

Paschal Joy from the Pentecostarion: Bright Week

Bright Monday:

"Every breath and all creation glorify Thee, O Lord; for by the Cross didst Thou abolish death, that Thou mightiest show forth unto the peoples Thy Resurrection from the dead, since Thou alone art the Friend of man."

"Let the Jews make answer: How did the soldiers lose the King Whom they were guarding? Why was it that the stone did not retain the Rock of Life? Let them either deliver the Buried One or worship the Risen One, saying with us: Glory to the multitude of Thy compassions; O our Savior, glory to Thee."

"All things have been enlightened by Thy Resurrection, O Lord, and Paradise is open again; and, whilst acclaiming Thee, the whole of creation doth ever more praise Thee."

Bright Tuesday:

"In worshiping Thy life-creating Cross unceasingly, O Christ God, we glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day; for thereby hast Thou renewed the corrupted nature of man, O Almighty One, and Thou didst show unto us the way unto the Heavens, since Thou alone art good and the Friend of man."

"Thou didst annul the sentence of the tree of disobedience, O Savior, by being nailed willingly to the Cross. And by descending into Hades, O Mighty One, as God Thou didst rend asunder the bonds of death. Wherefore, we worship Thy Resurrection from the dead, while crying out in gladness: O Almighty Lord, glory to Thee."

"Thou didst crush the brazen gates and shatter the bars, O Christ God, and Thou didst raise the fallen race of man; for this cause do we cry out with one accord: Thou Who didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory to Thee."

Bright Wednesday:

"By Thy Cross, O Christ, Thou hast freed us from the ancient curse; and by Thy death, Thou hast destroyed the devil, who tyrannized our nature; and by Thine arising, Thou didst fill all things with joy. Wherefore, we cry to Thee: Thou didst arise from the dead, Lord, glory to Thee."

"He that granted the resurrection unto the race of man was led as a sheep to the slaughter; the princes of Hades were terrified of Him, and the grievous gates were lifted up; for Christ, the King of Glory, hath entered, saying to those in bonds: Go forth; and to those in darkness: Reveal yourselves."

Bright Thursday:

"From Thee, O Lord, Who art in all creation, whither shall we sinners flee? To Heaven? But Thou Thyself dwellest there. To Hades? But Thou hast trampled on death. To the depths of the sea? But Thy hand is there, O Master. Unto Thee do we flee for refuge; falling down before Thee, we make entreaty; Thou Who didst rise from the dead, have mercy on us!"

"Conquering Hades, O Christ, Thou didst ascend the Cross, that with Thyself Thou mightest raise them that sat in the darkness of death, O Thou Who art free among the dead. Thou Who dost pour forth life from Thine own light, O omnipotent Savior, have mercy on us."

Bright Friday:

"Rejoice, O holy life-bearing Spring, who art as vast as all the seas in thy miracles bestowed on the world. O spiritual and mighty Ocean, thou dost supersede the great streams of the River Nile by torrents of grace divine. Thou art a second Siloam, pouring forth water wondrously as though from a rock. Thus thou hast received Jordan's might, O all-holy Maid, and art become manifestly the rich and most bountiful and saving manna, fulfilling the need of him that doth seek, O Maid, O Mother of Christ God, who dost ever pour forth thy most great mercy on the world."