

THE FIRST CANON OF THE ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE

A Composition of George of Nicomedia

³Ηχος δὲ ᾠδῆς

ODE ONE

Irmos

^(B)
I shall o - pen my mouth to chant and with the Spir - it shall
I be filled, ⁶ and words shall I now pour forth__ un - to the Moth-er and
^(Π)
Queen; ⁶ and I shall be seen in joy - ous ju - bi - la - tion, ^π ac - claim -
^(B)
ing the Feast of her En - try with songs and hymns. ⁶

Refrain and Troparia

^(B)
Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us. ⁶
^(B)
We know thee to be a trea-sur - y of wis - dom, O Queen of all, ⁶
a bub-bling and ev - er-flow - ing spring and foun-tain of grace, ⁶ and we

ask of thee: Rain on us drops of knowl-edge, ^(B) that we might ex - tol thee

for- ev - er, O Maid most pure. ⁶ ^λ

^(B) Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us. ⁶ ^λ

^(B) Thou tem - ple and pal-ace high-er than the heav - ens, O all- pure one,

⁶ ^λ thou pure - ly art con-se- crat - ed in the tem-ple of God, ⁶ ^λ there to

be pre-pared to be the di - vine dwell-ing ^(B) and god - ly a-bode of

His com- ing to us on earth. ⁶ ^λ

^(B) Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us ⁶ ^λ

^(B) The Moth - er of God, who made the light of grace dawn forth as the

sun, ⁶ ^λ hath made all men ra - di - ant__ and hath as - sem- bled them now ⁶ ^λ

to a - dorn with songs her light- tran-scend-ing feast-day; ^(B) come, let us

all gath-er to hon - or her fes - ti-val.

6
λ

^(B)
Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

6
λ

^(B)
That glo - ri - ous gate im-pas-si- ble to rea- son and mind and thought

⁶λ hath part - ed the gates of the__ most hal-lowed tem-ple of God⁶λ and ex -

^(Π) hor-teth us to en - ter in now with her, ^πq that we may de-light in her

won-drous and god - ly works.

6
λ

ODE THREE

Irmos

^(B)
Make stead - fast, O ho-ly The - o - to - kos, thou liv - ing and

^(Π) nev - er-fail- ing spring, all them that form a com- pa- ny ⁶λ and gath- er for to

praise thy__ name; ^(Δ) ^(Γ) and on thine En - try's hal-lowed Feast, ^(B) deem them all

wor - thy__ of glo- ry's crowns.

6
λ

Refrain and Troparia

(B) Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

The fair - est of brides-men for the Vir - gin, the tem - ple is

shown to-day to be a brid-al cham-ber that re-ceived ⁶ God's liv - ing brid-

al cham-ber with-in, π her who is pure and blame-less and η far more

re - splen - dent than all the world.

^(B)
Most Ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

a ^(B) s Da - vid doth lead the choir in glad-ness, he skip - peth and

dan-ceth with us all, and cal-leth thee the Queen a-dorned ⁶ in ⁽ⁿ⁾ var - ied col-

ors, who doth stand πq be - fore our King and God with-in η the ho -

ly tem - ple, O all-pure one.

6
X

6
λ

$$6\lambda$$
6
λ

ODE FOUR

Irmos

(B)
W hen the Proph- et Ha- bak-kuk, O Thou Most High, 6 learned of the
(Δ) (B)
 di - vine and un - trace - a-ble coun-sel of Thy pure_ in - car - na - tion, Δ
 from the womb of the blest Vir - gin, 6 he cried____ out: Glo- ry to Thy pow-
 er, O Lord my God. 6

Refrain and Troparia

(B)
M ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us. 6
(B)
A s it doth re - ceive the gate im-pas-si-ble, 6 the house of God a -
(Δ) (B)
 bol-ish-eth ev - 'ry dark shad-ow of the Law_ and its wor - ship, Δ cry -
 ing out in ju-bi-la - tion: 6 To-day____ hath truth ap-peared to all men up-
 on the earth. 6

6
X

6



6

6
 λ 6
 λ

6



6

6
 λ
$$6\lambda$$

(B)
Thou art con - se - crat - ed on this day to God 6 in the tem - ple, O
(Δ) (B)
all - im - mac - u - late Bride. Thou hast been ver - i - ly shown forth Δ as
a tem - ple of the Great King, 6 a Pal - ace, and a liv - ing Heav - en, O
Spot - less One. 6

ODE FIVE

Irmos

(B)
all crea - tures were awe - struck at thy ho - ly En - try in maj - es -
Δ 6 (Δ)
ty, O pure Vir - gin, who hast not known wed - lock; for thou
(B)
didst en - ter in - to the Tem - ple of God, Δ since thou art a tem - ple whol -
(M) (B)
ly pure, grac - ious - ly be - stow - ing peace on all them that ac - claim
thy name. 6

Refrain and Troparia

M ^(B) | — — — — — ⁶ _λ
 ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

T ^(B) | —
 o - day the most ho - ly and pure Vir- gin is ded - i - cat - ed in

— — — — — ^(Δ) ⁶ _λ — — — — —
 the — — — — — tem-ple of God as a most glo-rious, bright sanc - tu - ar - y

— — — — — ^(B) | —
 and sa - cred of-fer - ing; ^Δ _λ and in ways__ known on - ly un - to God,

— — — — — ^(M) ^(B) — ⁶ _λ
 she__ is kept a dwell - ing-place for our God, Who is King__ of all.

M ^(B) | — — — — — ⁶ _λ
 ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

W ^(B) | —
 hen Zach - a - ri - as be-held the beau-ty of thy pure soul, O Maid,

— — — — — ^(Δ) ⁶ _λ — — — — —
 he__ cried out with faith, O spot-less Vir - gin: Thou art re - demp -

— — — — — ^(B) | —
 tion, thou art the joy of__ all; ^Δ _λ thou art__ our re-call - ing un - to life,

— — — — — ^(M) ^(B) —
 in__ whom we shall see__ con-tained Him Who is un - con - tain - a - ble.

ⲉ

6
X6
 λ 6
 λ

from thy won - drous works, O all - hymned La - dy and Birth - giv - er

of ___ our God.

6
λ

ODE SIX

Irmos

O ^(Π) n this ___ di-vine and most hon - ored feast ^{π q} of God's all-ho- ly
 Moth - er let all ___ of god- ly mind now cel - e - brate; ^{(N) (Π) (B) π q} come let us
 faith - ful _ now clap our hands, ^Δ and send up glo - ry un - to the God Whom
 she hath borne.

6
λ

Refrain and Troparia

M ^(B) ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save ___ us. ^{π q}
H ^(Π) e Who ___ sus- tain - eth all by ___ His word ^{π q} hath heark-ened in
 His mer - cy to Right - eous Jo - a - chim and An-na's prayer; ^{(N) (Π) (B) π q} and He hath
 loosed them from bar-ren - ness; ^Δ on them be- stow-ing her ___ who doth bring

6
λ

great joy to all.

6
λ

^(B)
Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

6
λ

^(Π)
The Lord,___ de - sir - ing that all__ men come ^π to know of His sal-

va - tion, hath cho - sen from a- mong the tribes of ^(N) ^(Π) ^(B) ^π men ^π thē Ev -

er - vir - gin,___ to be a sign ^Δ of re - con - ci - li - a - tion, re - stor-

ing us to God.

6
λ

^(B)
Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

6
λ

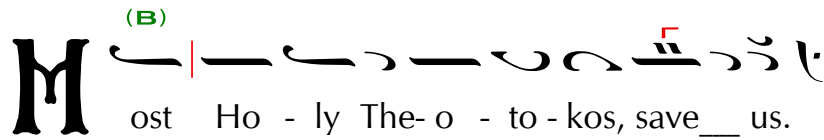
^(Π)
O thou___ im - mac - u - late house_ of grace, ^π where - in are stored up

all___ of the trea - sur - ies of God's in - ef - fa - ble, ^(N) ^(Π) ^(B) ^π new dis - pen -

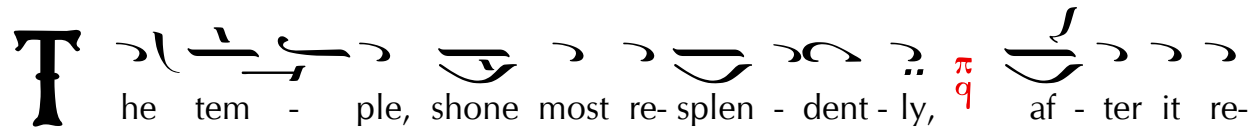
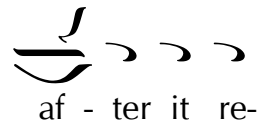
sa - tion_ for all man - kind, ^Δ with - in the tem - ple thou_ didst par - take of

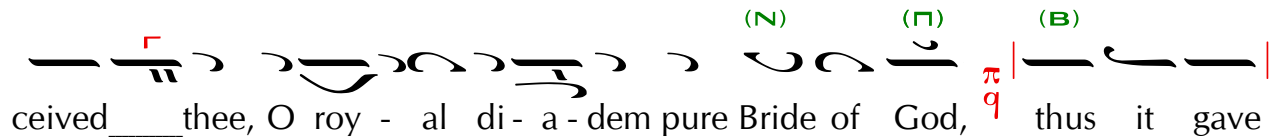
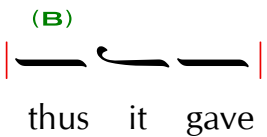
bound-less joy.

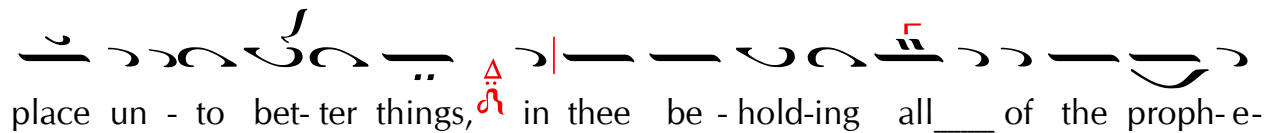
6
λ

M ^(B) 
 ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

⁶
λ

T 
 he tem - ple, shone most re-splen - dent - ly, ^π  af - ter it re-


 ceived__thee, O roy - al di - a - dem pure Bride of God, ^π  thus it gave

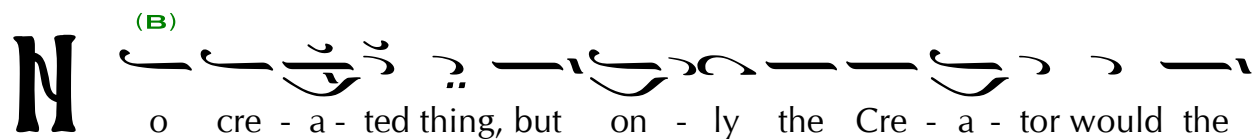

 place un - to bet-ter things, ^Δ  in thee be - hold-ing all__of the proph-e-

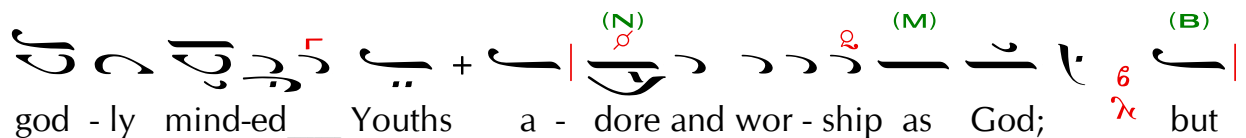
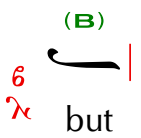

 cies ful-filled.

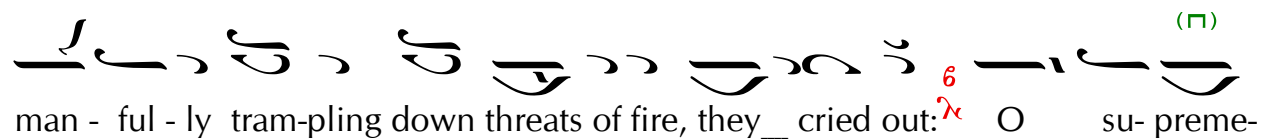
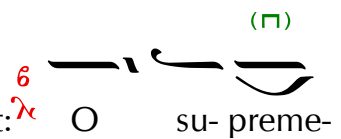
⁶
λ

ODE SEVEN

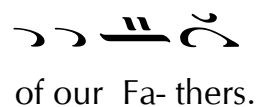
Irmos

N ^(B) 
 o cre - a - ted thing, but on - ly the Cre - a - tor would the


 god - ly mind-ed__Youths a - dore and wor - ship as God; ⁶  but


 man - ful - ly tram-pling down threats of fire, they__cried out: ⁶  O su- preme-


 - ly__praised ^π  and all - ac-claimed One, blest art Thou, O Thou Lord God


 of our Fa- thers.

⁶
λ

Refrain and Troparia

(B)
M ┐ ┐ ┐ ┐ ┐ ┐ ┐ ┐
 ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us. 6
λ

B bright spring-time hath shone forth un - to the far-thest re- gions

of the earth to - day, en - light-ning us through ho - ly grace. Our

mind, un-der-stand-ing, and soul are made lu - mi-nous. ⁶ Let us mys-ti-c'lly

re-joyce ^π on ^(B) this, the ra - diant fes - ti-val of the spot-less The-o - to - kos. ⁶

(B) Most Ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

(B)
Let all things to-day, in Heav - en and up - on the earth, all

thē An - gel - ic _____ hosts to - geth- er with all mor- tal men, at -

tend the pure Vir-gin, our Moth- er and Ho - ly Queen, as they cry a -

loud: ^π Our Joy and our De - liv - er - ance is now led in - to the tem - ple. ⁶ ^λ

6
 λ 6
 λ

(B)
The Lord, the Sav - ior of our souls, hath ap - peared to all cre - a - tion.

Irmos

Heark - en, O Maid - en, O Vir - gin most pure, now let thē An -
gel Ga-bri-el an- nounce the true an-cient coun- sel of the Most High:
Pre - pare _____ to re - ceive thy God; through thee He shall come and
take up__ a - bode__ with mor-tal men, He Who is un-con-tain-a-ble. Where-
fore, in great ju - bi - la - tion, I cry out: O all ye works of the Lord,
praise and bless the Lord.

(B) M ost Ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save__ us. 6
 (B) L ead - ing the un - de - filed Tem - ple of God 6 (N) (Π) in - to the tem -
 (B) ple of the Lord, π q chaste An - na cried out with faith, say - ing to the priest: 6

Re- ceive ____ thou the child which God hath giv - en to me and

lead her__ up to ____ the tem- ple of thy God Who hath cre- at - ed thee

and to Him in ju - bi - la - tion cry a - loud: O all ye works of the

Lord, praise and bless the Lord.

Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

And Zach- a - ri - as in Spir - it then said to An-na, when he

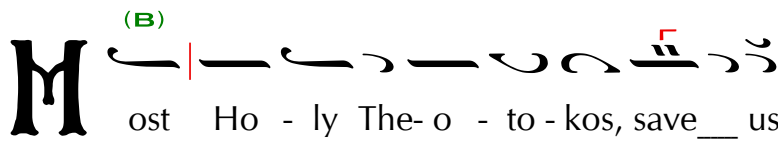
saw her come: Thou bring- est in the true Moth- er of Life for all.

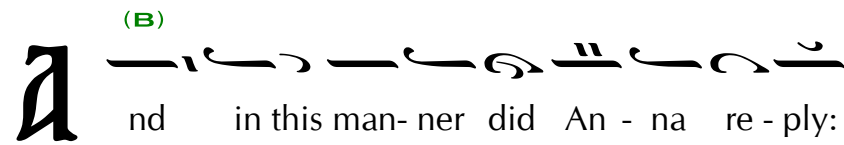
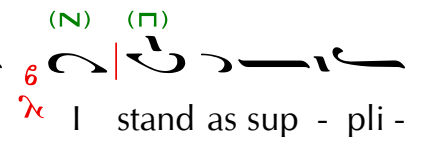
But how ____ shall the Tem-ple now con- tain her pro-claimed clear - ly

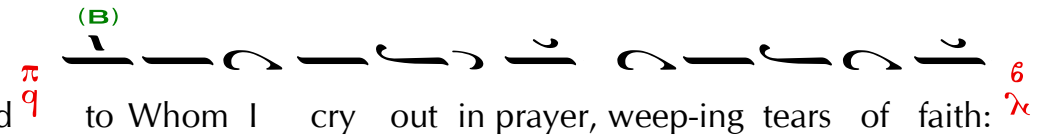
by__ the Proph - ets of the Lord as she who would give birth to God?

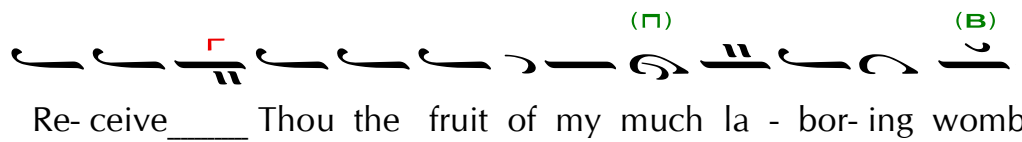
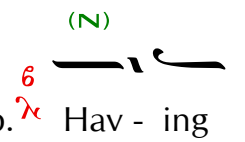
Where-fore, in awe-struck a - maze-ment I cry out: O all ye works of the

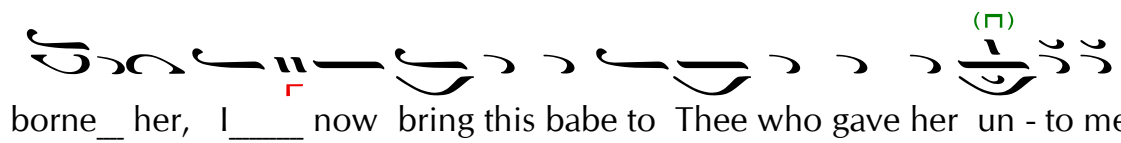
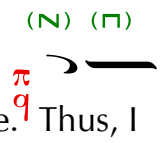
Lord, praise and bless the Lord.

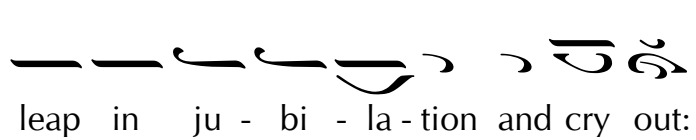
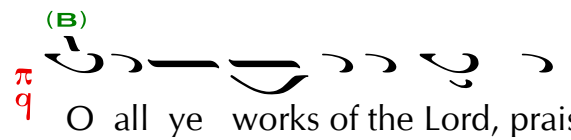
M ^(B)  ⁶ 
ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

A ^(B)  ^(N) ^(Π)  ⁶ 
nd in this man- ner did An - na re - ply: I stand as sup - pli -

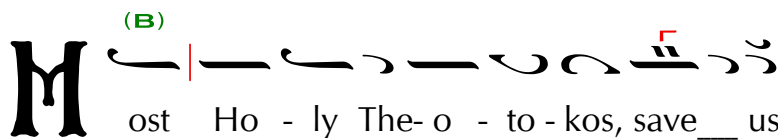
 ^(B)  ⁶ 
ant t'ward God ^π  to Whom I cry out in prayer, weep-ing tears of faith:

 ^(Π)  ^(B) ^(N) 
Re-ceive__ Thou the fruit of my much la - bor-ing womb. Hav - ing

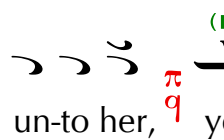
 ^(Π) ^(N) ^(Π)  ^π 
borne_ her, I__ now bring this babe to Thee who gave her un - to me. Thus, I

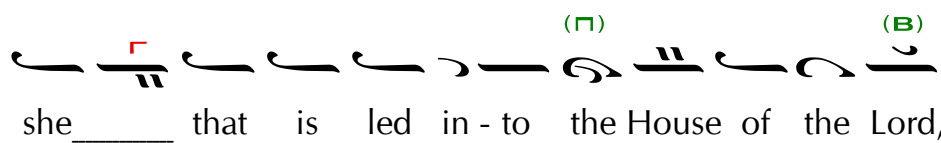
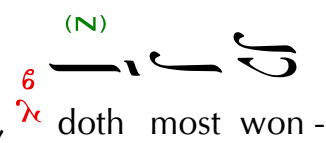
 ^(B)  ^π 
leap in ju - bi - la - tion and cry out: O all ye works of the Lord, praise

 ⁶ 
and bless the Lord.

M ^(B)  ⁶ 
ost Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

T ^(B)  ^(N) ^(Π)  ⁶ 
ru - ly this deed doth ac- cord with the Law, the priest re-pond- ed

 ^(B)  ⁶ 
un-to her, ^π  yet I per- ceive that this mat - ter is whol - ly strange. For

 ^(Π)  ^(B) ^(N) 
she__ that is led in - to the House of the Lord, ⁶  doth most won -

drous - ly ^(P) sur - pass in grace the in - ner-most ^(N) Ho- ly place. ^(P) Where-fore,

in great ju - bi - la - tion, I cry out: ^(B) O all ye works of the Lord, praise

and bless the Lord.

^(B) Most Ho - ly The- o - to - kos, save__ us.

^(B) When in this man - ner did An - na re - ply: ^(N) I have been strength-

ened by thy words; ^(B) for by the Spir - it of God dost thou now pro- claim

all things__ through the Vir- gin that shall soon come to pass. ^(P) There- fore,

wel - come her ^(P) in - to the house of Him__ Who hath fash-ioned thee, ^(N) as

thou in great ju - bi - la - tion: dost cry out: ^(B) O all ye works of the Lord,

praise and bless the Lord.

^(B) We bless the Lord: Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir - it.

(B) **T** he priest cried out: Now a light-bear- ing lamp (N) (Π) ⁶ hath been en- kin -
 dled for our sakes, (B) ^π and in the tem - ple it shin - eth forth might - y joy. ⁶ ^λ
 The souls of the right-eous Proph - ets dance now with us (Π) (B) (N) ⁶ ^λ as
 they see strange things now brought to pass with - in the tem-ple of the Lord. (Π)
 (N) (Π) ^π Where-fore in great ju - bi - la - tion they cry out: (B) ^π O all ye works of
 the Lord, praise and bless the Lord. ⁶ ^λ

ODE NINE

Refrain and Irmos

(B) **B** e - hold - ing the En - try of the all - pure (Δ) ^Δ one, ^Δ the
 An - gels' hosts were sore a-mazed, how the Vir - gin en - tered in- to the (B)
 Ho - ly of Ho - lies. ⁶ ^λ

(B) **L** et no un - in - i - ti - a - ted hand ⁶ ^λ ap - proach the liv-

ing Ark of God and touch it. Rath-er, with the voice of the Arch-an-gel,

let the faith-ful chant cease-less-ly to the The-o-to-kos

(N) (Π) (B) cry-ing out to her in bound-less joy: Tru-ly thou art more ex-

alt-ed than all things, O pure Vir-gin.

Refrain and Troparia

(B) (Δ) Be-hold-ing the En-try of the all-pure one, the

(B) An-gels' hosts were sore a-mazed, how she en-tered with glo-ry in-

to the Ho-ly of Ho-lies.

(B) With ex-ceed-ing bright beau-ty of soul, and whol-ly filled

with grace from God in Heav-en, thou, O all-pure La-dy The-o-to-kos,

dost for ev-er il-lu-mi-nate with the ev-er-last-ing light

(N) (Π) (B)
 6 6
 λ them that cry in glad-ness of spir-it: π q Tru-ly thou art more ex-

alt-ed than all things, O pure_Vir-gin. 6 λ

(B) (Δ)
 B e - hold - ing thē En - try of the all - pure_____one, Δ thē

(B)
 An - gels' hosts were sore a-mazed, how she won - drous-ly had en - tered

in - to the Ho - ly of Ho - lies. 6 λ

(B)
 T hy great mar - vel doth soar high a - bove 6 λ the pow - er of

all words, O The - o - to - kos; 6 λ for I do per - ceive in thee a bod - y

in - ex - pres - si-bly pure_____and be - yond the flow_____and force of sin.

(N) (Π) (B)
 6 6
 λ Hence, I cry to thee with thanks-giv-ing: π q Tru-ly thou art more ex-

alt-ed than all things, O pure_Vir-gin. 6 λ

(B) (Δ)
 L et An - gels and men_____ren-der hon - or Δ to thē

^(B)
 En - try of the Vir - gin Maid, for with glo - ry she hath en - tered in - to

the Ho - ly of Ho - lies. ⁶_λ

^(B)
 O pure La - dy, the Law won-drous-ly ⁶_λ pre - fig - ured thee

as ho - ly tab-er- nac - le, ⁶_λ di - vine urn of man - na and a strange ark,

in - des - truc - ti - ble tem - ple, and veil, and rod, ⁶_λ and gate of God;

^(N) ^(Π) ^(B)
⁶_λ hence, it teach - eth all to cry to thee: ^π₉ Tru - ly thou art more ex -

alt - ed than all things, O pure Vir - gin. ⁶_λ

^(B) ^(Δ)
 B e - hold - ing the En - try of the pure Vir - gin, ^Δ_λ the

^(B)
 An - gel's hosts were sore a-mazed, how in God - pleas - ing man - ner she

en - tered in - to the Ho - ly of Ho - lies. ⁶_λ

^(B)
 W hen he sang to thee, Da - vid pro-claimed ⁶_λ thee Daugh - ter of

the King, as he be-held thee ⁶ stand-ing at God's right hand, O pure La - dy,

in the beau - ty of vir - tue, with var-ied co - lours all a-dorned.

^(N) ^(Π) ^(B) ⁶ Hence, he proph- e - sied of thee, cry - ing: ^{π q} Tru - ly thou art more ex -

alt - ed than all things, O pure Vir - gin. ⁶

^(B) **G** lo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly

Spir - it. ⁶

^(B) **O** ye An - gels, with the Saints, ^(Δ) leap in glad - ness; ^Δ ye vir - gins,

^(B) dance for joy with them, for the Child ^(B) of God is en - tered in - to the

Ho - ly of Ho - lies. ⁶

^(B) **O** n for - see - ing how thou wouldst bear God, ⁶ O La - dy, wise

King Sol - o-mon spake dark- ly, ⁶ call - ing thee the King's gate and the liv - ing

and sealed spring whence the un - sul - lied wa - ter is - sued forth to

us, ^(N) who cry out with faith and re - joic - ing: ^(B) Tru - ly thou art more ex -

alt - ed than all things, O pure Vir - gin. ⁶ ^λ

^(B) Both now and ev - er, and un - to the ag - es of ag - es. A -

men. ⁶ ^λ

^(B) O ye An - gels, and men with hymns of prais - es, ^(Δ) the

^(B) Vir - gin let us mag - ni - fy, for she hath di - vine - ly en - tered in - to

the Ho - ly of Ho - lies. ⁶ ^λ

^(B) Through thy gifts, grant thy peace to my soul, ⁶ ^λ and pour forth life

to all them that re - vere thee ⁶ ^λ as is right and due, O The - o - to - kos,

and do thou of thy - self com - fort, help, and shel - ter and pre - serve

(N) (Π) (B)
Ϟ them that cry to thee with sin-cere faith: π ϣ Tru - ly thou art more ex -

Ϟ alt - ed than all things, O - pure_ Vir - gin. Ϟ