

VESPERS OUTLINES¹

GREAT VESPERS AT A VIGIL	GREAT VESPERS NOT AT A VIGIL	DAILY VESPERS
<i>(Censing)</i>		
Glory to the holy, consubstantial ...	Blessed is our God ...	Blessed is our God ...
	Glory to Thee ... O heavenly King... etc.	Glory to Thee ... O heavenly King... etc.
Bless the Lord, O my soul ... (Ps. 103)	Bless the Lord, O my soul ... (Ps. 103)	Bless the Lord, O my soul ... (Ps. 103)
Litany: In peace let us pray to the Lord ...	Litany: In peace let us pray to the Lord ...	Litany: In peace let us pray to the Lord ...
Blessed is the man ... (first kathisma)	Blessed is the man ... (first kathisma)	Appointed kathisma for the day, if any
Litany: Again and again in peace ...	Litany: Again and again in peace ...	Litany: Again and again in peace ...
Lord, I call ...	Lord, I call ...	Lord, I call ...
Stichera for "Lord I call"	Stichera for "Lord I call"	Stichera for "Lord I call"
<i>(Entrance with censer)</i>	<i>(Entrance with censer)</i>	
O Gladsome Light ...	O Gladsome Light ...	O Gladsome Light ...
Prokeimenon of the day	Prokeimenon of the day	Prokeimenon of the day
Three Scripture lessons	Three Scripture lessons (Polyeleos or higher)	
Litany: Let us all say ...	Litany: Let us all say ...	
Vouchsafe, O Lord...	Vouchsafe, O Lord ...	Vouchsafe, O Lord ...
Litany: Let us complete...	Litany: Let us complete...	Litany: Let us complete...
Litya	Litya	
Aposticha	Aposticha	Aposticha
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant ...	Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant ...	Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant ...
Holy God ... Our Father ... Amen.	Holy God ... Our Father ... Amen.	Holy God ... Our Father ... Amen.
"O Theotokos Virgin Rejoice..."	Dismissal Troparia	Dismissal Troparia
Blessing of bread, wheat, wine, oil	Blessing of bread, wheat, wine, oil	
		Litany: Have mercy on us, O God ...
Blessed be the name ... (3x)	Blessed be the name ...Wisdom! Father, bless!	Wisdom! Father, bless!
I will bless the Lord at all times ...		
The blessing of the Lord ...	Christ our God, the existing One...	Christ our God, the existing One...
<i>[Reading of the Six Psalms of Matins]</i>	Prayer for Orthodox Christians	Prayer for Orthodox Christians
	Concluding dialogue	Concluding dialogue
	Dismissal by priest	Dismissal by priest

Variable portions in bold

¹ Source: <https://oca.org/liturgics/outlines/vespers-outline>

LORD I CALL²

SUNDAY VESPERS (i.e. Saturday evening)	DAILY VESPERS
SIMPLE SERVICE	
<u>10 Stichera:</u> ³ Octoechos: 7 Menaion: 3 Glory... (Doxasticon) Now and ever... Dogmaticon (in tone of the week)	<u>Sun-Thu evenings:</u> ⁴ Octoechos: 3, Menaion: 3 Glory... (Doxasticon) Now and ever... Theotokion <u>Friday evening:</u> six stichera, all from Menaion (each 2x) Glory... (Doxasticon) Now and ever... Dogmaticon (in tone of the week)
DOUBLE SERVICE	
<u>10 Stichera:</u> Octoechos: 4 Menaion – 1 st Saint: 3 Menaion – 2 nd Saint: 3 Glory... (Doxasticon) Now and ever... Dogmaticon (in tone of the week)	<u>6 Stichera:</u> Menaion – 1 st Saint: 3 Menaion – 2 nd Saint: 3 Glory... (Doxasticon) Now and ever... Theotokion
SIX-STICHERA OR DOXOLOGY SERVICE	
<u>10 Stichera:</u> ⁵ Octoechos: 6 Menaion: 4 Glory... Doxasticon Now and ever... Dogmaticon (in tone of the week)	<u>6 Stichera:</u> All from Menaion Glory... Doxasticon Now and ever... Theotokion
POLYELEOS SERVICE	
<u>10 Stichera:</u> Octoechos: 4 Menaion: 6 Glory... Doxasticon Now and ever... Dogmaticon (in tone of the week)	<u>6 or 8 Stichera:</u> ⁶ All from Menaion Glory... Doxasticon Now and ever... Theotokion
VIGIL SERVICE	
Like the Polyeleos Service, except on a feast of the Theotokos: ⁷ Glory... Now and ever... Doxasticon of the feast (even on Friday evening)	
APODOSIS OF A GREAT FEAST	
<u>10 Stichera:</u> Octoechos: 4 Feast: 6 ⁸ Glory... Sticheron of the Feast Now and ever... Dogmaticon (in tone of the week)	<u>10 Stichera:</u> Feast: 6 Saint: 4 Glory... Doxasticon of the saint Now and ever... of the feast (except on Friday: Dogmaticon in tone of the week)

² Source: *Order of Divine Services*, by Williams and Fekula

³ During Forefeast or Afterfeast: *Octoechos*: 4; forefeast or feast: 3; (first) Saint from the *Menaion*: 3 (in double svc, 1st saint only)

⁴ During Forefeast or Afterfeast: forefeast or feast: 3; (first) Saint from the *Menaion*: 3 (Likewise with daily Six-stichera, Doxology services)

⁵ During Forefeast or Afterfeast: *Octoechos*: 3; forefeast or feast: 3; Saint from the *Menaion*: 4 (Likewise with Sun. Polyeleos and Vigil services)

⁶ For Polyeleos or Vigil rank services during Forefeast or Afterfeast: forefeast or feast: 3; Saint from the *Menaion*: 5; Glory...Doxasticon of the saint; Now and ever...of the forefeast or feast. But if Friday evening: Now and ever...Dogmaticon in the tone if the week. (Unless a forefeast or afterfeast of the Nativity or Theophany, in which case: Now and ever...sticheron of the forefeast or afterfeast, even on Friday evening.)

⁷ Nativity of the Theotokos (Sept 8), Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (Nov 21), The Meeting of the Lord (Feb 2), Dormition of the Theotokos (Aug 15)

⁸ In the *Menaion* under the date of the feast itself