

**RUTHENIAN RESOURCES FOR THE DOMESTIC CHURCH  
THE SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

**THE TRISAGION PRAYERS**

**Parents:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

**Response:** Amen.

**Parents:** Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

**Children:** Holy ✠ God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.  
*(Three times)*

Glory be to the Father ✠ and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy! *(Three times)*

Glory be to the Father ✠ and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE 2**

When you descended to death, O Immortal Life,  
you destroyed Hades by the brilliance of your divinity;  
and when you raised the dead from the depths of the earth,  
all the heavenly powers cried out:

O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to you.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen

## **GOSPEL: LUKE 7:11 - 16**

AT that time it came to pass that Jesus went to a town called Naim; and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. And as he drew near the gate of the town, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large gathering from the town was with her. And the Lord, seeing her, had compassion on her, and said to her, "Do not weep." And he went up and touched the stretcher; and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to thee, arise." And he who was dead, sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. But fear seized upon all, and they began to glorify God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us" and "God has visited his people."

### **CATECHETICAL SUMMARY**

Today the Church proclaims the inspirational story of the resurrection of the dead son, the only son, of the widow of Naim. It is one of Jesus' chief miracles. In the person of the widow we can see the most destitute, the most hopeless of people. In those days, a widow was left often times with no means of financial security – no means to provide the basic necessities of life. No means, that is, unless there is left to her a son who can look out for her and offer her protection. Sadly, this widowed woman is the wife of a dead man and now the mother of a dead son – truly, she was bereft of hope. She was indeed in a hopeless state – a state of real need. And as Jesus comes to this woman to restore her dead son to life, the woman receives not only her son but also the possibility of life for herself. It was for this reason, to restore life to a world in the stronghold of death, that Jesus was born of the Theotokos. It is for this reason, to give life back to mankind, that he was crucified, was buried and on the third day rose again.

The Church challenges us today to become a people formed in the image and likeness of Christ – a people whose sole identity is to give our life that others might live. Every aspect of our life, then, must be about giving of ourselves to those around us. And through giving of ourselves we proclaim in our actions the Good News of Jesus Christ.

#### **PRACTICAL CHALLENGE QUESTIONS:**

1. What are the different kinds of "needs" that people have?
2. Is there a way to be dead in our heart and yet alive in our body? If so, how can we become more like Jesus to those who are spiritually dead?
3. What are some practical ways in which we can help others who are in need?

## **GOSPEL: JOHN 17:1 - 13**

### **OPTION USED IN SOME PLACES TO COMMEMORATE THE FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that the Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; and now, Father, glorify thou me in thy own presence with the glory which I had with thee before the world was made.

"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.