

Services for St Arseny, Archbishop of Winnipeg

Hymns for Great Vespers

At "*Lord I call*" (Tone 4)

O Blessed Father Arseny,* in the land of your birth Christ our God tried you in the furnace of affliction,* for when you were young your father died, leaving you to care for your younger family,* and in the prime of life your wife was taken from you.* You bore all for the sake of the Saviour,* joyfully taking the monastic habit.* God turned your sackcloth into a robe of gladness,¹* and your tongue declared the praises of His Providence.* O holy shepherd, do not cease to pray for us, your flock!

O Blessed Father Arseny,* your many gifts of eloquence were recognized by the saints,* for St. Tikhon, Bishop of America called you to assist him in his holy labours*, and brought you like a light from the land of your birth.* Faithfully you preached the Gospel throughout America and Canada,* strengthening your flock and re-uniting multitudes to the Orthodox Faith.* Like a new Chrysostom you did not cease to lift up your voice,* declaring to the New World the whole counsel of God.* O holy shepherd, do not cease to pray for us, your flock!

¹ Psalm 30:11.

O Blessed Father Arseny,* your heart burned with zeal for the glory of God,* and you established a pastoral school to raise up priests for the Lord,* and a monastery where monks could give praise to His Name.* Your missionary heart took you to the depths of virgin forests,* and across the wide prairies of Canada.^{1*} In the field of the world you sowed the holy seed of Christ's Gospel,^{2*} which produced a harvest of righteous souls to the glory of God.* O holy shepherd, do not cease to pray for us, your flock!

Glory...

O Blessed Father Arseny,* like your Lord you were persecuted by those who slandered you.* Those who sprouted like tares in the harvest strove to still your golden tongue,^{3*} wounding you while you stood like an angel at the altar of God.* Till the end you worked tirelessly to care for Christ's flock,* pouring forth words to refresh their souls.* Now you stand before the throne of God,* radiant with the light of the Lord you served so well.* O holy shepherd, do not cease to pray for us, your flock!

Now and ever... (Dogmatic of the Tone of the Week)

Three readings from the Old Testament: Isaiah 40:3-11, Wisdom 3:1-9, Sirach 39:1-11.

Litya verses (Tone 2)

As a young man you were strong, for the Word of God was in you.^{4*} O holy Father Arseny,* from your home in Kharkov God prepared you as His chosen vessel,* to bring His Word to those who dwelt in a far away land.* You were purged in the furnace of suffering,* and learned that the Lord does not forsake His own.* Glory to God who is wondrous in His saints!

¹ St Arseny's own description of his labours.

² Matthew 13:24.

³ Matthew 13:25.

⁴ 1 John 2:14.

As a priest you received from God a shepherd's heart,* O holy Father Arseny.* For you guided your flock with skilful hands,* and with an upright heart you tended them.¹* As a true pastor you refreshed your flock with the Water of Life,* preaching the life-giving Gospel, and leading them to find rest in Jesus, the Chief-Shepherd of All.* Glory to God who is wondrous in His saints!

As a missionary you burned with divine zeal,* O holy Father Arseny.* For thrice you travelled long to bring the truth of Orthodoxy to those far from your home,* traversing land and sea to make men into sons of the Kingdom.* Neither fatigue from your journeys nor slanders from evil men could quench your zeal,* as you multiplied your labours and brought glory to your Lord.* Glory to God who is wondrous in His saints!

Apostika (Tone 6)

O holy hierarch Arseny* you were revealed as an imitator of the apostle Paul,* for the hand of God led you on many journeys.* You travelled across the sea,* coming to proclaim His grace in America and Canada,* speaking to peoples in many languages.* Always pray to Christ our God for us!

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

O holy hierarch Arseny* you were revealed as an imitator of St. John Chrysostom,* for God poured His grace upon your lips.* Tirelessly You proclaimed the Word of His Truth,* declaring the fullness of the Orthodox Faith,* and teaching His Church from the Scriptures.* Always pray to Christ our God for us!

Verse: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

¹ Psalm 78:72.

O holy hierarch Arseny* you were revealed as an imitator of your Lord,* for you endured the lies of men and their evil violence,* and like your Lord you were vindicated by God.* Now you stand before His Presence in heaven,* clothed in His glorious splendour,* always praying to Christ our God for us!

Glory...

The Holy Trinity gave you as an example to the Church* of how men should persevere in fulfilling their holy tasks,* for neither slander nor assault could deflect you from your apostolic work.* You proclaimed to all people the goodness of God,* strengthening the faithful in North America,* and finally receiving your great reward.* Now you pray to Christ our God for us!

Now and ever...

Theotokion

Hymns for Matins

"God is the Lord" (Tone 8)

Tropar for St. Arseny (Tone 8)

Blessed are You, O Christ our God,* who have revealed Your shepherd Arseny as a preacher of truth in Your North American lands!* Thrice You brought him across the sea to shine in the New World the light of learning and monastic holiness!* Through him You have raised up a host of priests and monks!* O Lover of Man, glory to You!

Kathisma Hymns (Tone 3)

O Blessed Father Arseny,* as a good shepherd, you guided your flock to the green pastures of Christ.* You drove away the spiritual wolves, and made Christ's sheep lay down in safety by the waters of rest.* You provided them with a rich banquet of His teaching.* Now you stand before the throne of the Great Chief-Shepherd;* Intercede with Him for the salvation of our souls!

O Blessed Father Arseny,* you drank deeply from the well of the Divine Scriptures.* Christ fed you with His hidden manna,¹* and nourished your spirit with His words.* Now that you have become strong through the Word of God,²* mightily intercede with Christ for the salvation of our souls!

Polyeleion

Magnification

We magnify you, O Blessed Father Arseny,
And we honour your holy memory,
For you laboured mightily to bring the Word of God to a multitude of people,
And even now you pray to Christ our God for your flock.

¹ Revelation 2:17.

² 1 John 2:14.

Verse: Hear this, all nations; give ear, all inhabitants of the world!

Sessional Hymn (Tone 8)

O holy hierarch Arseny,* the miracle of Pentecost found a fulfillment in you.* For you were filled with fire of the Divine Spirit* and preached the Gospel to the ends of the earth.* You spoke in many tongues* to bring the peoples the saving Word of grace.* God revealed you as a preacher* like the apostles of old.* Now with them you stand before the throne of glory.* Do not cease to pray for the salvation of our souls!

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

Precious in the sight of the Lord/ is the death of His saints!

Verse: What shall I render to the Lord, for all His bounties to me?

Gospel: John 10:9-16

Canon (Tone 6)

Ode 1 Irmos: When Israel passed on foot over the sea as if it were dry land, and beheld their pursuer Pharaoh drowning in the sea, they cried aloud unto God, "Let us sing a song of victory!"

Refrain: O Blessed Father Arseny, pray to God for us!

In your youth, O blessed one, you cared tenderly for your father's flock of sheep. Through these labours, God taught you the ways of a true shepherd, calling you in the fullness of time to care for the flock of your Heavenly Father. Now that you are glorified, you still care for the flock of God. Holy Arseny, pray for the salvation of our souls!

In your youth, O blessed one, you were orphaned by your father, and left with the care of his five younger children. Through these labours, God taught you the ways of a father, and through His grace you protected those entrusted to you. Now that you are glorified, you still care for your spiritual brothers and children. Holy Arseny, pray for the salvation of our souls!

In your youth, O blessed one, you took a bride, and lived with her in love until God took her from you. Through these labours, God taught you the ways of a bridegroom. Now that you are glorified, you still care for the Church, the Bride of Christ. Holy Arseny, pray for the salvation of our souls!

Ode 3 Irmos: There is none so holy as You, O Lord my God, who has exalted the power of Your faithful, O Blessed One, and have established us upon the rock of Your confession.

God has exalted you, O Blessed Father Arseny, rewarding the humility of your monastic labours by giving you power to rise above grief and sorrows and find your consolation in Him. Now that He has exalted you, do not cease to pray for us!

God has exalted you, O Blessed Father Arseny, raising you above your monastic brothers to the dignity of an Abbot in the Kuriansk Monastery. Now that He has exalted you, do not cease to pray for us!

God has exalted you, O Blessed Father Arseny, calling you to leave your native fatherland and be transported to the New World to labour there as a preacher. Now that He has exalted you, do not cease to pray for us!

Ode 4 Irmos: "Christ is my power, my Lord and my God", the venerable Church sings, honouring God, with a pure understanding, feasting in the Lord.

Coming to America, O Blessed Father Arseny, you worked with “the believers in Troy, Mayfield, and Simpson”, establishing them as “the stamp of your apostolate,”¹ honouring God. Pray for us, that we also may sing worthily to the Lord!

Coming to America, O Blessed Father Arseny, you worked with St. Alexis Toth, bringing back many souls to the fullness of Orthodoxy, honouring God. Pray for us, that we also may sing worthily to the Lord!

Coming to America, O Blessed Father Arseny, you worked with St. Raphael, founding St. Tikhon’s Monastery and Orphan’s Home, that many voices might glorify the Lord, honouring God. Pray for us, that we also may sing worthily to the Lord!

Ode 5 Irmos: Illumine with Your divine light, O Good One, the souls of those who keep vigil in love, so that they may know You, O Word of God, as the true God who recalls them from the darkness of sin!

Coming to Canada, O Preacher of God, you served in Winnipeg, and brought the warmth of God’s love to the cold Canadian prairies. Holy Arseny, illumine us with the divine light of Christ!

Coming to Canada, O Preacher of God, you strove among Ukrainians, Bukovinians and Galicians, reconciling an entire parish to Orthodoxy in Edmonton, and leading all back to the true God who recalls us all from the darkness of sin. Holy Arseny, illumine us with the divine light of Christ!

Coming to Canada, O Preacher of God, you tirelessly laboured in “the depths of virgin forests, through the limitless wide prairies,”² that all might know the fullness of the Word of God. Holy Arseny, illumine us with the divine light of Christ!

¹ St Arseny's own description of his labours.

² St Arseny's own description of his labours.

Ode 6 Irmos: Beholding the sea of life surging with the storm of temptations, and taking refuge in Your calm haven, I cry unto You, "Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly-merciful One!"

Returning to Russia, you trained other priests to fulfill their calling as missionaries, preparing them to preach the Word of God during a time of temptations. Holy Arseny, through your prayers, bring us to the calm haven of God!

Returning to Russia, you worked with the White Armies during times of war and storm, comforting the soldiers as a good shepherd, thinking nothing of your own safety. Holy Arseny, through your prayers, bring us to the calm haven of God!

Returning to Russia, you served as a "missionary preacher,"¹ fulfilling God's plan there before being sent by Him to Serbia. Holy Arseny, through your prayers, bring us to the calm haven of God!

Kontakion (Tone 8)

O holy Father Arseny, beacon of light in America and Canada!* Like Chrysostom of old you endured the slanders of men and suffered for the truth!* Through your unquenchable zeal you nourished your flock and restored many to the Orthodox Faith!* Evermore be our shepherd and pray to Christ our God that our souls may be saved!

Ikos

O holy Father Arseny, in all your many labours on earth, like your Lord you endured suffering and distress, even being prepared "to give your life for your brothers."² Through all the storms you endured, God raised up your life, preserving you to do His will as a missionary and as our advocate before

¹ St Arseny's self-description.

² St Arseny's self-description.

God. Evermore be our shepherd and pray to Christ our God that our souls may be saved!

Ode 7 Irmos: An angel made the furnace cool with dew for the godly youths, and God's command to burn Chaldeans made the tyrant cry, "Blessed are You, O God of our fathers!"

O almighty Saviour, in Your boundless love for Your North American flock, You did not leave us fatherless, but sent Your servant, St. Arseny, to return once again to be our shepherd and Bishop. Blessed are You, O God of our fathers!

O compassionate Master, out of Your boundless might, You came to the aid of Your weakened flock when it was distressed by heresies and schisms, for You sent Your servant, St. Arseny, to defend us from spiritual wolves and keep us in the safety of unity. Blessed are You, O God of our fathers!

O merciful King, in Your love for mankind, You to called all to the fullness of Orthodoxy, for You sent Your servant, St. Arseny, to speak with all who confessed the Name of Christ in our land, that all might unite in Your truth. Blessed are You, O God of our fathers!

Ode 8 Irmos: You made dew flow from the flame for the godly youths, and the sacrifice of a righteous man You consumed with water! You make all things, O Christ, as You desire! We exalt You throughout all ages!

O holy hierarch Arseny, in a babble of many discordant voices, you sounded the truth of Christ, and so won the reward of the righteous: the enemies of truth tried to kill you as you stood before the altar of God. Now you stand before God's heavenly altar as our friend and advocate. For this we exalt Christ throughout all ages!

O holy hierarch Arseny, the men who loved darkness rather than light¹ could not endure your words, since you shone the light of Christ upon all. Thus you were persecuted, as were the prophets before you,² and now you stand before God's heavenly altar with a prophet's reward. For this we exalt Christ throughout all ages!

O holy hierarch Arseny, in the year your son Dionysii became a hieromartyr in Kharkov, you proved yourself to be an imitator of your Lord, for godless man came to attack you with wooden clubs and with threats of violence, even as the Lord's enemies came to take Him.³ Sharing the sufferings of Your heavenly Lord, you stand before His throne in heaven, sharing His glory. For this we exalt Christ throughout all ages!

Ode 9 Irmos: It is not possible for men to see God, upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze. But through you, O all-pure one, was the Word Incarnate revealed unto men, whom magnifying, together with the heavenly hosts, we call you blessed.

We magnify You, O Incarnate Word, for Your holy servant Arseny, for even in his retirement he continued to work for Your people, founding a Pastoral School to raise up many priests for Your glory. Through his prayers, O Lord, save our souls!

We magnify You, O Incarnate Word, for Your holy servant Arseny, for even until his end, he pastured Your holy flock, blessing altars and strengthening the faithful. Through his prayers, O Lord, save our souls!

We magnify You, O Incarnate Word, for Your holy servant Arseny, for throughout his holy life he proclaimed the glory of Your Name in all the world. Through his prayers, O Lord, save our souls!

¹ John 3:19.

² Matthew 5:12.

³ Matthew 26:47.

Expostilarion

From the east, like the rising sun, Your holy servant Arseny came to the furthest reaches of the west, to illumine Your children who sat in the darkness of sin, shining on them with the light of Your truth, preaching to all men the radiant glory of Christ our God.

The Praises (Tone 6)

...Praise Him with trumpet sound! Praise Him with psalms and harp!

Let us praise the Lord for Arseny,* foremost of God's Preachers,* and Trumpet of the truth!* Through the trumpet call of his teaching,* the faithful prepare themselves for spiritual battle¹* and are strengthened to stand firm in the evil day of temptation.²

Praise Him with timbrel and dance! Praise Him with strings and pipe!

Let us praise God for Arseny,* whose preaching of God's goodness turns our mourning into dancing,* and girds us with gladness in the Lord.³* His joy in adversity teaches us to rejoice in all things,* putting our trust in Christ our God.

*Praise Him with sounding cymbals! Praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let every breath praise the Lord!*

Let us praise the Saviour for Arseny,* whose eloquence and faith leads us the rejoice in Lord,* so that every breath praises Him.* His tireless proclamation of God's love for all men* leads all to rejoice without ceasing,⁴* giving thanks for the gift of His Son.

¹ 1 Corinthians 14:8.

² Ephesians 6:13.

³ Psalm 30:11.

⁴ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Let us praise the Holy Trinity for Arseny,* thrice-blessed herald of the glory of God.* The God who sent His Son to save us,* and His Spirit to bring us to the Son* also gave us His saints to bring us His Gospel.* Foremost among them is Arseny,* Bishop and Preacher and Spirit-filled Vessel of the Lord*, an image of the all-holy Trinity,* and our advocate before the throne.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most-blessed Theotokos,* pray for us your children who take refuge in you,* for we trust in your ceaseless and fervent intercession.

Hymns for the Divine Liturgy

Kontakion for St. Arseny (Tone 8)

O holy Father Arseny, beacon of light in America and Canada!* Like Chrysostom of old you endured the slanders of men and suffered for the truth!* Through your unquenchable zeal you nourished your flock and restored many to the Orthodox Faith!* Evermore be our shepherd and pray to Christ our God that our souls may be saved!

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

My mouth shall speak wisdom,
and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Verse: Hear this, all nations; give ear, all inhabitants of the world!

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Alleluia (Tone 6)

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments.

His descendants shall be mighty on the earth.

Gospel: John 10:1-9

Communion Verse: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear evil tidings.

These services have been composed by Reverend Father Lawrence Farley of the St Herman of Alaska Church in Surrey, BC, with the blessing of His Grace the Right Reverend Seraphim, Bishop of Ottawa and All Canada