Protection of the Theotokos

OCTOBER 1

1. Sure defense of all who sorrow, O pure Mother of our God,
2. Strong protectoress of God's people, Depth of mercy, Font of grace,
3. Awesome beauty, true fulfillment of the things the prophets told,

Ready help to those in trouble, be for us both staff and pod.
Through your womb has been born for us Christ, the Savior of our race.
Joy of martyrs, pride of virgins, o'er us now your mantle hold!

Mary, full of grace, be joyful! for with you is God, our Lord,
And through you grants his great mercy to the world with grace out-poured.

Text: J. Michael Thompson, based on the Vespers stichera for October 1
Melody: Mother of God (JMT)