

Paraklitiki and Octo-Echos

Paraklitiki is the book of consolation. This book is divided into eight sections corresponding to the eight tones. Each cycle is for an entire week and is chanted in the specific tone for that week and called by the tone of that week. These cycles start with Sundays and repeat for the whole year. They start with the Sunday of Thomas and go on repeating until the following Easter. Each section or tone contains the parts of the Divine Office for one full week. The Octo-Echos is a book containing the Sunday parts of the Paraklitiki.

As an example, the Sunday of Thomas and the week of Thomas are all tone 1, the Sunday of the Ointment-Bearing Women and its week are tone 2, etc...

A word of caution: The Troparions and Kontakions are sometimes mistakenly called tones. This is probably the result of using the Resurrection Troparions as an educational tool to learn the tones. They are not tones, they are Troparions or Kontakions sung in a specific tone.