PETITIONS FOR AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS

To be added to the Litany of Fervent Supplication between the Feasts of the Nativity of the Mother of God (Sep. 8) and her Holy Protection (Oct. 1) at the direction of Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and the Midwest

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health...

Lord our Savior, bless us, thine entreating people, with an increase in vocations to the priestly order and the monastic life in service of thy holy Church, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

Lord, who lovest mankind, protect and preserve in holiness those who have responded to thy call to service in thy Church and have given themselves to thy Gospel, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

Again we pray for those who bring offerings...

AN ABBREVIATED MOLEBEN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD OF TIKHVIN

To be added at the end of the Divine Liturgy during this time of prayer for an increase in vocations, as the Rector directs.

Immediately after the Prayer Behind the Ambo, we sing the troparion and kontakion of the Mother of God of Tikhvin:

(Troparion, Tone 4) Today thy most precious Icon appears in the sky like the ever-radiant sun, O Sovereign Lady, enlightening the world with rays of mercy; and this land, devoutly receiving the divine gift from above, honors thee as the Mistress of all, O Mother of God, magnifying Christ our God, Who was born of thee. Entreat Him, O Sovereign Lady, Queen and Mother of God, to guard all Christian cities and lands unharmed by the assaults of the enemy, and to save those who kneel in faith before His divine, and thy holy image, O unwedded Virgin! Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.. Amen.

(Kontakion, Tone 8) O people, let us hasten to the Virgin Theotokos and Queen, giving thanks to Christ our God, and looking upon her miraculous image with contrition, let us fall down and cry out to her: O Mary, our Sovereign Lady, who visit this land in the miraculous appearance of thy precious image, save all the Christians in peace and prosperity, showing us as heirs of the heavenly life. For to thee do we cry out with faith: Rejoice, O Virgin, the salvation of the world!

And at once, the refrains of the moleben, twice:

Clergy: Most holy Theotokos, save us! Choir: Most holy Theotokos, save us! Clergy: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Choir: Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Then we sing the intercessory hymns in Tone 6:

Save thy servants from harm, O Theotokos, for all we, after God, flee unto thee, as to an unassailable wall and intercessor.

Look with lovingkindness, O all-hymned Theotokos, upon my cruel bodily suffering, and heal the sickness of my soul.

THE TRIPLE LITANY

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: Again we pray for our Metropolitan Tikhon, for our Archbishop Daniel, and for our all brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Deacon: Again we pray for this country, its civil authorities and armed forces, and for all who in faith and piety dwell in it. Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3*x*)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and prosperity for the servants of God, our diocesan seminarians, and for the brethren of this holy temple.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3*x*)

Deacon: Again we pray that he will keep this city (or town, or village) and this holy church, and every city and countryside, from famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion, and civil war; that our good God, who loves mankind, will be gracious and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us and all sickness, and deliver us from His righteous chastisement which impendeth against us, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

[The two petitions for an increase in vocations may be repeated here.] Deacon: Again we pray that the Lord God may hearken unto the voice of the supplication of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, thou hope of all the ends of the earth, and those that be far off upon the sea, and be merciful, be merciful, O Master, regarding our sins, and have mercy on us. For thou art a merciful God who lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE SUPPLICATORY PRAYER

Deacon: Let us pray to the most holy Theotokos.

Choir: Most holy Theotokos, save us!

Priest: We thank thee, O most gracious, allpure, and ever-blessed Virgin Lady, Mother of Christ our God, for the many bounties thou showerest upon the human race, and especially upon the Christian people. And we also thank thee for bestowing upon us, thine unworthy servants, the great and unfathomable mercy of the miraculous appearance of thy holy icon for the illumination and sanctification of our land. Therefore, we sinners come before thee and, with fear and joy, tearfully pray: O most holy Virgin and Sovereign Lady Theotokos! Have mercy on us, thy people. Deliver us from our adversaries, and grant us victory over our enemies. Protect every Christian city and land and this holy temple from the onslaught of evil. Grant to all who pray before thy holy icon all that is beneficial to their souls. For thou art truly most blessed, together with thy Son and God who was born of thee, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

And the prayer being concluded, at once we sing:

THE MAGNIFICATION

It is truly meet to magnify thee, O Theotokos, more honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim.

Upon the conclusion of the magnification, the clergy return to the altar while the choir sings "Blessed be the Name of the Lord" (3x) and Psalm 33, as is customary. And the dismissal is then made.