

Pearls from The Lenten Triodion: Fifth Week of Great Lent

Monday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent:

“The most beautiful of seasons is at hand, the much praised day of abstinence has dawned. Let us make haste, brethren, to be cleansed, that we may appear in purity before our Maker and share in His beauty, at the prayers of her who bore Him, the most pure Mother of God.”

“Tilling the soul of our mind with the divine ploughshare of the holy Fast, let us reap the sheaf of virtues: then we shall not hunger in eternity, but will rejoice in gladness with a joy that has no end.”

“Thy holy Fast feeds our hearts, ripening within us thoughts acceptable to God, and causing the deep abyss of our passions to dry up; and with the rain of compunction it cleanses those who in faith offer praise to the Almighty.”

Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent:

“In fervent faith let us burn up with abstinence the lustful passions, and flee from the icy cold of sin; with the streams of our tears let us quench the everlasting flame, crying aloud: We have sinned against Thee, O most loving Lord; forgive us and grant us great mercy.”

“Most glorious is the grace of the holy Fast. Through it the Prophet Elijah found the chariot of fire, and Moses received the Tables of the Law; Daniel was magnified, and Elisha raised the dead; the Children quenched the fire, and all men are reconciled to God. Rejoicing in the Fast, let us cry aloud: Bless art Thou, O Christ our God, whose good pleasure this has been; glory to Thee.”

“Let us make our own pure fasting, prayer, tears, meditation on holy things, and every other virtue; and let us bring them now as an offering to God our Master.”

Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent:

“Singing the praises of the most holy Wood of the Cross, we ever venerate Thy boundless love, O Christ our God. For through the Cross Thou hast put to shame the hosts of the enemy, and hast given a sign to those that set their trust in Thee. Therefore in thanksgiving we cry aloud to Thee: Grant that with good courage and in peace we may all complete the time of the Fast.”

“Cast aside, my soul, the drunkenness of the passions, and by fasting seek the cleansing wine of tears that makes glad the heart of man, withering lust and putting out the furnace of the flesh. Make haste to be crucified with Christ, who for thy sake was nailed upon the Wood, and to live with Him unto eternity.”

Thursday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent:

(See the Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete)

Friday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent:

“O Cross, guardian of the world, exorcist of devils, thee we have as our invincible protection in all things: grant that we may spend the remainder of the Fast with a pure conscience, and guide our souls to Christ, O blessed Wood.”