judge the gods (Ps 81:1). *Refrain*

Lector: How long will you judge unfairly and favour the cause of the sinners? (Ps 81:2)
Refrain

Lector: Give justice to the orphan and the poor; be fair to the humble and the needy (Ps 81:3). *Refrain*

Lector: Rescue the needy and the poor, and deliver them from the hand of the sinner (Ps 81:4). *Refrain*

Lector: They have no known nor understood; in darkness do they walk about (Ps 81:5).
Refrain

Lector: All the foundations of the earth shall be shaken.* I said: "You are gods, and sons of the Most High. But as for you, as men do you die, and as one of the princes do you fall" (Ps 81:5-7). *Refrain*

Gospel: (Mt 28:1-20): *After the sabbath*, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.' While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened. After the priests had assembled with the elders, they devised a plan to give a large sum of money to the soldiers, telling them, 'You must say, "His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep." If this

comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.' So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story is still told among the Jews to this day. Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Instead of the Cherubic Hymn (Pg. 277): Let all mortal flesh keep silent and stand with fear and trembling; let it take no thought for any earthly thing, for the King of Kings and Lord of Lords draws near to be sacrificed; given as food to the faithful. Lo! Before Him go the angelic choirs with the principalities and powers, the many-eyed cherubim and the six-winged seraphim, who cover their faces as they sing this hymn: Alleluia! (3x).

Instead of "It is truly..." (Pg. 668): **Irmos (Tone 6):** Weep not for me, O Mother, as you see in the tomb the Son Whom you conceived without seed in your womb; for I shall rise and be glorified; and as God I shall exalt in everlasting glory those who magnify you with faith and love.

Communion Verse: The Lord awoke as from sleep;* our Saviour is risen! (Ps 77:65) Alleluia! (3x).