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# THE RAISING OF INCENSE

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter uncovers his head, stands at the door of the sanctuary, and says,

Have mercy on us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator. All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, God of hosts, be with us, for we have no helper in our tribulations and afflictions, but You.

PEOPLE:

Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this deay our daily bread[[1]](#footnote-1), and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the Evil One; in Christ Jesus our Lord. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

PRESBYTER:

Prostrating before the sanctuary door, he says,

We worship You, O Christ, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You have [come / been born / been baptized / been crucified / risen] and saved us.

Prostrating before his fellow presbyters and the deacons, he says,

Bless me. Lo, the repentance. Forgive me.

PRESBYTER:

He greets his fellow presbyters by touching their hands, then returns and stands before the sanctuary door with contrition while spreading his hands. The deacon stands behind him and to his right with the cross in his hand.

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Bowing his head towards the fellow presbyters, he turns to the west, and makes the sign of the cross over the people with his right and, saying,

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRESBYTER:

Let us give thanks to the beneficent and merciful God, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. For He has covered us, helped us, guarded us, accepted us to Himself, spared us, supported us, and has brought us to this hour.

Let us also ask Him, the Lord our God, the Pantocrator, to guard us in all peace this holy day and all the days of our life.

DEACON:

Let us pray.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, we thank You for everything, concerning everything, and in everything. For You have covered us, helped us, guarded us, accepted us to Yourself, spared us, supported us, and hast brought us to this hour.

DEACON:

Pray that God may have mercy and compassion on us, hear us, help us, and accept the supplications and prayers of His saints, for that which is good, on our behalf, at all times; and make us worthy to partake of the communion of His holy and blessed Mysteries, for the remission of our sins.

In the presence of a hierarch, add: And keep the life and standing of our honored father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_;

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Therefore, we ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, grant us to complete this holy day and all the days of our life, in all peace with Your fear.

All envy, all temptation, all the work of Satan, the counsel of wicked men and the rising up of enemies, hidden and manifest, (signing himself) take them away from us, (signing the people) and from all Your people, and from this church, (signing the altar) and from this Your holy place.

But those things which are good and profitable do provide for us, for it is You Who have given us the authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and upon all the power of the enemy.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, by the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The priest offers incense while the people sing,

## THE VERSES OF THE CYMBALS

On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, start by:

|  |
| --- |
| Oh come, let us worship  the Holy Trinity  —the Father and the Son  and the Holy Spirit— |
| We are the  Christian people  —for He is our  True God. |
| We put hope  in Saint Mary,  that God will have mercy upon us  through her intercessions. |

On all other days, start by:

|  |
| --- |
| We worship the Father  And the Son  and the Holy Spirit,  the Holy Trinity, one in essence. |
| Hail to the Church,  the house of the angels.  Hail to the Virgin,  who gave birth to our Savior. |

Then continue by:

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to you, O Mary,  the fair dove,  who has borne for us  God the Logos. |
| Hail to you, O Mary,  with a holy hail.  Hail to you, O Mary,  the Mother of the Holy One. |
| Hail to Michael,  the great archangel.  Hail to Gabriel  Chosen to bear glad tidings. |
| Hail to the Cherubim.  Hail to the Seraphim.  Hail to all  the heavenly orders. |
| Hail to John,  the great fore‑runner.  Hail to the priest,  the kinsman of Immanuel. |
| Hail to my lords and fathers,  the Apostles.  Hail to the Dis­ciples  of our Lord Jesus Christ. |
| Hail to you, O martyr;  hail to the Evangelist.  Hail to the Apostle, Mark,  the Beholder of God. |
| Hail to Stephen,  the First Martyr.  Hail to the  blessed archdeacon. |
| Hail to you, O martyr.  Hail to the noble hero.  Hail to the prize-bearer,  George, my lord and prince. |
| Hail… Philopater Mercurius.  Hail… the saint, Abba Mina. |
| The wise virgin maiden,  the elect true lady,  the bride of Christ,  Saint \_\_\_. |
| Hail to our father Antony,  the Lamp of Monasticism.  Hail to our father Abba Paul,  the beloved of Christ. |
| Hail to my lords and fathers  who love their children,  Abba Pishoy and Abba Paul,  the beloved of Christ. |
| Blessed are you, in truth,  our saintly and righteous father,  Abba \_\_\_,  the beloved of Christ. |
| Hail to our holy father  the patriarch.  Hail to Athanasius the Apostolic,  the beloved of Christ. |
| Through the intercessions  of the Theotokos, Saint Mary,  O Lord, grant us  the forgiveness of our sins. |
| That we may praise You,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You [have come] and saved us. (Have mercy on us.) |

PRESBYTER:

Going up to the altar, he takes the incense box into his hand, and including his head towards his fellow presbyter(s), he says,

Bless.

CONCELEBRANT

May you bless.

PRESBYTER:

Turning to the altar and putting the incense box in its play, he lays his finger on it, saying,

*Signing it,* In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, on God. *He puts the first spoonful of incense into the censer, saying,* Blessed be God the Father, the Pantocrator. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Making the sign of the cross again, he puts a second spoonful of incense into the censer, saying,

Blessed be His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Each fellow presbyter puts in a spoonful of incense a second time. Then, making the sign of the cross, the celebrant puts a third spoonful of incense into the censer, saying,

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. (Amen.)

DEACON:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Putting two spoonfuls of incense into the censer, without making the sign of the cross, he says,

Glory and honor, honor and glory to the All-Holy Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

In the Evening only, he continues,

O Christ our God, the great, awesome, and true, the only-begotten Son and Logos of God the Father, ointment poured forth is Your holy Name, and in every place incense is offered to Your holy Name, and a pure sacrifice.

DEACON:

Pray for our sacrifice and those who have brought it.

PRESBYTER:

We ask You, O our Master, receive our prayers to Yourself. Let our prayers be set forth before You as incense, the lifting up of our hands the evening sacrifice. For You are the true evening sacrifice, Who has offered Yourself upon the honored Cross for our sins according to the will of Your good Father, with Whom You are blessed with the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

In the Morning, this is said instead:

O God, Who received to Yourself the offerings of the righteous Abel, the sacrifice of Noah and Abraham, and the incense of Aaron and Zachariah—

DEACON:

Pray for our sacrifice and those who have brought it.

PREBYTER:

receive to Yourself this incense at the hands of us sinners, as a sweet savor of incense unto the remission of our sins and with the rest of Your people. For blessed and full of glory is Your holy Name, O Father and Son and Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Censing the altar while standing facing the East, he begins to encircle the altar the first time, saying,

We ask You, O our Master, remember, O Lord, the peace of Your one, only, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church—

DEACON:

Pray for the peace of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Orthodox Church of God.

PRESBYTER:

Kissing the altar, he proceeds to the south side, saying,

this which exists from one end of the world to the other.

Proceeding to the east side of the altar, he continues censing, saying,

Remember, O Lord, our honored patriarch and father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, *if a hierarch is present* and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the [bishop / metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_.

DEACON:

Pray for our high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_, pope and patriarch and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria, and his brethren in the apostolic liturgy: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, *if a hierarch is present*: and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, *concluding:* and for our orthodox bishops.

PRESBYTER:

Keep them secure for us for many years and peaceful times.

Proceeding to the west side, censing, as he begins to encircle a second time, he says,

Remember, O Lord, our assembles; bless them.

DEACON:

Pray for this holy church and for our assemblies.

PRESBYTER:

Grant that they may be to us without obstacles or hindrance, that we may hold them according to Your holy and blessed will: *proceeding to the East side, censing, he continues:* houses of prayer, houses of purity, houses of blessing. Grant them to us, O Lord, and to Your servants who will come after us, forever. *Proceeding to the west side, censing, he beings encircling a third time, saying,* Arise, O Lord God, let all Your enemies be scattered, and let all who hate Your holy Name fell before Your face. *Proceeding to the East, censing, he continues,* But let Your peo0ple be in blessing, thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousands, doing Your will. *Proceeding to the west, he censes, saying,* Through the grace, compassion, and love-of-mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Offering incense before the sanctuary three times towards the East, bowing, he says,

We worship You, O Christ, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You have [come] and saved us. *A second time:* But as for me, in the abundance of Your mercy, I will enter into Your house; I will bow down in worship towards Your holy temple. *The third time:* Before the angels, I will sing praises to You and worship towards Your holy temple. *Censing towards to North, he says for the Virgin:* We send you greetings with Gabriel the angel, saying, “Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you.”

PRESBYTER:

When the people finish the Verses of the Cymbals,

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE DEPARTED

In the Evening, and on Saturday Mornings, the Prayer for the Departed is said.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE SICK

The prayer for the sick is said during the Morning Offering of Incense except on Saturdays (when the Prayer for the Departed is said instead).

PRESBYTER:

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, the sick among Your people.

DEACON:

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are sick with any sickness, whether in this place or in any place, that Christ our God may grant us, with them, health and healing, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

You have visited them with mercies and compassion, heal them. Take away from them and from us every sickness and every malady; the spirit of sicknesses, chase away.

Those who have long lain in maladies, raise up and comfort. Those who are afflicted by unclean spirits, set them all free.

Those who are in prisons or dungeons, those who are in exile or captivity, or those who are held in bitter bondage, O Lord, set them all free and have mercy upon them.

For You are He Who looses the bound and lifts up the fallen; the hope of those who have no hope and the help of those who have no helper; the comfort of the fainthearted; the harbor of those in the storm.

All souls that are distressed or bound, give them mercy, O Lord; grant them rest, grant them refreshment, grant them grace, grant them help, grant them salvation, grant them the forgiveness of their sins and their iniquities.

As for us too, O Lord, the sicknesses of our souls heal; and those of our bodies, cure. O You, the True Physician of our souls and bodies, the Bishop of all flesh, visit us with Your salvation.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE OBLATIONS

(On days other than Sundays or feast days, the Prayer for the Travelers, on page 11, is said instead of this.)

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, the sacrifices, the oblations and the thanksgivings of those who have offered unto the honour and glory of Your Holy Name.

DEACON:

Pray for those who have care for the sacrifices, oblations, first fruits, oil, incense, coverings, reading books and altar vessels, that Christ our God reward them in the heavenly Jerusalem, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Receive them upon Your holy, rational, altar of heaven, for a savor of incense before Your Greatness in the heavens, through the service of Your holy angels and archangels.

As You have received the offerings of the righteous Abel, the sacrifice of our father Abraham and the two mites of the widow, so also receive the thank offerings of Your servants; those in abundance or those in scarcity, hidden or manifest.

Those who desire to offer to You but have none, and those who have offered these gifts to You this very day, give them the incorruptible instead of the corruptible, the heavenly instead of the earthly and the eternal instead of the temporal.

Their houses and their stores, fill them with every good thing. Surround them, O Lord, by the power of Your holy angels and archangels.

As they have remembered Your Holy Name on earth, remember them also, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and in this age too, leave them not behind.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with Thee, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The service continues with the Gloria, on page 13.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE TRAVELLERS

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Thy Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, our fathers and our brethren who are travelling.

DEACON:

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are travelling, or those who intend to travel anywhere. Straighten all their ways, whether by sea, rivers, lakes, roads, or those who are travelling by any other means, that Christ our God may bring them back to their own homes in peace, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Or those who intend to travel anywhere. Straighten all their ways, whether by sea, rivers, lakes, roads, or those who are travelling by any other means, everyone anywhere. Lead them into a haven of calm, a haven of safety.

Graciously accompany them in their embarkation and be their companion in their travel. Bring them back to their own, rejoicing with joy and safe in security.

Be a partner in work with Thy servants in every good deed. As for us, O Lord, our sojourn in this life keep without harm, without storm and undisturbed unto the end.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him, and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The priest offers incense while the congregation recites the following prayers:

## THE VOUCHSAFE

In the evening:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. You are blessed, O Lord, God of our fathers, and Your Holy Name is greatly blessed and full of glory forever. Amen.

Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope in You. For the eyes of everyone wait upon You, for You give them their food in due season.

Hearken to us, O God, our Redeemer, the hope of all the regions of the earth. And You, O Lord, will keep us, deliver us, and save us from this generation and forever. Amen.

You are blessed, O Lord; teach me Your statutes. You are blessed, O Lord; make me to understand Your command­ments. You are blessed, O Lord; enlighten me with Your precepts.

Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever. O despise not the works of Your hands.

Lord, You have been our refuge in all generations. I said, “Be merciful to me, heal my soul; for I have sinned against You.”

Lord, I have fled to You; Deliver me and teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. With You is the Fountain of Life. In Your Light shall we see Light. Let Your mercy come to those who know You, and Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

Blessing belongs to You, praise belongs to You praise, glory belongs to You, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now, and forever and ever. Amen.

It is a good thing to confess to the Lord, and to sing praises unto Your Name, O Most High; to show forth Your loving‑kindness in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

## THE GLORIA

In the morning:

Let us praise with the angels, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth and goodwill toward men." We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we serve Thee, we worship Thee, we confess to Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great Glory, O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father, the Pantocrator; O Lord, the Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takes away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou Who sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art Holy; Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, to the Glory of God the Father. Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever; yea, forever and ever. Amen.

From the night season my soul awakes early unto Thee, O my God, for Thy precepts are a light upon the earth. I continually pursue Thy ways for Thou hast become a help unto me. My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning. Early will I stand before Thee, and Thou shalt see me.

## THE TRISAGION

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, Who was born of the Virgin, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, Who was crucified for us, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, Who rose from the dead and ascended into the heavens, have mercy on us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, remit our sins. O Lord, pardon our iniquities. O Lord, forgive us our trespasses.

O Lord, visit the sick of Thy people, heal them for the sake of Thine Holy Name. Our fathers and our brethren who have fallen asleep, O Lord, repose their souls.

O Thou Who art sinless, Lord have mercy on us. O Thou Who art sinless, Lord help us and receive our supplications. For Thine is the glory, the dominion, and the triple holiness. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.

Our Father…

## HAIL TO YOU

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Hail to you! We ask you,  O saint, fully of glory,  The ever-virgin Mother of God,  The Mother of Christ, |  |
| ¿ | Offer our prayers  To your beloved Son,  That He may forgive us ours sins. |  |
|  | Hail to the holy Virgin,  Who has brought forth  To us the True Light,  Christ our God. |  |
| ¿ | Ask the Lord on our behalf,  That He may have mercy on our souls  And forgive our sins. |  |
|  | O Virgin Mary,  The holy Theotokos,  The faithful advocate  for all mankind, |  |
| ¿ | Intercede on our behalf  Before Christ,  Whom you bore,  That He may forgive us our sins. |  |

## THE INTRODUCTION TO THE DOXOLOGIES

Then the people sing:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Hail to you, O Virgin  The true[[2]](#footnote-2) Queen.  Hail to the pride of our race,  Who has born to us Emmanuel. | | ¿ | We ask you, remember us,  O our faithful advocate,  Before our Lord Jesus Christ,  That He may forgive us our sins. | |

## THE DOXOLOGIES

The appropriate seasonal doxology is sung first, followed by:

### THE EVENING DOXOLOGY FOR THE VIRGIN

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The adornment of Mary,  In the highest heaven,  At the right hand of her Beloved,  Asking Him on our behalf. |
| ¿ | As David has said,  In the book of the Psalms,  “The Queen did stand  At Your right hand, O King.” |
|  | Solomon has called her,  In the Song of Songs,  “My sister and my spouse,  My true city Jerusalem.” |
| ¿ | For he has given a type of her  In diverse high names,  Saying, “come out of your garden,  O choicest aroma.” |
|  | Hail to you, O Virgin,  The true[[3]](#footnote-3) Queen.  Hail to the pride of our race,  Who bore to us Emmanuel. |
| ¿ | We ask you, remember us,  O our faithful advocate,  Before our Lord Jesus Christ,  That He may forgive us our sins. |

### THE MORNING DOXOLOGY FOR THE VIRGIN

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Blessed are you, O Mary,  The prudent and the chaste,  The second Tabernacle,  The spiritual treasure. |
| ¿ | The pure turtle dove,  Who declared in our land,  And brought to us  The Fruit of the Spirit— |
|  | The Spirit of Comfort,  Which came upon your Son,  In the waters of the Jordan,  As in the type of Noah. |
| ¿ | For Noah’s dove has proclaimed  Good New to us—  The peace of God  Towards mankind. |
|  | Likewise you—our hope,  The rational turtle dove—  Have brought Mercy to us,  Carrying Him in your womb. |
| ¿ | That is, Jesus our Lord,  The Only-Begotten of the Father,  Was born of you to us,  And set free our race. |
|  | Let us all declare  With all our hearts,  Then with our tongues as well,  Proclaiming and saying, |
| ¿ | “O our Lord Jesus Christ,  Make Your sanctuary in us,  A temple of Your Holy Spirit,  Every glorifying You.” |
|  | Hail to you, O Virgin,  The true[[4]](#footnote-4) Queen.  Hail to the price of our race,  Who bore to us Emmanual. |
| ¿ | We ask you, remember us,  O our faithful advocate,  Before our Lord Jesus Christ,  That He may forgive us our sins. |

## THE ENDING OF THE DOXOLOGIES

The Doxologies of the saints of the day and of the Church are added, followed by:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Be our advocate,  From on high where you dwell,  O Lady of us all, the Theotokos,  The ever-virgin Mary. |
| ¿ | Ask of Him Whom you have borne,  Our Good Saviour,  To take away our afflictions  And accord to us His peace. |
|  | Hail to you, O Virgin,  The true[[5]](#footnote-5) Queen.  Hail to the price of our race,  Who bore to us Emmanual. |
| ¿ | We ask you, remember us,  O our faithful advocate,  Before our Lord Jesus Christ,  That He may forgive us our sins. |

Meanwhile, from “Graciously accord,” or “Let us praise with the angels,” until the Creed, the presbyter, putting his right foot first, goes up to the Sanctuary, kisses the altar, signs the incense box once, saying, “Glory and honour, honour and glory…” Then he places a spoonful of incense in the censer and offers incense over the altar three times towards the east saying first, “We worship You, O Christ, with Your good Father, and the Holy Spirit, for you have come and saved us. Have mercy on us.” And a second time, “But as for me, in the abundance of Your mercy, I will enter into Your house; I will bow down in worship towards Your holy temple.” And finally, “I will praise You before the angels, and bow down in worship towards Your holy temple.”

The presbyter then circles the altar once, offering incense, then descends and stands before the Sanctuary door and offers incense towards the East three times, repeating the previous, then censes towards the North, saying, “We give you salutation, with Gabriel the angel, ‘Rejoice O full of grace, the Lord is with you.” He then censes towards the west, saying, “Hail to the choir of the angels, to my lords and fathers, the Apostles, and to the choir of the martyrs and the holy.” He censes towards the south, saying, “Hail to John, the son of Zacheriah. Hail to the priest, the son of the priest.” He censes towards the East, saying, “Let us worship our Saviour, the Good Lover of mankind, for He had compassion on us. He came and saved us.”

If a bishop is present, the presbyter censes him three times, saying first, “May the Lord preserve and confirm the life of our honoured father, the high priest, Abba \_\_\_\_.” Or, “May the Lord preserve and confirm the life of our honoured father, the {bishop/metropolitan}, Abba \_\_\_\_” And a second time, “Keep him safe for us for many years and peaceful times,” and finally, “May He subdue all his enemies under his feet speedily.” The presbyter then kisses his cross, saying, “Pray to Christ on our behalf, that He may forgive us our sins.”

He then censes the protopresbyter twice, saying first, “I ask you, my father the protopresbyter, to remember me in your prayers,” and then, “that Chris tour God may forgive me my many sins.” He then censes each presbyter once, saying, “I ask you, my father the presbyter, to remember me in your prayers.” Each protopresbyter and presbyter responds, saying, “May the Lord preserve your priesthood, as He did Melchizedek, Aaron, Zachariah, and Simeon, the priests of the Most High God. Amen.” During the Liturgy, they would respond, “May the Lord accept your sacrifice, as He did Melchizedek’s.”

The presbyter then censes the entire congregation, beginning with the men on the North side of the Sanctuary door, then the women to the South, saying “The blessing of the {evening/morning} incense, may its holy blessing be with us. Amen.”

He then leaves the choir, entering the Nave, saying, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever, in one hypostasis, we worship Him and glorify Him.”

He censes towards the East, saying, “This is He Who has offered Himself as an acceptable sacrifice upon the Cross for the salvation of our race.” Then towards the North, saying, “His good Father smelled Him in the evening on Golgotha.” Then towards the West, saying, “He opened the gate of Paradise and restored Adam once more to his dominion.” Finally, towards the South, saying, “Through His Cross and holy Resurrection, he restored mankind once more to Paradise.”

The presbyter then ascends to the Sanctuary and censes over the altar, for the whole people’s confession during the evening incense, morning incense, and Pauline procession of incense, and says the following Prayer of Repentance. During the Praxis procession, however, he remains outside the Sanctuary door, “O God, who, while on the honoured Cross, accepted the confession of the thief, accept to Yourself the confession of Your people and forgive them all their sins, for the sake of Your Holy Name which is called upon us; according to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.” He then encircles the altar once and kisses it, then descending, he stands before the Sanctuary door. He offers incense three times, then towards the north, west, south, and east, as before. He then censes the fellow presbyters and deacons as before, but if there is a bishop present, he censes him alone. He then censes the people, and gives the censer to the deacon to hang. He then stands next to the altar facing west until the doxologies are completed, and for the Creed.

The congregation now recites:

## THE INTRODUCITON TO THE CREED

We exalt you, the Mother of the True Light. We glorify you, O saint and Mother of God, for you brought forth unto us the Saviour of the whole world—He came and saved our souls.

Glory to You, our Master, our King, Christ—the pride of the Apostles, the crown of the martyrs, the joy of the righteous, the firmness of the churches, the forgiveness of sins.

We proclaim the Holy Trinity in One Godhead. We worship Him. We glorify Him. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord bless. Amen.

## THE ORTHODOX CREED

We believe in One God: God the Father, the Pantocrator, Who created heaven and earth, and all things seen and unseen.

We believe in One Lord: Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; True God of True God; begotten, not created; of One Essence with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit, and of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose from the dead, according to the Scriptures. Ascended into the heavens, He sits at the right hand of His Father; and He is coming again in His glory, to judge the living and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit: the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who, with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

And in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, we confess One Baptism, for the remission of sins.

The last article of the Creed is sung in its characteristic tune:

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the coming age. Amen.

## GOD HAVE MERCY UPON US

The priest, holding the cross with three lit tapers in his right hand, chants the following[[6]](#footnote-6):

PRESBYTER:

God, have mercy upon us,

Settle Your mercy upon us,

Have compassion upon us,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Hear us,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Bless us,

Guard us,

Help us,

PEOPEL:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Take Your anger away from us,

Visit us with Your salvation,

And forgive us our sins.

PREOPLE:

Amen. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Then the presbyter, taking the censer, stands before the door of the sanctuary and says:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE GOSPEL

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, Who said to His saintly, honored Disciples and holy Apostles, “Many prophets and righteous men have desired to see the things which you see, and have not seen them, and to hear the things which you hear, and have not heard them. But as for you, blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear.”

May we be worthy to hear and to act [according to] You Holy Gospels, through the prayers of Your saints.

DEACON:

Pray for the Holy Gospel.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Remember also, O our Master, all those who have bidden us to remember them in our supplications and prayers which we offer up unto You, O Lord our God.

Those who have already fallen asleep, repose them. Those who are sick, heal them.

For You are the life of us all, the salvation of us all, the hope of us all, the healing of us all, and the resurrection of us all; and You are He unto whom we send up the glory, and the honour, and the worship, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

READER:

A psalm of David.

The psalm is chanted, concluded by “Alleluia.”

DEACON:

Let them exalt Him in the church of His people, and praise Him in the seat of the elders, for He has made the families like a flock of sheep, the upright shall see and rejoice. The Lord has sworn and will have no regret, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.” The Lord is at your right hand, our saintly father, the patriarch, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and our father the {bishop/metropolitan} Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_. May the Lord keep your life. Alleluia.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter turns towards the Gospel and offers incense to it while saying inaudibly:

Bow down before the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the prayers of the psalmist David the prophet, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.

The presbyter goes up to the sanctuary and makes the sign of the cross over the incense box and puts a spoonful of incense into the censer, saying, “Glor and honor..” to the end. The deacon goes up to the sanctuary with the Gospel, and the presbyter offers incense to it as they both go around the altar once counterclockwise while the presbyter says this Prayer of Simeon the Priest inaudibly:

Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Isreal.

After encircling the altar, the presbyter offers incense to the Gospel three times, while saying inaudibly:

Bow down before the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God; to Him be the glory forever.

The presbyter takes the Gospel from the deacon, turns to the west, and offers it to the other presbyters, while saying,

But as for you, blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear. May we be worthy to hear and to act according to Your Holy Gospels, through the prayers of Your saints.

The presbyters come forward to kiss the Gospel, saying, “Bow down before the Gospel…” to the end. Then the celebrant kisses the Gospel himself and offers the censer to the concelebrant or any non-serving presbyter to cense the Gospel. He approaches the lectern and reads the Gospel. However, if a hierarch is present, then one of the highest rank reads the Gospel at the sanctuary door facing west while the serving presbyter offers incense. After the psalm is chanted, the deacon, while still standing at the door of the sanctuary, says:

DEACON:

Stand in the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRESBYTER:

Blessed bis He Who comes in the Name of the Lord of hosts. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. \_\_\_\_\_\_.

READER:

\*Stand in the fear of God and listen to the Holy Gospel A reading from the Gospel according to our teach Saint \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Evangelist. May his blessing be with us all.

POEOPLE:

Glory to You, O Lord.

READER:

Our Lord, God, Savior, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

\*If the reader is a hierarchy, the deacon instead says:

DEACON:

Stand in the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel from the mouth of our honored and righteous father, the thrice blessed, our honored father

The shepherd of shepherds, the high priest of our high priests, the successor of Saint Mark the Apostle and Evangelist, the great among the patriarchs, the beloved of Christ. Our holy father, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, pope and patriarch of the great city of Alexandria and all the regions of Egypt.

Or The {bishop/metropolitan} Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Christ-loving city of \_\_\_\_\_ and its vicinity.

May the God of heaven confirm him on his throne for many years and peaceful times, humiliate all his enemies under his feet speedily, grant us grace and mercy through his prayers and supplications.

The Gospel according to our teacher Saint \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Evangelist. May his blessing be with us. Amen.

READER:

The Gospel is chanted and is concluded by:

Glory is due to our God to the age of ages. Amen.

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the presbyter censes it three times and says: “You are He to whom the praise is due from everyone with one voice, along with glory, honor, majesty, and worship, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.”

PEOPLE:

Glory to You, O Lord.

## THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

The congregation now sings the Gospel response appropriate to the season, or the following ordinary response:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Let us worship our Saviour,  The Good Lover of mankind,  For He had compassion on us:  He came and saved us. |
| ¿ | Intercede on our behalf,  O Lady of us all, the Theotokos,  Mary, the mother of our Saviour,  That He may forgive us our sins. |
|  | Blessed be the Father and the Son  And the Holy Spirit,  The perfect Trinity.  We worship Him and glorify Him. |

## THE FIVE SHORT PRAYERS

PRESBYTER:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

Presbyter:

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, the peace of Your One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Deacon:

Pray for the peace of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic, Orthodox Church of God.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Presbyter:

That which exists from one end of the world to the other.

Remember, O Lord, our patriarch, the honoured father, the high priest, Abba \_\_\_, and his partner in the liturgy, our father the {bishop/metropolitan}, Abba \_\_\_\_.

Deacon:

Pray for our high priest, Papa Abba \_\_\_—Pope and patriarch, and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria; and for his partner in the liturgy, our father the {bishop / metropolitan} Abba \_\_\_\_, and for our Orthodox bishops.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Presbyter:

In keeping keep them unto us for many years and peaceful times.

Remember, O Lord, the safety of this holy place, which is Your, and every place, and every monastery of our Orthodox fathers.

Deacon:

Pray for the safety of the world, and of this city of ours, and of all cities, districts, islands and monasteries.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Presbyter:

And every city, and every region, and the villages and all their ornaments. And save us all from famine, plagues, earthquakes, drowning, fire, the captivity of the Barbarians[[7]](#footnote-7), the sword of the stranger, and the rising up of heretics.

People:

Lord have mercy.

From the 12th of Paoni (19th of June) to the 9th of Paopi (19th/20th of October), the following prayer is said:

Presbyter:

Graciously, accord, O Lord: the waters of the river this year, bless them.

Deacon:

Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers this year, that Christ our God may bless them and raise them according to their measure; that He may give joy to the face of the earth, sustain us, the sons of men, save the beasts, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 10th of Paopi (20th/21st of October) to the 10th of Tobi (18th/19th of January), the following prayer is said instead:

Presbyter:

Graciously, accord, O Lord: the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, bless them.

Deacon:

Pray for the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, that Christ our God may bless them to grow and multiply unto perfection with great fruit, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 11th of Tobi (19th/20th of January) to the 11th of Paoni (18th of June), the following prayer is said instead:

Presbyter:

Graciously, accord, O Lord: the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth this year, bless them.

Deacon:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the trees, the vines, and for every fruit-bearing tree in all the world, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

People:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Then the priest continues:

Raise them to their measure according to Your Grace. Give joy to the face of the earth. May its furrows be abundantly watered and its fruits be plentiful. Prepare it for sowing and harvesting. Manage our lives as deemed fit.

Bless the crown of the year with Your Goodness, for the sake of the poor of Your people; the widow, the orphan, the stranger, the sojourner; and for the sake of us all who entreat You and seek Your Holy Name.

For the eyes of everyone wait upon You, for You give them their food in due season.

Deal with us according to Your Goodness, O You Who gives food to all flesh. Fill our hearts with joy and gladness; that we too, having sufficiency in every thing, always, may abound in every good deed.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Presbyter:

If a bishop is present, he says this,

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, our congregations[[8]](#footnote-8). Bless them.

Deacon:

Pray for this holy church and for our congregations.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Presbyter:

Grant that they may be unto us without obstacle or hindrance, that we may hold them according to Your holy and blessed will. Houses of prayer, houses of purity, houses of blessing: grant them unto us, O Lord, and Your servants who will come after us forever.

Utterly uproot the worship of idols from the world. Trample and humiliate Satan and his evil powers under our feet quickly.

Abolish all offences and their instigator. May all dissensions of corrupt heresies cease.

Humiliate the enemies of Your Holy Church, O Lord, now as at all times. Strip their vanity; show them their weakness quickly. Bring to nothing their envy, their intrigues, their madness, their wickedness, and their slander which they commit against us. O Lord, bring them all to no avail; disperse their counsel, O God, Who dispersed the counsel of Ahithophel.

People:

Lord have mercy.

Presbyter:

Arise, O Lord God. Let all Your enemies be scattered, and let all who hate Your Holy Name flee before Your face.

He turns to the West and censes the presbyters ,the deacons, and the people three times, saying,

But let Your people be in blessing; thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand doing Your will.

He turns to the East and censes three times, saying inaudibly, “by the grace, compassion, and love of mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ. Through whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due to You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and to the ages of all ages. Amen.”

People:

Our Father…

## THE ABSOLUTIONS

If a bishop is present, he says the absolutions. The presbyter, holding the cross in his right hand, looks eastward and says, inaudibly:

Yes, Lord, the Lord Who has given authority to us to tread upon serpents and scorpions and upon all the power of the enemy, crush his heads beneath our feet speedily, and scatter before us his every design of wickedness that is against us. For You are King of us all, O Christ, our God, and to You we send up the glory, and the honour, and the adoration, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Before You, O Lord.

The priest continues, inaudibly:

You, O Lord, Who bowed the heavens, You descended and became man for the salvation of the race of men. You are He Who sits upon the Cherubim and the Seraphim, and beholds them who are lowly. You also now, our Master, are He to Whom we lift up the eyes of our heart; the Lord Who forgives our iniquities and saves our souls from corruption. We worship Your unutterable compassion, and we ask You to give us Your peace, for You have given all things to us.

Acquire us to Yourself, God our Saviour, for we know none other save You; Your Holy Name we do utter. Turn us, God, unto fear of You and desire of You. Be pleased that we abide in the enjoyment of Your good things; and those who have bowed their heads beneath Your hand, exalt them in [their] ways of life, [and] adorn them with virtues. And may we all be worthy of Your Kingdom in the heavens, through the good will of God, Your Good Father, with Whom You are blessed, with the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Let us attend with the fear of God. (Amen.)

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

The priest now looks westwards, and, bowing his head, he says:

## THE ABSOLUTION TO THE SON

PRESBYTER:

Master, Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son and Logos of God the Father, Who has broken every bond of our sins through His saving, life giving sufferings; Who breathed into the face of His holy Disciples and saintly Apostles, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you will remit, they are remitted to them, and those which you will retain, they will be retained.”

You also now, our Master, through Your holy Apostles, have given grace to those who for a time laboured in the priesthood in Your Holy Church, to forgive sin upon the earth, and to bind and to loose every bond of iniquity.

Now, also, we ask and entreat Your Goodness, Lover of mankind, for Your servants, (signing the people once and twice) my fathers, and my brethren, (signing himself) and my weakness; those who bow their heads before Your Holy Glory. Dispense to us Your mercy, and loose every bond of our sins, and, if we have committed any sin against You, knowingly or unknowingly, or through anguish of heart, or in deed, or in word, or from faint heartedness, do You, the Master, Who knows the weakness of men, as a Good One, and a Lover of mankind, O God, grant us the forgiveness of our sins; (signing himself) bless us, (signing the clergy) purify us; make us absolved, (signing the congregation) and all Your people absolved. (Here he mentions the names of those whom he wishes to remember.)

Fill us with Your fear, and straighten us to Your holy, good will, for You are our God, [and] the glory, and the honour, and the dominion, and the adoration are due to You, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and to the age of all ages. Amen.

If he wishes, the presbyter may add the following:

Remember, O Lord, the children of the Church: the protopresbyters, and the presbyters, and the deacons, and the monks, and the clergy, and all the people that have gathered themselves together in the Holy Church; the men and the women, the old and the young, the small and the great, them whom we know and them whom we know not, our enemies and our friends. O Lord, absolve them all and forgive them all sin.

PEOPLE:

Amen. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

The appropriate End of Service hymn is sung, followed by:

## THE FINAL BLESSING

PRESBYTER:

May God have compassion on us, bless us, manifest His face on us, and have mercy on us. Lord, save Your people, bless Your inheritance, pasture them, and raise them up forever. Raise the strength[[9]](#footnote-9) of the Christians through the power of the life giving Cross, through the supplications and prayers which our Lady, the Lady of us all, the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary, makes for us; and [those of] the three great, holy luminaries, Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, and the Four Incorporeal Beasts, and the Twenty Four Presbyters, and all the heavenly ranks, and Saint John the Baptist, and the Hundred and Forty Four Thousand, and our lords, the fathers, the Apostles, and the Three Holy Youths, and Saint Stephen, and the Divinely Inspired Evangelist, Mark, the holy Apostle and martyr, and Saint George, and Saint Theodore, and Philopater Mercurius, and the holy Abba Mena, and the whole choir of the martyrs, and our righteous father, the great Abba Antony, and the righteous Abba Paul, and the three saints Abba Macarii, and our father Abba John, and our father Abba Pishoy, and our father Abba Paul, the man of Tammoh, and our Roman fathers, Maximus and Dometius, and our father Abba Moses, and the Forty Nine Martyrs, and the whole choir of the cross bearers, and the just and the righteous, and all the wise virgins, and the angel of this blessed day / sacrifice (if it is the time of the divine liturgy), and (here, mention is made of the patron saint of the church, and the saint[s] of the day, if not mentioned before); and the blessing of the holy Mother of God, first and last {, and the blessing of the Lord’s Day of our Saviour (on a Sunday)}. May their holy blessing, and their grace, and their might, and their favour, and their love, and their help, be with us all, forever. Amen.

O Christ our God, King of Peace, grant us Your peace, establish for us Your peace, and forgive us our sins. For Yours is the power, the glory, the blessing and the might, forever. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen. So be it.

PRESBYTER:

Go in peace. The Lord be with you all.

Or else,

The love of God the Father; the grace of the Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ, and the communion and gift of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you all. Amen.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

# THE PREPARATION

If not joined to the Raising of Morning Incense, the Presbyter goes up to the Altar, (bearing the Chalice and the Paten, if they be not already, puts them on the Altar,) kisses it, and signs himself with the sign of the Cross, saying, “In the Name,” etc. till the Lord Prayer, as in the Raising of Incense. The last words of the Lord’s prayer are sung.

Whether the Raising of Morning Incense, or the above introduction has been prayed, continue,

The priest purifies his thoughts and actions, internally and externally, and, most importantly, he must be internally pure of all transgressions, lest he receive judgment onto himself according to the saying of St. Paul in 1 Cor 11:27-31, and he shall be at peace with all men (Matthew 5:23, 24; Mark 11:25-26). He must be externally clean in body and clothing, with his hands and feet washed (Exodus 30:17-21), and he must be careful not to taste anything at all.

The presbyter then puts on the vestments of the priesthood after having them blessed with the sign of the cross, saying Psalm 29, “I will extol You, O Lord…” and after it, Psalm 92, “The Lord reigns…” During this time, the chanters sing the Hymn of the Blessing:

## THE HYMN OF BLESSING

CHANTERS:

|  |
| --- |
| We worship the Father of Light,  and His only-begotten Son,  and the Spirit, the Paraclete;  the Trinity, one in essence, |

## HAIL TO MARY

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to Mary the queen,  the vine that does not grow old,  that no vinedresser pruned.  In her is found the Cluster of Life. |
| The Son of God was  truly incarnate of the Virgin.  She bore Him;  He saved us and forgave us our sins. |
| You found grace, O Bride.  Many spoke of your honor,  for the Logos of the Father  came and was incarnate of you. |
| What woman on earth  became mother of God but you?  For while you are a woman of the earth,  you became the mother of the Creator. |
| Many woman received honor  and gained the kingdom,  but they did not reach your honor,  O you, the beautiful among women. |
| You are the high tower  in which the treasure was found,  which is Immanuel,  Who came and dwelt in your womb. |
| Let us honor the virginity  of the bride—  without vice, pure, all-holy—  the Theotokos, Mary. |
| You are exalted more than heaven;  you are honored more than the earth  and all creation therein,  for you became the mother of the Creator. |
| For you are truly  the pure bridal chamber  of Christ the bridegroom,  according to the prophetic voices. |
| Intercede on our behalf,  O our Lady, the Lady of us all,  the Theotokos, Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ,  that He may forgive us our sins. |

## THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

PRESBYTER:

After this, the presbyter kisses the hands of his brethren the presbyters and asks them to absolve him and pray on his behalf. Then he ascends to the altar, and the deacon ascends and stands before him, and the presbyter places the vessels before him and signs them three times, saying, “In the Name of the Father…” and “Blessed be God the Father…” He then takes out the vessels and prepares the altar while saying the Prayer of Preparation inaudibly:

O Lord, who knows the hearts of all, who is holy, and who rests in His saints; who alone is without sin and who has power to forgive sins; You, O Lord, know my unworthiness and unpreparedness and my lack of meetness for this Your holy service, and I do not have the countenance to draw near and open my mouth before Your holy glory, but according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, pardon me, a sinner. And grant to me that I may find grace and mercy at this hour,

Here, as the presbyter continues to pray, he uncovers the chalice and arranges it on the altar, together with the paten and the spoon.

and send down to me strength from on high that I may begin and make ready and accomplish Your holy service after Your pleasure, according to the assent of Your will, for a sweet savor of incense.

Yea, O our Master, be with us; be a partner working with us. Bless us, for You are the forgiveness of our sins, the light of our souls, our life, our strength, and our boldness. And unto You we send up glory, honor, and worship, O Father and Son and Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

While reciting the Prayer of Preparation, the presbyter wipes the vessels and arranges them in their places. Then he says the following prayer inaudibly:

O Lord, You have taught us this great mystery of salvation. You have called us, Your lowly and unworthy servants, to be servants of Your holy altar. O our Master, You make us worthy in the power of Your Holy Spirit to accomplish this service, so that, without falling into condemnation before Your great glory, we may bring to You a sacrifice of praise, glory, and great beauty in Your sanctuary.

O God, who gives grace, who sends forth salvation, who works all in all; grant, O Lord, that our sacrifice may be accepted before You for my own since and for the ignorance of Your people. For behold, it is pure according to the gift of the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus our Lord, through whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of one essence with You, now and at all time sand unto the age of all ages. Amen.

# THE OFFERTORY

At the time of printing, this is the only licit place for the Offertory. However, if in the future blessing is given to restore the Offertory to its original position after the Prayer of Reconciliation, then proceed directly to the Liturgy of the Word after the Preparation is complete.

## THE GREAT ENTRANCE

The following hymn may be said during the feasts during the Great Entrance:

|  |
| --- |
| O King of peace,  grant us Your peace,  establish for us Your peace,  and forgive us our sins. |
| Disperse the enemies  of the Church,  and fortify her,  that she may not be shaken forever. |
| Immanual our God  is now in our midst  in the glory of His Father  and the Holy Spirit |
| May he bless us all,  and purify our hearts,  and heal the sicknesses  of our souls and our bodies. |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your good Father  and the Holy Spirit  for you [have come] and saved us. |

The presbyter kisses the altar. The prayers of hours are now prayed. The presbyter then washes his hands three times, saying the first time:

You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; You shall wash me ,and I shall be whiter than snow. (Ps 50:7). *The second time, he says*: You shall make me to hear jubilation and gladness; humbled bones shall exalt. (Ps 50:8). *The third time, he says:* I will wash my hands in innocence, and go round about Your altar, O Lord, that I may hear the voice of Your praise. Alleluia. (Ps 25:6,7).

Then the presbyter wipes his hands slightly with a white linen veil. During the Offering of the Lamb, he stands at the door of the sanctuary facing west, holding in his hand a silk veil. Then the loaves and the wine are presented to him, which he examines carefully. The loaves are presented in an odd number. The deacon stands beside him, having in his right hand a silk veil on which to receive the cruet of wine, and in his left hand a candle to shed light on the loaves and the wine while the presbyter examines them. Before the presbyter chooses the Lamb, which is the offering loaf, he makes the sign of the cross three times over the loaves and the wine, saying, “In the Name of the Father…” and “Blessed be God the Father…”. He takes the Lamb in the palm of his left hand and wipes the top and the bottom with his right hand, saying:

Grant, O Lord, that our sacrifice may be accepted before You for my own sins and for the ignorance of Your people. For behind, it is pure according to the gift of Your Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus our Lord, through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Then he mentions those whom he desires to remember, especially those on whose behalf the offering is made. And for Christians in general, and for his family and kin in particular, he says,

Remember, O Lord, Your Orthodox Christian servants, each one by his name and each one by her name. Remember, O Lord, my father, my mother, my brothers, and my kin in the flesh, and my spiritual fathers. Keep those who are living, by the angel of peace, and repose those who have departed. Remember, O Lord, my weakness—even I the poor—and forgive me my many sins.

The presbyter then covers the loaf with a silk veil and holds it to the top of his forehead, and the deacon behind him does the same with the cruet of wine. Then they encircle the altar once while each of them is proceeded by a deacon bearing a lighted candle.

## THE PROCESSION OF THE LAMB

PRESBYTER:

Glory and honor, honor and glory to the All-Holy Trinity—the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Peace and edification to the One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of God. Amen.

Remember, O Lord, those who have brought to You these gifts, and those on whose behalf they have been brought, and those by whom they have been brought. Give them all the heavenly reward.

DEACON:

Pray for these holy and precious gifts, our sacrifices, and those who bring them. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, all who have bidden us to remember them in our prayers and supplications. May the Lord remember them in His heavenly Kingdom.

PEOPLE:

On Saturdays and Sundays (except during the Great Fast), on Feasts of our Lord, on Eastertide, and on all non fasting days, the people chant Psalm 117:24-26:

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia. This is the day which the Lord has made;  let us rejoice and be glad in it.  O Lord, save us. O Lord, straighten our ways.  Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Alleluia. |

On days of fasting (except the weekdays of the Great Fast and Jonah’s Fast) and on Saturdays and Sundays during the Great Fast, the people chant:

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia. The thought of man shall confess to You, O Lord,  And the remainder of thought shall keep a feast to You. (Ps 75:10)  The sacrifices and the offerings, receive them unto Yourself. Alleluia. |

On the days of Jonah’s Fast and the days of the Great Fast, not including Saturdays and Sundays, the people change the following from Psalms 42 and 131:

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia. I will go in to the altar of God,  To God, Who gladdens my youth.  I will confess You with a harp, O God my God.  Remember David, O Lord, and all his meekness. Alleluia. |

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter, having come around to the front of the altar, faces East, and uncovers the loaf and places it in his left hand. Then he inclines his head to his brethren the presbyters, asking them to bless. Then the presbyter brings the loaf close to the cruet of wine in the deacon’s right hand, which is covered with a silk veil, and three times he makes the sign of the cross over both, saying:

In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit: One God. Blessed be God the Father, the Pantocrator. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Blessed be His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen. One is the Holy Father. One is the Holy Son. One is the Holy Spirit. Amen. \* Blessed be the Lord God forever. Amen. Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him all you peoples! For His mercy has been strengthened towards us; and the truth of the Lord abides forever. Amen. Alleluia.

The deacon may insert:

\*With You is the Rule in the Day of Your power, and in the brightness of the saints. From the womb, before the morning star, I have begotten You. The Lord has sworn and will have no regret, “You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.” Our holy father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_, [and his partner in this apostolic liturgy, our holy father Abba \_\_\_\_\_,] may the God of heaven keep [him/them] on [his/their] throne(s) for many years and peaceful times. May He subdue all [his/their] enemies under [his/their] feet speedily. Ask Christ on our behalf to forgive us ours ins, in peace, according to His great mercy.

## A HYMN FOR THE HOLY TRINITY

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Glory to the Father and to the Son  and to the Holy Spirit,  now, and ever,  and to the age of the ages. Amen. Alleluia. |

PRESBYTER:

During this time, the presbyter places the loaf on the paten, beneath which is a silk veil, and says the following inaudibly:

Glory and honor, honor and glory to the All-Holy Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

After this, the presbyter pours wine into the chalice, completely emptying the cruet. Then he pours water into the empty wine cruet and from it he adds a little water to the wine in the chalice (the proportion of water to wine being not less than a tenth, normally a quarter, but not more than a third), wipes the mouth of the cruet with a white veil and removes it from the altar.

PRESBYTER:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRESBYTER:

Let us give thanks to the beneficent and merciful God, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. For He has covered us, helped us, guarded us, accepted us to Himself, spared us, supported us, and has brought us to this hour.

Let us also ask Him, the Lord our God, the Pantocrator, to guard us in all peace this holy day and all the days of our life.

DEACON:

Let us pray.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, we thank You for everything, concerning everything, and in everything. For You have covered us, helped us, guarded us, accepted us to Yourself, spared us, supported us, and hast brought us to this hour.

DEACON:

Pray that God may have mercy and compassion on us, hear us, help us, and accept the supplications and prayers of His saints, for that which is good, on our behalf, at all times; and make us worthy to partake of the communion of His holy and blessed Mysteries, for the remission of our sins.

In the presence of a hierarch, add: And keep the life and standing of our honored father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_;

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Therefore, we ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, grant us to complete this holy day and all the days of our life, in all peace with Your fear.

All envy, all temptation, all the work of Satan, the counsel of wicked men and the rising up of enemies, hidden and manifest, take them away from us, and from all Your people, and from this table, and from this Your holy place.

But those things which are good and profitable do provide for us, for it is You Who have given us the authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and upon all the power of the enemy.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, by the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Saved. Amen. And with your spirit.

During Jonah’s Fast and the weekdays for the Great Fast, “Saved” is said with a shortened tune, followed by Psalm 86:

|  |
| --- |
| His foundations are in the holy mountains.  The Lord loves the gates of Zion  More than all the dwellings of Jacob.  Glorious things have been spoken of you, O city of God.  Alleluia. |
| “Mother Zion,” a man shall say,  and a man was born in Her,  And the Most High Himself  has founded Her forever.  Alleluia. |

In the presence of a hierarch, the congregation chants:

O all you wise men of Israel, the makers of golden threads, make a robe for Aaron befitting the honor of the priesthood of our honored father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, [and our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_,] the beloved of Christ.

## THE PRAYER OF THE PROTHESIS

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord Jesus Christ, the co-eternal Logos of the unblemished Father, Who is of One Essence with Him and the Holy Spirit—0for You are the living bread which came down from heaven and formerly made Yourself a lamb without sport for the life of the world—we ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of Mankind, *Here the presbyters points with his hand to the bread set before him on the paten,* show Your face upon this bread, *He points to the wine set before him in the chalice,* and upon this cup, which we have set upon *He points to the altar, saying,* this Your priestly table.

He makes the sign of the cross three times over the bread and wine together, saying:

Bless them, sanctify them, and purify them and change them, *He points with his hand to the bread in particular, saying,* in order that, on the one hand, this bread may indeed become Your holy Body, *He points with his hand to the chalice in particular, saying,* and, on the other hand, the mixture which is in this cup indeed Your precious Blood. *Then he continues, saying,* And may they become for all of us communion, healing, and salvation for our souls, bodies, and spirits. For You are our God, and glory is due unto You, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The presbyter covers the oblation with a veil and the chalice with another veil. He covers both with the prospheron, together with the deacon who is facing him; the presbyter then carefully places another veil upon the prospheron. He kisses the altar and then goes to the south side of it and makes a prostration towards the Weast, thanking the Lord who has made him worthy of this holy serviced. This is all done as he says the Absolution to the Son inaudibly (O Master, Lord, Jesus Christ…) as in the Offering of Incense,

Then the presbyter rises and kisses the altar, and proceeds to the north side of the altar, and the deacon who is serving prostrates before him, and the priest stretches forth his hand on the deacon and blesses him. Then both of them kiss the altar. Coming down from the altar, the presbyter and the rest of the deacons walk backwards, their faces set to the East, and they put their left foot first. Then they prostrate themselves before the door of the sanctuary, and one of the presbyters who is present reads the Prayer of Absolution. If a hierarch is present, he reads this prayer. If a presbyter reads it, he reads it while standing behind the servants.

## THE ABSOLUTION OF THE SERVANTS

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter makes the sign of the cross (1) eastward over the serving presbyters; (2) eastwards over the deacons; (3) turning northwards over the rest of the servants; (4) turning westward over all the people; and (5) turning to the East, upon himself.

May Your servants, ministers of this day—the hegumen(s), the priest(s), the deacon(s), the clergy—and all the people, and my weakness, be absolved from the mouth of the All Holy Trinity—the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit; and from the mouth of the One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church; and from the mouths of the twelve Apostles; and from the mouth of the Beholder of God, the Evangelist Mark, the holy Apostle and martyr; the patriarch Saint Severus, our teacher Dioscorus; Saint Athanasius the Apostolic; Saint Peter, the holy martyr and the high priest; Saint John Chrysostom; Saint Cyril; Saint Basil; and Saint Gregory; and from the mouths of the three hundred and eighteen assembled at Nicea; the one hundred and fifty at Constantinople; and the two hundred at Ephesus; and from the mouth of our honored father, the high priest, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_; and from the mouth of his partner in this apostolic liturgy, our honored father the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_; and from my own mouth, being the least.

For blessed and full of glory is Your Holy Name, O Father and Son and Holy Spirit, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

At the conclusion of the absolution, all rise, the presbyters kiss each other, and the serving presbyter makes a prostration before the door of the sanctuary towards the East before going up to the altar and kissing it. Then the deacon gives the censer to the presbyter, who faces eastward and offers the incense of the prayer of the Pauline Epistle. He makes the sign of the cross on the incense box three times, putting five spoonfuls of incense into the censer (“In the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God [first spoonful]. Blessed be God the Father, the Pantocrator. Amen. [Second spoonful] Blessed be His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. [Third spoonful] Blessed bye the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. Amen. [Fourth and fifth:] Glory and honor, honor and glory to the All-Holy Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and at all times and to the age of all ages. Amen.), and says “Let us pray” and “Peace be with all”. Then he says the prayer of Incense of the Pauline Epistle to the Father:

PRESBYTER:

O God, the Great, the Eternal, without beginning and without end, great in His counsel and mighty in His works, who is in all places and dwells with everyone, be with us also, O our Master, in this hour, and stand in the midst of us all. Purify our hearts and sanctify our souls. Cleanse us from all sins which we have committed willingly and unwillingly, and grant to us to offer before you rational sacrifices and sacrifices of blessing—

DEACON:

Pray for our sacrifice and for those who have brought it.

PRESBYTER:

and a spiritual incense entering within the veil in the holy place of Your Holies.

Censing the altar while facing the East, he beings to encircle the altar the first time, saying,

We ask You, O our Master, remember, O Lord, the peace of Your One, Only, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church—

DEACON:

Pray for the peace of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Orthodox Church of God.

PRESBYTER:

this which exists from one end of the world to the other.

He proceeds to the east side of the altar, facing towards the west, continues censing, and says,

Remember O Lord, our honored patriarch and father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, [and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_.]

DEACON:

Pray for our high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_, pope and patriarch and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria, and his brethren in the apostolic liturgy: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, [and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_,] and for our orthodox bishops.

PRESBYTER:

Keep them secure for us for many years and peaceful times.

Proceeding to the west side of the altar, he faces towards the East, continues censing, and as he begins to encircle the altar a second time, says,

Remember, O Lord, our assemblies; bless them.

DEACON:

Pray for this holy church and for our assemblies.

PRESBYTER:

Grant that they may be to us without obstacle or hindrance, that we may hold them according to Your holy and blessed will; Proceeding to the East side of the altar, facing towards the west, he continues censing, saying, houses of prayer, houses of purity, houses of blessing. Grant them to us, O Lord, and to Your servants who will come after us, forever. Proceeding to the west side of the altar, facing towards the east, he continues censing, and as he begins to encircle the altar a third time, he says, Arise, O Lord God, let all your enemies be scattered, and let all who hate Your holy Name flee before Your face. Proceeding to the East side of the altar, facing towards the west, he continues censing and says, But let Your people be in blessing, thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand, doing Your will. Proceeding to the west die of the altar, facing towards the East he continues censing and says, Through the grace, compassion, and love-of-mankind of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. He offers incense before the sanctuary three times towards the East, bowing his head each time, saying: We worship You, O Christ, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You [have come] and saved us. But as for me, in the abundance of Your mercy, I will enter into Your house; I will bow down in worship towards Your holy temple. Before the angels, I will sing praises to You and worship towards Your holy temple. Censing towards the North, he says for the Virgin, We send you greetings with Gabriel the angel, saying, “Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you.”

The presbyter descends from the sanctuary and offers incense before the door of the sanctuary. He then censes the gospel and the hierarch, if any of them is present, and afterwards the presbyters and the people. As he censes the people, he says, “A blessing of Paul, the apostle of Jesus Christ. May his holy blessing be with us. Amen.” The presbyter returns to the sanctuary and recites the Prayer of Confession of the People inaudibly: “O God, who received the confession of the thief upon the honorable Cross, accept the confession of Your people and forgive them all their sins for the sake of Your holy Name which is called upon us. According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.” The presbyter encircles the altar once, comes down from the sanctuary, and offers incense a second time before the door of the sanctuary. Then he censes the bishop, if present.

## THE HYMN OF THE CENSER

Meanwhile, the people chant the following hymn for the Virgin on Satrudays and Sundays (except during the Great Fast), the major feasts, the fifty days of the Paschaltide, and all non-fasting days:

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| --- |
| This censer of pure gold,  bearing the aroma,  is in the hands of Aaron the priest,  offering up incense on the altar. |

On all fasting days (except during the Great Fast and Jonah’s Fast), Saturdays and Sundays of the Great Fast, and on the two Feasts of the Cross, the following is chanted instead:

|  |
| --- |
| The golden censer is the Vir­gin,  her aroma is our Savior.  She gave birth to Him;  He saved us and for­gave us our sins. |

On weekdays of the Great Fast and during Jonah’s Fast, the following is chanted instead:

|  |
| --- |
| You are the censer of pure gold,  bearing the blessed Ember. |

## THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

|  |
| --- |
| Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Saint Mary,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the intercessions of the Seven Archangels, and the heavenly orders,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of my lords and fathers, the Apostles, and the rest of the Disciples,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of the Beholder of God, the Evangelist Mark, the Apostle,  O Lord, grant us the forgive­ness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of the victorious martyr, my lord the prince George,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of our saintly and righteous father, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of the saints of this day, each one according to his name,  O Lord, grant us the forgive­ness of our sins. |
| Through their prayers, keep the life of our honored father, the high priest, Papa Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_.  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through their prayers, keep the life of our honored and righteous father, the {bishop/metropolitan} Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for you [have come] and saved us.  Have mercy on us. |

## THE PAULINE EPISTLE

READER:

A reading from the {First/Second} Epistle of our teacher Paul to \_\_\_\_\_\_. May his blessing be upon us. Amen.

The Pauline Epistle is read and is concluded by:

The grace of God the Father be with you all. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

During the reading of the Pauline Epistle, the concelebrant (or if there is no concelebrant, then the celebrant) says inaudibly the following prayer to the Son:

O Lord of knowledge and provider of wisdom, who reveals the deep things out of darkness, and gives a word to those who preach with great power; who of Your kindness has called upon Paul, who was for some time a persecutor, to be a chosen vessel; and in this You were pleased that he should be called to be an apostle and a preacher of the Gospel of Your kingdom, O Christ our God. You also now, O Good One and Lover of Mankind, we ask You, grant us and all Your people a mind free from wandering and a clear understanding that we may know and understand how profitable are Your holy teachings which are now read to us through him. And as he followed Your example, O Author of life, so make us also worthy to be like him in deed and in faith that we may glorify Your holy Name and glorify in Your Cross at all times. And unto You we send up glory, honor, and worship with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

PEOPLE:

In the presence of the hierarch, the following hymn is sung:

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| --- |
| The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  be with your saintly spirit,  my lord, the honored father,  the high priest, Papa Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_. |

In the presence of a single bishop or metropolitan, the follow­ing verse is added:

|  |
| --- |
| And our father the {bishop / metropolitan}, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_. |

In the presence of several bishops or metropolitans, the following verse is added instead:

|  |
| --- |
| And our fathers the {bishops / metropolitans}, who are with us. |

Then the ending is sung:

|  |
| --- |
| May the clergy and all the people  be safe in the Lord.  Amen. So be it. |

## THE CATHOLIC EPISTLE

READER:

A reading from the Catholic Epistle from the {First/Second/Third} Epistle of our teacher \_\_\_\_\_\_. May his blessing be upon us. Amen.

The Catholic Epistle is read and is concluded by:

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The world is passing away, and all its lust; but he who does the will of God abides forever. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

During the reading of the Catholic Epistle, the partner or the serving presbyter says the following prayer to the Father inaudibly:

O Lord our God, who through Your holy apostles has revealed to us the mystery of the Gospel of the glory of Your Christ, and have given to them according to the great immeasurable gift of Your grace that they should proclaim among all nations the glad tidings of the unsearchable riches of Your mercy, we ask You, O our Master, make us worthy of their share and inheritance. Grant to us at all times to walk in their footsteps and to imitate their struggle, and to have communion with them in the sweat which they accepted for the sake of godliness. Watch over Your holy Church which You have founded through them, and bless the sheep of Your flock and make this vine to increase, which Your right hand has planted, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Through whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Then the presbyter, holding in his hand the censer, prays inaudibly at the altar the following Litany for the Sacrifices. On Sundays and the feasts of the Lord, it is not prayed here, but during the Morning Offering of Incense.

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, we ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of Mankind, remember, O Lord, the sacrifices, the offerings, and the thanksgivings of those who have offered *he places a spoonful of incense in the censer without making the sign of the cross over it,* to the honor and glory of Your holy Name.

DEACON:

Pray for those who provide for the sacrifices, offerings, first fruits, oil, incense, coverings, reading books, and altar vessels, that Christ our God may reward them in the heavenly Jerusalem, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Censing the altar: Receive them upon Your holy, rational altar in heaven as a sweet savor of incense before Your greatness in the heavens, through the service of Your holy angels and archangels. As You have received the gifts of the righteous Abel, the sacrifice of our father Abraham, and the two mites of the widow, so also receive the thanks offerings of Your servants—those in abundance or those in scarcity, hidden or manifest—those who desire to offer to You but have none, and those who have offered these gifts to You this very day. Give them the incorruptible instead of the corruptible, the heavenly instead of the earthly, and the eternal instead of the temporal. Their houses and their stores, fill them with every good thing. Surround them, O Lord, by the power of Your holy angels and archangels. As they have remembered Your holy Name on earth, remember them also, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and in this age, too, leave them not behind. By the grace, compassion, and love of mankind of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. Through whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The people may now sing the Praxis response appropriate to the season, or the following ordinary response:

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to you, O Mary,  the fair dove,  who has borne unto us  God the Logos. |

Whether or not the preceding is said, the congregation sings:

|  |
| --- |
| Blessed are You indeed,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You [have come] and saved us.  (Have mercy on us.) |

## THE PRAXIS

READER:

A reading from the Acts of our fathers the pure Apostles, who were invested with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May their blessing be with us all. Amen.

The Acts of the Apostles are read and are concluded by:

The word of the Lord shall grow, multiply, be mighty, and be confirmed in the holy Church of God. Amen.

Or else:

The word of the Lord abides in this church and in every church. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

After the litany for the sacrifices, and during the reading of the Acts, the presbyter makes the sign of the cross over the incense box, and says:

Glory and honor, honor and glory to the All-Holy Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen. *He puts one spoonful of incense into the censer, and while standing before the altar and censing it, says this Prayer of the Acts inaudibly:* O God, Who accepted the burnt offering of Abraham, and prepared for him a sheep in Isaac’s stead, even so, again, accept at our hand also, O our Master, the burnt offering of this incense, and send down upon us in return for it Your abundant mercy, cleansing us form every stench of sin, and make us worthy to serve in holiness and righteousness before Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, all the days of our life. And we ask You, O our Master… *As before, the presbyter continues with the Three small Litanies for the peace of the Church, the Pope, and the assemblies, while he goes around the altar three times, offering incense. Afterward, he comes down and censes before the door of the sanctuary. He censes the Gospel, a hierarch, if any of them is present, and the presbyters. Then he censes the people in the inner choir only. As the presbyter censes the people he says*: A blessing of my lords and fathers the apostles, namely, our father Peter and our teacher Paul, and the rest of the Disciples. May their holy blessings be with us. Amen. *Then the presbyter returns and stands before the door of the sanctuary and censes three times to the East, saying inaudibly the Prayer of the Confession of the People, “O God, who accepted the confession of the thief…” Then the presbyter hands the censer to the deacon and makes a prostration to God.*

## THE SYNAXARION

PRESBYTER:

Today is the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of the blessed month of \_\_\_\_\_; may God begin/end it in goodness and renew it for us in peace and tranquility, while our sins and iniquities are forgiven through the tender mercies of our Lord, O my fathers and my brethren. Amen.

The “Synaxarion” (the chronicle of the saints) is read, then the congregation sings:

## THE HYMN OF THE TRISAGION

|  |
| --- |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who was born of the Virgin,  have mercy upon us. |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who was crucified for us,  have mercy upon us. |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who rose from the dead and ascended into the heavens,  have mercy upon us. |
| Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  both now, and al­ways, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  O Holy Trinity, have mercy upon us. |

PRESBYTER:

Then the presbyter, taking the censer, stands before the door of the sanctuary and says:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE GOSPEL

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, Who said to His saintly, honored Disciples and holy Apostles, “Many prophets and righteous men have desired to see the things which you see, and have not seen them, and to hear the things which you hear, and have not heard them. But as for you, blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear.”

May we be worthy to hear and to act [according to] You Holy Gospels, through the prayers of Your saints.

DEACON:

Pray for the Holy Gospel.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Remember also, O our Master, all those who have bidden us to remember them in our supplications and prayers which we offer up unto You, O Lord our God.

Those who have already fallen asleep, repose them. Those who are sick, heal them.

For You are the life of us all, the salvation of us all, the hope of us all, the healing of us all, and the resurrection of us all; and You are He unto whom we send up the glory, and the honour, and the worship, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

READER:

A psalm of David.

The psalm is chanted, concluded by “Alleluia.”

DEACON:

Let them exalt Him in the church of His people, and praise Him in the seat of the elders, for He has made the families like a flock of sheep, the upright shall see and rejoice. The Lord has sworn and will have no regret, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.” The Lord is at your right hand, our saintly father, the patriarch, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and our father the {bishop/metropolitan} Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_. May the Lord keep your life. Alleluia.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter turns towards the Gospel and offers incense to it while saying inaudibly:

Bow down before the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the prayers of the psalmist David the prophet, O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins.

The presbyter goes up to the sanctuary and makes the sign of the cross over the incense box and puts a spoonful of incense into the censer, saying, “Glor and honor..” to the end. The deacon goes up to the sanctuary with the Gospel, and the presbyter offers incense to it as they both go around the altar once counterclockwise while the presbyter says this Prayer of Simeon the Priest inaudibly:

Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Isreal.

After encircling the altar, the presbyter offers incense to the Gospel three times, while saying inaudibly:

Bow down before the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God; to Him be the glory forever.

The presbyter takes the Gospel from the deacon, turns to the west, and offers it to the other presbyters, while saying,

But as for you, blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear. May we be worthy to hear and to act according to Your Holy Gospels, through the prayers of Your saints.

The presbyters come forward to kiss the Gospel, saying, “Bow down before the Gospel…” to the end. Then the celebrant kisses the Gospel himself and offers the censer to the concelebrant or any non-serving presbyter to cense the Gospel. He approaches the lectern and reads the Gospel. However, if a hierarch is present, then one of the highest rank reads the Gospel at the sanctuary door facing west while the serving presbyter offers incense. After the psalm is chanted, the deacon, while still standing at the door of the sanctuary, says:

DEACON:

Stand in the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRESBYTER:

Blessed bis He Who comes in the Name of the Lord of hosts. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. \_\_\_\_\_\_.

READER:

\*Stand in the fear of God and listen to the Holy Gospel A reading from the Gospel according to our teach Saint \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Evangelist. May his blessing be with us all.

POEOPLE:

Glory to You, O Lord.

READER:

Our Lord, God, Savior, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

\*If the reader is a hierarchy, the deacon instead says:

DEACON:

Stand in the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel from the mouth of our honored and righteous father, the thrice blessed, our honored father

The shepherd of shepherds, the high priest of our high priests, the successor of Saint Mark the Apostle and Evangelist, the great among the patriarchs, the beloved of Christ. Our holy father, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, pope and patriarch of the great city of Alexandria and all the regions of Egypt.

Or The {bishop/metropolitan} Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Christ-loving city of \_\_\_\_\_ and its vicinity.

May the God of heaven confirm him on his throne for many years and peaceful times, humiliate all his enemies under his feet speedily, grant us grace and mercy through his prayers and supplications.

The Gospel according to our teacher Saint \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Evangelist. May his blessing be with us. Amen.

READER:

The Gospel is chanted and is concluded by:

Glory is due to our God to the age of ages. Amen.

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the presbyter censes it three times and says: “You are He to whom the praise is due from everyone with one voice, along with glory, honor, majesty, and worship, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.”

PEOPLE:

Glory to You, O Lord.

PRESBYTER:

During the reading of the Gospel’s interpretation, the concelebrant or the celebrant says the following prayer to the Father inaudibly while holding the censer in his hand:

O You who are long-suffering, abundant in mercy, and true, receive from us our prayers and supplications, receive from us our petition, repentance, and confession upon Your holy, undefiled altar in heaven. May we be made worthy to hear Your Holy Gospels, and may we keep Your precepts and commandments and bring forth fruit therein, a hundredfold, sixtyfold, and thirtyfold, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Remember, O Lord, our fathers and brethren who are traveling; bring them back to their homes in peace and safety.

Remember, O Lord, the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth; bless them.

Remember, O Lord, the waters of the river; bless them; raise them to their measure according to Your grace.

Remember, O Lord, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field; bless them.

Remember, O Lord, the safety of men and beasts.

Remember O Lord, the salvation of this Your holy place, and every place and every monastery of our Orthodox fathers.

Remember, O Lord, the king [leader] of our land, Your servant; keep him in peace, truth, and strength.

Remember, O Lord, those who are in captivity; save them all.

Remember, O Lord, our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep and reposed in the Orthodox faith; repose all their souls.

Remember, O Lord, those who have brought to You these gifts; those on whose behalf they have been brought, and those by whom they have been brought; give them all the heavenly reward.

Remember, O Lord, those who are distressed in hardships and oppressions; save them from all their hardships.

Remember, O Lord, the catechumens of Your people; have mercy upon them; confirm them in the faith in You; uproot all deceit of idolatry from their heart. Your Law, Your fear, Your precepts, Your truths, and Your holy commandments, establish them in their heart. Grant them that they may know the certainty of the words wherein they have been instructed. And in the set time, may they be worthy of the washing of the new birth for the remission of theirs ins, as You prepare them to be a temple of Your Holy Spirit.

By the grace, compassion, and love of mankind of Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, through wom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The celebrant says the following prayer of the Veil inaudibly as he stands before the veil of the sanctuary with his head bowed towards the East.

O God, who in Your ineffable love towards mankind sent Your Only Begotten Son into the world that He might return the lost sheep to You, we ask You, O Our Master, turn us not back when we put our hands on this awesome and bloodless sacrifice. For we put no trust in our righteousness, but in Your mercy, whereby You have given life to our race. We ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, that this Mystery which You have administered to us for salvation may not be unto condemnation for us or any of Your people, but unto the wiping out of our sins and the forgiveness of our negligence, and unto the glory and honor of Your Holy Name, O Father and Son and Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

PEOPLE:

The congregation now sings the Gospel response appropriate to the season, or the following ordinary response:

|  |
| --- |
| Blessed are they, in truth,  The saints of this day—  Each one according to his name—  The beloved of Christ. |
| Intercede on our behalf,  O our Lady, the Lady of us all the Theotokos—  Mary, the Mother of our Savior—  That He may forgive us our sins. |

Verses are said for the saints of the church, followed by the ending:

|  |
| --- |
| Blessed be the Father and the Son  And the Holy Spirit,  The perfect Trinity.  We worship Him and glorify Him. |

The presbyter, having made a prostration to the East before the sanctuary door, receives the absolution from a hierarch, making a prostration to them, if any of them is present. Then he makes a prostration to his brethren the presbyters, embraces them, and asks of them absolution and prayer on his behalf. Then he ascends to the sanctuary and kisses the altar. And he focuses his mind that he may be humble of heart. Then he stands at the west side of the altar facing East, and says,

## THE THREE LONG PRAYERS

PRESBYTER:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

# THE PRAYER FOR PEACE

PRESBYTER:

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind: remember, O Lord, the peace of Your One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church—

DEACON:

Pray for the peace of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic, Orthodox Church of God.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

this which exists from one end of the world to the other. All peoples and all flocks, bless. The heavenly peace, send down into our hearts; even the peace of this life, graciously grant to us. The king (leader), the armies, the rulers, the counselors, the multitudes, our neighbors, our coming in and our going out, adorn them with all peace.

O King of peace, grant us Your peace, for You have given us all things. Acquire us to Yourself, O God our Savior, for we know none other but You; Your Holy Name we utter. May our souls live by Your Holy Spirit, and let not the death of by sin have dominion over us—we Your servants—[nor over all Your people.]\* \*Said by a hierarch, if present.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE FATHERS

PRESBYTER:

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, to remember, O Lord, our honored patriarch and father, the high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his partner in this apostolic liturgy, our father the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_.

DEACON:

Pray for our high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, Pope and patriarch, and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria, and his brethren in the apostolic liturgy: the Patriarch of Antioch, Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_, and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his partner in this apostolic liturgy, our father the [bishop/metropolitan] Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and for our Orthodox bishops.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Keep them secure for us for many years and peaceful times, fulfilling that holy high priesthood with which You have entrusted him from Yourself, according to Your holy and blessed will; rightly handling the word of truth, shepherding Your people in purity and righteousness, together with all the Orthodox bishops, hegumens, priests and deacons, and all the fullness of Your One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Grant them and us peace and safety in every place. Their prayers which they offer on our behalf, (and on behalf of all Your people,)\* as well as ours on their behalf, the deacon presents the censer to the presbyter, who puts a spoonful of incense into it, while saying, receive them upon Your holy, rational altar in heaven, as a sweet savor of incense.

All their enemies, visible and invisible, trample and humiliate under their feet speedily. As for them, keep them in peace and righteousness in Your Holy Church.

\*Said by a hierarch, if present

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATIONS

BISHOP (or PRESBYTER):

Again, let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind: remember, O Lord, our assemblies. The presbyter makes the sign of the cross over the people, saying: Bless them.

DEACON:

Pray for this holy church and for our assemblies.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes the censer.

Grant that they may be to us without obstacle or hindrance, that we may hold them according to Your holy and blessed will: The presbyter stretches forth his hand with the censer over the altar towards the four corners, first to the east, then the west, the north, and the south, while saying: Houses of prayer, houses of purity, houses of blessing: grant them to us, O Lord, and to Your servants who will come after us forever. The worship of idols, utterly uproot from the world. Satan and all his evil powers, trample and humiliate under our feet speedily. All offences and their instigators, abolish. May all dissensions of corrupt heresies cease.

The enemies of Your Holy Church, O Lord, as at all times, now also humiliate. Strip their vanity; show them their weakness speedily. Bring to naught their envy, their intrigues, their madness, their wickedness and their slander, which they commit against us. O Lord, bring them all to no avail. Disperse their counsel, O God, Who dispersed the counsel of Ahithophel.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Arise, O Lord God. Let all Your enemies be scattered, and let all who hate Your Holy Name flee before Your face.

The presbyter turns to the west and censes the presbyters, the deacons, and the people three times, saying,

But let Your people be in blessing: thousands of thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousands, doing Your will. Turning to the East, he continues inaudibly: By the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Thine Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Censing three times: Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen. The presbyter gives the censer to the deacon.

DEACON:

|  |
| --- |
| In the wisdom of God, let us attend.  Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. In truth— |

## THE ORTHODOX CREED

PEOPLE:

We believe in One God: God the Father, the Pantocrator, creator heaven and earth, and of all things seen and unseen.

We believe in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light, True God of True God; begotten, not created; of One Essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit, and of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, suffered and was buried; and on the third day He rose from the dead, according to the Scriptures. Ascended into the heavens, He is seated at the right hand of His Father; and He is coming again in His glory to judge the living and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds forth from the Father; Who, with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

And in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. We confess One Baptism, for the remission of sins.

The people chant the last sentence in a loud voice:

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Following the Creed, the priest may elect to pray the Anaphora of Saint Gregory, beginning on page 75, or the Anaphora of Saint Cyril, beginning on page 106.

## THE PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

PRESBYTER:

During this chant, the presbyter washes his hands three times at the north side of the altar, saying the first time:

You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (Ps 50:7).

The second time: You shall make me to hear jubilation and gladness; humbled bones shall exult (Ps 50:8)

The third time: I will wash my hands in innocence, and go round about Your altar, O Lord, that I may hear the voice of Your praise. Alleluia.

Now the presbyter looks towards the west, shakes the water off his hands before all the people, then dries his hands with a clean towel.

(For alternate Prayers of Reconciliation, go to page 74 or 104.)

PRESBYTER:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

O God the Great, the Eternal, Who formed man in incorruption; and death, which entered into the world through the envy of the devil, You have destroyed by the life-giving manifestation of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

You have filled the earth with the heavenly peace, by which the hosts of angels glorify You, saying, “Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and goodwill toward men.”

DEACON:

Pray for perfect peace, love, and the holy Apostolic kisses.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

According to Your good will, O God, fill our hearts with Your peace. Cleanse us from all blemish, all guile, all hypocrisy, all malice, and the remembrance of evil bearing death.

And make us all worthy, O our Master, to greet one another with a holy kiss, that without casting us into condemnation, we may partake of Your immortal and heavenly gift, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto Thee, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with Thee, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

PEOPLE:

The congregation may now sing an appropriate “Aspasmos Adam” hymn, or the following:

|  |
| --- |
| Rejoice, O Mary,  handmaid and Mother,  for the angels praise Him  Who is in your arms, |
| and the Cheru­bim  worship Him worthily;  the Seraphim, too,  without ceas­ing. |
| We have no boldness  before our Lord, Jesus Christ,  apart from your prayers and interces­sions,  O our Lady, the lady of us all, the Theotokos. |
| We ask You, O Son of God,  To keep the life of our patriarch,  Pope Abba \_\_\_, the high priest.  Confirm him upon his throne. |
| And his partner in the apostolic liturgy,  Our holy, righteous father,  Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_ the bishop.  Confirm him upon his throne. |
| That we may praise You  with the cherubim  and the seraphim,  proclaiming and saying: |
| Holy, Holy, Holy,  O Lord, the Pantocrator:  heaven and earth are full  of Your glory and honour. |

DEACON:

Holding the cross:

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Yeah, Lord, who is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy upon us.

Offer, [offer, offer] in order. Stand with trembling. Look towards the East. Let us attend.

Alternately:

Greet one another with a holy kiss. Amen.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, hear us and have mercy upon us.

Let us stand well, let us stand reverently, let us stand earnestly, let us stand in peace, let us stand in the fear of God, trembling and stunned.

O clergy and all the people, with prayer and thanksgiving, with dignity and silence, raise your eyes towards the East to see the altar and the Body and Blood of Immanuel our Lord placed upon it. The angels and the archangels are standing, the seraphim with six wings and the cherubim full of eyes are covering their faces because of the splendor of His great glory, which is invisible and ineffable, praising in one voice, proclaiming and saying, “Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory.”

The presbyters kiss one another with a holy kiss, as do the deacons and the people. Then the presbyters and the deacon who stands opposite to him raise the prospheron. (The raising of the prosphoron is a symbol of the angel moving the stone from the tomb after the resurrection.)

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the inter­cessions of the holy Theotokos, Mary,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You [have come] and saved us. |

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.[[10]](#footnote-10) |

At the time of printing, the only licit place for the Offertory is before the Liturgy of the Word. If, in the future blessing is given to restore it to its original position, it should be inserted now, beginning with the Great Entry, immediately after the deacon has commanded, “Offer.”

## ANOTHER PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION[[11]](#footnote-11)

PRESBYTER:

Exalted above all the power of speech and all the thoughts of the mind is the richness of Your gifts, O our Master. For that which You have hidden from the wise and knowledgeable, You have revealed to us little children.

And those things which prophets and kings have desired to see and have not, You have granted them to us, who are sinners, that we may serve Them and be purified thereby, when You established for us the Economy of Your Only-Begotten Son, and the mystagogy this sacrifice, which has neither the blood of the Law nor the righteousness of the flesh roundabout It.

Rather, the Lamb is spiritual, and the knife is verbal and intangible—This, then, is the sacrifice which we offer unto You.

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, cleanse our lips and free our minds from all carnal pollution; and send to us the grace of Your Holy Spirit; and make us worthy to greet one another with a holy kiss, that without fall­ing into condemnation, we may partake of Your immortal and heavenly gift, in Christ Jesus our Lord, through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Holding the cross:

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Yeah, Lord, who is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy upon us.

Offer, [offer, offer] in order. Stand with trembling. Look towards the East. Let us attend.

PEOPLE:

Through the intercessions…

# THE ANAPHORA OF SAINT BASIL

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter transfers to his left hand the veil which he is holding, and he takes in his right hand the veil which is upon the oblation, and with it he makes the following three signs of the cross while keeping the two veils in his hands:

Turning to the west, the presbyter signs the people once with the sign of the cross, saying,

The Lord be with you all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter turns to the East and signs the deacons on his right once with the sign of the cross, saying,

Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE:

We have them with the Lord.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter signs himself once with the sign of the cross, saying,

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

It is meet and right.

PRESBYTER:

Meet and right, meet and right—truly, indeed, it is meet and right.

O You, THE BEING, Master, Lord, God of Truth, being before the ages and reigning forever, Who dwells in the highest and looks upon the lowly; Who has created the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all that is therein.

The Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, by Whom You have created all things, visible and invisible; Who is seated upon the throne of His glory, and Who is worshipped by all the holy powers.

DEACON:

You who are seated, stand.

PRESBYTER:

Before Whom stand the angels, the archangels, the principalities, the authorities, the thrones, the dominions and the powers.

DEACON:

Look towards the East.

PRESBYTER:

You are He around Whom stand the Cherubim, full of eyes, and the Seraphim, with six wings, praising continuously, without ceasing, saying,

DEACON:

Let us attend.

PEOPLE

The people may now sing an appropriate “Aspasmos Batos”[[12]](#footnote-12) hymn, or the following:

|  |
| --- |
| The Cherubim worship You,  and the Seraphim glorify You,  proclaiming and saying— |

Alternately:

|  |
| --- |
| O Lord God of hosts,  return and behold from heaven,  and look and visit this vine,  restore and establish her,  this which Your right hand has planted. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  (bless the seeds and the herbs.  /bless the waters of the river.  /bless the air of heaven.)  may Your mercy and peace  be a fortress to Your people. |

Whether or not the preceding is said, the people sing the following:

|  |
| --- |
| “Holy, Holy, Holy,  Lord of Hosts,  heaven and earth are full  of Your holy glory.” |

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes in his right hand the veil that is upon the chalice, and with it makes the sign of the cross three times:

“Agios (signing himself), Agios (signing the deacons to his right), Agios (signing the people to the West).”

Holy, Holy, Holy—indeed, O Lord, our God, Who formed us, created us and placed us in the Paradise of Joy. When we disobeyed Your commandment through the deceit of the serpent, we fell from eternal life, and were exiled from the Paradise of Joy.

You have not abandoned us to the end, but have always visited us through Your holy prophets; and, in the last days, You manifested Yourself to us, who were sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, through Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, Who, of the Holy Spirit and of the Holy Virgin Mary—

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The deacon presents the censer to the presbyter, who puts a handful of incense into it, and continues,

Was incarnate and became man, and taught us the ways of salvation. He granted us the birth from on high, through water and Spirit. He made us unto Himself an assembled people, and sanctified us by Your Holy Spirit. He loved His own who are in the world, and [as a ransom on our behalf][[13]](#footnote-13) gave Himself up for our salvation unto death, which reigned over us, whereby we were bound and sold on account of our sins. He descended into Hades through the Cross.

PEOPLE:

Amen. I believe.

PRESBYTER:

He rose from the dead on the third day. He ascended into the heavens and sat at Your right hand, O Father. He has appointed a day for recompense, on which He will appear to judge the world in righteousness, and give each one according to his deeds.

PEOPLE:

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

## THE INSTITUTION NARRATIVE

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter censes his hands three times and then censes the bread, followed by the wine, with his hands, while saying,

He instituted for us this great Mystery of godliness,

Taking away his incense-filled hands from the censer, he says,

for, being determined to give Himself up to death for the life of the world,

PEOPLE:

We believe.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes the bread into his left hand, raises the silk veil that was beneath it on the paten and kisses it, then places it on the altar, saying,

He took bread into His holy hands, which are without spot or blemish, blessed and life giving.

PEOPLE:

We believe that this is true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

He places his right hand upon the bread that is in his left hand, raises his eyes upward, and says,

He looked up towards heaven, to You, O God, Who are His Father and Master of everyone.

He pakes the sign of the cross with his finger three times, and each time the people respond,, “Amen.” At the first signing, he says,

And when He had given thanks,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

And at the second signing, He blessed it,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

And at the third signing, And He sanctified it.

PEOPLE:

Amen. We believe, we confess, and we glorify.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter breaks the oblation into a two-thirds and a one-third part, carefully, slightly, and without separating one part from the other, and without touching the Despotikon. The fraction must be made with his right thumb, and not with the nail. Making the fraction from the top to the bottom with the one-third part on his right and the two-third part on his left, he says,

He broke it, and gave it to His own saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Take, eat of it, all of you. For this is My Body,

He slightly and gently breaks the top of the oblation with the tips of his fingers, without, however, completely separating it. He places it in the paten, and cleans his hands inside the paten so that nothing of the oblation should adhere to either of them. He does this while saying,

which is broken for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of Me.”

PEOPLE:

This is true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Placing his hand upon the rim of the chalice, he says,

Likewise also, the cup after supper: He mixed it of wine and water.

He makes the sign of the cross three times, and each time the people respond, “Amen.” At the first signing, he says,

And when He had given thanks,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

And at the second signing, He blessed it,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

And at the third signing, And He sanctified it.

PEOPLE:

Amen. Again, we believe, we confess, and we glorify.

PRESBYTER:

He holds the rim of the chalice with his hands, saying,

He tasted, and gave it also to His own saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying,

He moves the chalice in the form of the cross, inclining it carefully first to the west, then to the east, to the north , and to the south, while saying,

“Take, drink of it, all of you.

Pointing with his hands to the chalice, he says,

for this is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of Me.”

PEOPLE

This is also true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Pointing with his hands to the Body:

“For, every time you eat of this bread

Pointing with his hands to the chalice:

and drink of this cup, you proclaim My death, confess My Resurrection, and remember Me till I come.”

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Amen. Amen.  Your death, O Lord, we proclaim;  Your Holy Resurrection and Ascension into the heavens, we confess.  We praise You, we bless You, we thank You, O Lord, and we entreat You, O our God. |

PRESBYTER:

Therefore, as we also commemorate His holy Passion, His Resurrection from the dead; His Ascension into the heavens; His sitting at Your right hand, O Father; and His Second Coming from the heavens, awesome and full of glory: We offer unto You Your gifts from what is Yours, for everything, concerning everything, and in everything.

DEACON:

Worship God in fear and trembling.

PEOPLE:

We praise You, we bless You, we serve You, we worship You.

PRESBYTER:

And we ask You, O Lord our God—we, Your sinful and unworthy servants. We worship You by the pleasure of Your Goodness, that Your Holy Spirit may descend He points to himself with his hands and then to the oblation present before him, saying, upon us, and upon these gifts set forth, and purify them, change them, and manifest them as a sanctification of Your saints.

DEACON:

Let us attend. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Everyone raises his head, and three times the presbyter quickly signs the oblation on the paten, and says,

And this bread He makes into the His holy Body.

PEOPLE:

I believe—

PRESBYTER:

Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ: given for the remission of sins and eternal life to those who partake of Him.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Three times, the presbyter quickly signs the chalice with the sign of the cross.

And this cup, also, the precious Blood of His New Covenant.

PEOPLE:

Again, I believe—

PRESBYTER:

Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ: given for the remission of sins and eternal life to those who partake of Him.

Now, indeed the bread has become the Body of Christ and the wine the Blood of Christ. After this, the signings of both of Them shall be through Them and by Them.

PEOPLE:

Amen. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

At this point, the priest may elect to pray the first part of the Gregorian Litany (page 89).

## THE SEVEN SHORT PRAYERS

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes a veil in his right hand and another in his left hand, and says,

Make us all worthy, O our Master, to partake of Your Holies, unto the purification of our souls, our bodies and our spirits, that we may become one body and one spirit, and may have a share and an inheritance with all the saints who have pleased You since the beginning.

### THE PRAYER FOR PEACE

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the peace of Your One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church—

DEACON:

Pray for the peace of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apos-tolic, Orthodox Church of God.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Pointing with his hand first to the Blood and then to the Body, he says,

this, which You have acquired unto Yourself with the precious Blood of Your Christ. Keep Her in peace, with all the Orthodox Bishops who are in Her.

### THE PRAYER FOR THE FATHERS

PRESBYTER:

Foremost, remember, O Lord, our blessed and honored father, the archbishop, our patriarch, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_,

If a bishop or metropolitan is present, the priest adds:

…and his partner in the service, our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_.

DEACON:

Pray for our high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_—Pope and patriarch, and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria, and his brethren in the apostolic liturgy: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_[, and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_)))]; and for our Orthodox bishops.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And those who rightly handle the word of truth with him, grant them unto Your Holy Church to shepherd Your flock in peace.

### THE PRAYER FOR THE PRIESTS

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the Orthodox hegumens, priests and deacons—

DEACON:

Pray for the hegumens, priests, deacons, subdeacons, and the seven orders of the Church of God.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And all the servants, and all who are in virginity, and the purity of all Your faithful people.

### THE PRAYER FOR MERCY

BISHOP (or PRESBYTER):

Remember, O Lord, to have mercy upon us all.

PEOPLE:

Have mercy upon us, O God, the Father, the Pantocrator.

### THE PRAYER FOR THE PLACE

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the salvation of this Your holy place, and every place, and every monastery of our Orthodox fathers.

DEACON:

Pray for the salvation of the world and of this city of ours, and of all cities, countries, islands and monasteries.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And those who dwell therein in God’s faith.

At this point, the priest may elect to lead the congregation in chanting “Have mercy upon us…” (page 88), substituting “O God, the Father, the Pantocrator” for “O God, our Savior.”

From 6th of June (O.S.)[[14]](#footnote-14), to the 6th of October (O.S.) (7th of October on leap-years)[[15]](#footnote-15), the following prayer is said:

### THE PRAYER FOR THE WATERS

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to bless the waters of the river this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers this year, that Christ our God may bless them and raise them according to their measure; that He may give joy to the face of the earth, sustain us, the children of men, save the cattle, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 7th of October (O.S.) (8th of October on leap years) to the 5th of January (O.S.)[[16]](#footnote-16) (6th of January on leap years), the following prayer is said instead:

### THE PRAYER FOR THE SEEDS

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to bless the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, that Christ our God may bless them to grow and multiply unto perfection with great fruit, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 8th of October (O.S.) (9th of October on leap years) to the 5th of June (O.S.)[[17]](#footnote-17), the following prayer is said instead:

### THE PRAYER FOR THE FRUITS

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to bless the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the trees, the vineyards, and for every fruit bearing tree in all the world, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

### THE COMBINED PRAYER OF THE SEASONS

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to bless the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the waters of the river, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the rising of the waters of the rivers, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field, that Christ our God may bless them, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us ours sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Then the presbyter continues:

Raise them to their measure according to Your grace. Give joy to the face of the earth. May its furrows be abundantly watered and its fruits be plentiful. Prepare it for sowing and harvesting. Manage our lives as deemed fit.

Bless the crown of the year with Your Goodness, for the sake of the poor of Your people; the widow, the orphan, the traveler, the stranger; and for the sake of us all who entreat You and seek Your Holy Name.

For the eyes of everyone wait upon You, for You gives them their food in due season.

Deal with us according to Your Goodness, O You Who gives food to all flesh. Fill our hearts with joy and gladness, that we too, having sufficiency in everything, always, may abound in every good deed.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

At this point, the presbyter may elect to pray the second part of the Gregorian Litany (page 91).

### THE PRAYER FOR THE GIFTS

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter points with his hands to the oblation set before him, saying the following (which is said by a hierarch if present),

Remember, O Lord, those who have brought unto You these gifts, those on whose behalf they have been brought, and those by whom they have been brought. Give them all the heavenly reward.

DEACON:

Pray for these holy and precious gifts, our sacrifices, and those who bring them.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE COMMEMORATION OF THE SAINTS

PRESBYTER:

As this, O Lord, is the command of Your Only-Begotten Son, that we share in the commemoration of Your saints, graciously accord, O Lord, to remember all the saints who have pleased You since the beginning: our holy fathers the patriarchs, the prophets, the Apostles, the preachers, the Evangelists, the martyrs, the confessors, and all the spirits of the righteous who were perfected in the Faith.

Most of all, the pure, full of glory, Ever Virgin, holy Theotokos, Saint Mary, who truly gave birth to God the Logos. And Saint John the fore runner, Baptist and martyr; and Saint Stephen the archdeacon and protomartyr; the Beholder of God, the Evangelist Mark, the holy Apostle and martyr; the patriarch Saint Severus; our teacher Dioscorus; Saint Athanasius the Apostolic; Saint Peter, the holy martyr and high priest; Saint John Chrysostom, Saint Theodosius, Saint Theophilus, Saint Demetrius, Saint Cyril, Saint Basil, Saint Gregory the Theologian, Saint Gregory the wonder worker, Saint Gregory the Armenian; the three hundred and eighteen assembled at Nicea, the one hundred and fifty at Constantinople, and the two hundred at Ephesus; our righteous father, the great Abba Anthony, and the righteous Abba Paul; the three saints Abba Macarii, and all their children, the cross-bearers; our father Abba John the hegumen; our righteous father Abba Pishoy, the perfect man, the beloved of our Good Savior.

Our father Abba Paul of Tammoh and Ezekiel his disciple; my lords the Roman fathers, Saints Maximus and Dometius; the Forty Nine Martyrs, the elders of Shiheet; the strong saint, Abba Moses; John Kame, the priest; our father Abba Daniel the hegumen; our father Abba Isidore the priest; our father Abba Pachom of the Koinonia, and Theodore his disciple; our father Abba Shenoute the Archmandrite, and Abba Wesa his disciple;

And all the choir of Your saints—through whose prayers and supplications, have mercy on us all and save us, for the sake of Your Holy Name, which is called upon us.

DEACON:

Let those who read recite the names of our holy fathers, the patriarchs, who have fallen asleep. O Lord, repose their souls, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

Remember also, O Lord, all those who have fallen asleep and reposed in the priesthood and in all the orders of the laity. Graciously, O Lord, repose all their souls in the bosom of our holy fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Sustain them in green pastures, beside still waters in the Paradise of Joy, the place out of which grief, sorrow, and groaning have fled away in the light of Your saints. *The presbyter puts incense in the censer and mentions the departed.*

If it is the time when a patriarch, a metropolitan, or a bishop has fallen asleep, the following prayer is said. This prayer also replaced the Prayer for the Fathers.

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the soul of our father the [patriarch/metropolitan/bishop] Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_.

DEACON:

Pray for the soul of our blessed and honored father Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, that the Lord God may repose it in the bosom of our holy fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Paradise of Joy, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Graciously repose it with your saints. Grant to appoint for us a good shepherd to shepherd Your people in purity and righteousness. During the Prayer for the Fathers, continue with, “and all the Orthodox bishops.”

The presbyter may say the following commemoration of the departed from the Liturgy of St. Cyril, page 117.

DEACON:

Through the prayers and intercessions of our Lady, the all-holy, full-of-glory, undefiled, most blessed Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; and of John, the holy prophet, forerunner, Baptist, and martyr; and of Saint Stephen, the archdeacon and protomartyr; and of the holy, glorious Apostles, prophets, and triumphant martyrs, and all the choirs of Your saints; and of Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, lord and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria; and of our grateful orthodox bishops; and for the well-being and repose of our holy fathers; foremost, Mark the holy apostle, Evangelist, archbishop, and martyr; and all who have rightly taught the word of truth: the Orthodox bishops, priests, deacons, clergy, and laity; these and all the Orthodox. Amen.

DEACON:

The great Abba Antony, and the righteous Abba Paul; and the three saints Abba Macarii; Abba John the Short; Abba Pishoy, Abba Paul; our holy Roman fathers, Maximus and Dometius; Abba Moses, Abba John Kami, Abba Daniel; Abba Isidore, Abba Pachom, Abba Shenoute; and Abba Paphnoute, Abba Parsoma, Abba Teji; and all who have rightly taught the word of truth: the Orthodox bishops, priests, deacons, clergy, laity; and all the Orthodox. (Amen.)

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| [May their holy blessing be with us. Amen.]  Glory to You, O Lord.  Lord have mercy.  Lord have mercy.  Lord, bless us.  Lord, repose them. Amen. |

PRESBYTER:

After the commemoration of the departed, the presbyter, with his hands extended on high, continues:

Those, O Lord, whose souls You have taken, repose them in the Paradise of Joy—in the region of the living forever, in the heavenly Jerusalem—in that place. And we too, who are sojourners in this place, keep us in Your faith, and grant us Your peace unto the end.

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| As it was, and shall be, it is from generation to generation, and all ages of ages. Amen.  Or,  As it was and is,  it shall also be  unto generations of generations  and unto all the ages of the ages.  Amen. |

PRESBYTER:

Lead us throughout the way into Your Kingdom, that, as in this, so also in all things, Your great and Holy Name may be glorified, blessed and exalted—in everything honored and blessed—with Jesus Christ, Your Beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit. Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE FRACTION

PRESBYTER:

Again, let us give thanks to God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, for He also has made us worthy now, to stand in this holy place, to lift up our hands, and to serve His Holy Name. Let us also ask Him to make us worthy of the communion and partaking of His divine and immortal Mysteries.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes the pure Body with his right hand and places It in his left hand, and places the index finger of his right hand on the Body at the side of the Despotikon, at the place of separation, and says,

The holy Body,

PEOPLE:

We worship Your holy Body—

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter dips his index finger into the precious Blood and then raises his finger a little from the Blood and makes one sign of the cross with it above the Blood within the chalice, while saying,

And the precious Blood,

PEOPLE:

And Your precious Blood.

PRESBYTER:

Of His Christ, the Pantocrator, the Lord our God.

DEACON:

Amen. Amen. Pray.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

Alternate Fractions begin on page 145

## THE FRACTION

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, our God, the Great and the Eternal, Who is wondrous in glory; Who keeps His covenant and His mercy to them who love Him with all their heart; Who has given to us redemption from sins through His Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, the Life of everyone,

The help of those who flee to Him, the hope of those who cry out to Him; before Whom stand thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousands of holy angels and archangels, the Cherubim and the Seraphim, and all the innumerable host of the heavenly powers.

O God, Who has sanctified these gifts which are set forth, through the coming down upon them of Your Holy Spirit; You have purified them. Purify us also, our Master, from our sins, the hidden and manifest; and every thought which is not pleasing to Your Goodness, God, the Lover of mankind, may it be far from us.

Purify our souls, our bodies and our spirits, our hearts and our eyes, our understanding, our thoughts and our consciences, so that with a pure heart, and an enlightened soul, and an unashamed face, and a faith unfeigned, and a perfect love, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to pray to You, O God, the Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

PEOPLE:

Our Father…

## THE PRAYER AFTER “OUR FATHER”

PRESBYTER:

Yea, we ask You, O holy Father, the Good One Who loves goodness: lead us not into temptation, nor let any iniquity rule over us, but deliver us from worthless works and from the thoughts, motions, sights and touches thereof. Destroy the Tempter and drive him away. Rebuke also his movements implanted in us, and cut off from us all impulses which drag us into sin, and deliver us by Your holy power, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Before You, O Lord.

## THE PRAYER OF SUBMISSION

PRESBYTER:

The graces of the beneficence of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, are fulfilled. We have confessed His saving Passion; we have proclaimed His death; we have believed in His Resurrection—and the Mystery is accomplished. We give thanks to You, O Lord, God the Pantocrator, for Your mercy is great upon us; for You have prepared for us those things which the angels desire to behold. We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, that—since You have purified us all—You join us to Yourself, through our partaking of Your divine Mysteries, that we may become filled with Your Holy Spirit, confirmed in Your upright faith. Having been filled with the longing for Your True Love, may we speak of Your glory at all times, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Let us attend in the fear of God.

PREBYTER:

Pease be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE ABSOLUTION TO THE FATHER

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, God the Pantocrator, the Healer of our souls, our bodies and spirits, You are He Who said to our father Peter, from the mouth of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, “You are Peter: on this rock I will build My church and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in the heavens, and whatever you will loose on the earth shall be loosed in the heavens.”

Therefore, O Lord, let Your servants, my fathers and my brethren and my own weakness, be absolved by my mouth, through Your Holy Spirit, O Good One and Lover of mankind. O God, Who takes away the sin of the world, hasten to accept the repentance of Your servants, for a light of understanding and forgiveness of sins. For You are a compassionate and merciful God; You are patient; Your mercy is great and true. If we have sinned against You, either by word or by deeds, pardon and forgive us, as a Good One, and Lover of mankind.

O God, absolve us, and absolve all Your people [Remember, O Lord, my own weakness and forgive my many sins, and where transgression has abounded, let Your race be multiplied in abundance. Because of my own sins and the abominations of my heart, deprive not Your people of the grace of Your Holy Spirit. O God, absolve us, and absolve all Your people] from every sin, and from every curse, and from every denial, and from every false oath, and from every encounter with the heretics and the heathens. O our Master, grant us a reason, and power, and understanding, to flee unto the end from any evil deed of the adversary, and grant us to do what is pleasing to You at all times. Inscribe our names with all the choir of Your saints in the Kingdom of the heavens, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Through Whom the glory, the honour, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The presbyter says inaudibly the short prayers for the peace of the church and for the fathers. Then he exclaims aloud:

Remember, O Lord, our congregations. Bless them.

DEACON:

Raising the cross,

Saved. Amen. And with your spirit. In the fear of God, let us attend.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Taking in his hands the Despotikon and raising It up to arm’s length, with head bowed, he exclaims,

The Holies for the holy.

The people worship before the Lord with fear and trembling, praying for the forgiveness of their sins with tears and supplication. Then the presbyter takes the Despotikon between the tips of two fingers of his right hand, and with It he signs the precious Blood inside the chalice in the form of a cross. Then he dips the extremity of It inside the chalice and carefully raises It soaked in the Blood, and with It signs, in the form of the cross, the pure Body which is all on the paten. Then he takes the Despotikon and signs with It the Blood inside the chalice in the form of the cross. He then carefully places the Despotikon upside down in the Blood inside the chalice, all the while with his left hand cupped under the Despotikon lest any of the pearls should fall or drip, while saying,

Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the sanctification is by the Holy Spirit (or “He has sanctified [Them] by His Holy Spirit”). Amen.

CONGREGATION:

The people raise their heads, and respond in a loud voice:

|  |
| --- |
| One is the All-Holy Father.  One is the All-Holy Son.  One is the All-Holy Spirit.  Amen. |

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE PROFESSION

PRESBYTER:

The holy Body and the precious and true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The holy, precious Body, and the true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The Body and the Blood of Emmanuel our God: this is in truth. Amen.

PEOPLE

Amen. I believe.

PRESBYTER:

Amen. Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe and confess to the last breath, that this is the life-giving Flesh that Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, took from our Lady, the lady of us all, the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary. He made It one with His Divinity without mingling, without confusion, and without alteration.

He confessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate.

He gave It up for us upon the holy wood of the Cross, of His own will, for us all.

Truly I believe that His Divinity parted not from His Humanity for a single moment, nor a twinkling of an eye.

Given for us for salvation, remission of sins, and eternal life to those who partake of Him. I believe, I believe, I believe that this is so in truth. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen. Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe that this is so in truth. Amen.

Pray for us and for all Christians who said to us concerning them, “Remember us (in the house of the Lord).”

The peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you. Sing, “Alleluia.”

Pray for the worthy partaking of the immaculate and heavenly Holy Mysteries. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter places the pearls which are in his hand on the paten in their place, and he gathers all the particles together and rubs his hands over the paten and cleans both of them thoroughly, and with a bowed head, he gives glory to God, saying inaudibly:

For at all times, all glory and all honor and all worship are due to the Holy Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Prayers before the Distribution:

Make us all worthy, O our Master, to partake of Your holy Body and Your precious Blood unto the purification of our souls, bodies, and spirits, and unto the remission of our sins and iniquities, that we may be one body and one spirit with You.

Glory to You, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, forever. Amen.

Or

Loose, remit, and forgive us, O God, our transgressions which we have committed willingly and which we have committed unwillingly, which we have committed knowingly and which we have committed unknowingly; the hidden and the manifest, O Lord, remit for us, for the sake of Your holy Name which is called upon us. According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

Or

Author of life and King of the ages, Logos of God the Father, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ; the true Bread which came down from heaven; the giver of life to those who partake of Him; make us worthy, without falling into condemnation, to partake of Your holy Body and Your precious Blood. May our partaking of Your Holy Mysteries make us one with You unto the end; and bless us. You are the Son of God; Yours is the glory, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, forever. Amen.

Or

O our Lord Jesus Christ, make us worthy to partake of Your pure Body and Your precious Blood, without it being condemnation for us. Rather, as You have said to Your holy Disciples, “Take my Body and Blood for the remission of your sins.” Likewise, may we have communion with Your holy Disciples, partaking of Your life-giving Mysteries that we may be granted remission of our sins and forgiveness of our iniquities and purity for our souls, bodies, and spirits, unto firmness in the faith of Your holy Name till the last breath, through the prayers of our Lady, Saint Mary, and of all Your saints. Amen.

Then aloud,

Our Father…

PEOPLE:

Glory to Thee, O Lord. Glory to Thee.

## HOLY COMMUNION

During the distribution of the Holy Mysteries, the people chant Psalm 150, then what is appropriate for the day. The presbyter kisses with his mouth the holy Body and partakes of it. Then he gives communion to the assistant presbyter (if there is on), the ministering deacon, and the rest of the communicants.

When he gives the assistant presbyter, the servants, and the people the pure Body without the Blood, he says, “This is truly the Body of Immanual our God. Amen.” When he gives the precious Blood, he says, “This is truly the Blood of Immanuel our God. Amen.” If he gives the Body dipped in the Blood, as in the case for the sick, he says, “These are truly the Body and Blood of Immanuel our God. Amen.” The communicant responds each time, saying, “Amen.”

While bearing the paten with the Body of Christ, the presbyter begins distributing the Holy Mysteries to the people by turning to the west and, with the paten, blessing the people with the sign of the cross, saying,

PRESBYTER:

The Holies for the holy. Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God; the sanctification is by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

PRESBYTER:

After all have communion, the presbyter returns to the altar and, with the paten, makes the sign of the cross on the people again, while saying:

The holy Body and the precious, true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

Then he places the paten on the altar and consumes, together with the deacons, what remains of the holy Body. Again, after all have been given communion from the precious Blood, the presbyter distributes and consumes what remains in the chalice. Then he washes the vessels, drinking the washing water and giving it also to the deacons.

## PSALM 150

During Communion, the congregation sings Psalm 150:

Praise God, in all His saints. Alleluia.

Praise Him in the firmament of His power. Alleluia.

Praise Him for His mighty acts. Alleluia.

Praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness. Alleluia.

Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia.

Praise Him with psaltery and harp. Alleluia.

Praise Him with timbrels and choruses. Alleluia.

Praise Him with strings and organs. Alleluia.

Praise Him with pleasant sounding cymbals. Alleluia.

Praise Him upon the cymbals of joy. Alleluia.

Let everything that has breath praise the Name of the Lord our God. Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Alleluia.

Now, and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Glory to You, our God. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Glory be to our God. Alleluia.

Alleluia. O Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy upon us.

The people continue with what is appropriate for the day, or

|  |
| --- |
| The Bread of life,  which came down  for us from heaven,  has given life to the world. |
| And you, too, O Mary,  have borne in your womb  the rational Manna,  which came from the Father. |
| You have brought Him forth without blemish;  He gave us His Body  and His precious Blood,  and we life forever. |
| Around You stand  the cherubim  and the seraphim,  and they cannot look at You. |
| We behold You  daily upon the altar,  and we partake of Your Body  and Your precious Blood. |
| Therefore, we exalt  you befittingly  with prophetic  hymnology, |
| for they spoke  honorable things of you,  O Holy City  of the great King. |
| We entreat and pray  that we may win mercy  through your intercessions  with the Lover of Mankind. |
| Through the intercessions  of the Theotokos, Saint Mary,  O Lord, grant us  the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the intercessions of the holy archangels  Michael and Gabriel,  O Lord grant us  the forgiveness of our sins. |

followed by:

|  |
| --- |
| Blessed be the Father and the Son  and the Holy Spirit,  the perfect Trinity,  We worship Him and glorify Him. |

Or,

|  |
| --- |
| Blessed are You indeed,  With Your good Father  And the Holy Spriit,  For You [have come] and saved us. |

## THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

After distributing the Holy Mysteries, the presbyter says this prayer of thanksgiving to God, which is addressed to the Father.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

DEACON[[18]](#footnote-18):

Pray for the worthy communion of the immaculate, heavenly and holy Mysteries.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Our mouth is filled with gladness and our tongue with joy, for partaking from Your immortal Mysteries, O Lord—that which an eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man—the things which You, O God, have prepared for those who love Your Holy Name—You have revealed to the little children of Your Holy Church.

Yea, O Father, this is the pleasure before You, for You are merciful. We send up unto You glory and honour, O Father and Son and Holy Spirit, now, and at all times, and unto the ages of all ages. Amen.

## THE PRAYER OF THE LAYING OF HANDS

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Before You, O Lord.

PRESBYTER:

Your servants, O Lord, who are serving You, entreating Your Holy Name, and bowing down their heads to You, dwell in them, O Lord; walk among them; aid them in every good deed; awaken their heart from every vile earthly thought; grant them to live and think of that which pertains to the living, and to understand the things that are Yours. Through Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, to Whom we, and all Your people, cry out saying, “Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.”

CONGREGATION:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

After the presbyter finishes this prayer and the washing of the sacred vessels, water is poured into the palms of his hands, of which he sprinkles a small amount onto the table, and he says,

O angel of this sacrifice, flying up to the highest with this hymn, remember us before the Lord, that He may forgive us our sins.

## THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

The presbyter wipes his face with his hands, and he turns to his brethren the presbyters, above and below, making hem partners with him by the touch of his hands, and whomsoever he has made partner with him, he wipes his face with his hands and they do likewise. Then he places his hand upon the heads of the people and blesses them. (This is now done through sprinkling them with the holy water instead of laying the hands on each one). He then dismisses them and concludes with the blessing.

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Amen.  Alleluia. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  both now, and always, and to the age of ages.  Amen. |
| We proclaim and say,  “O our Lord Jesus Christ,  bless the {waters of the river / seeds and the herbs / air of heaven};  may Your mercy and Your peace be a fortress to Your people.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us. \*  Lord have mercy.  Lord have mercy.  Lord bless.  Amen. |
| Bless me.  Lo, the repentance.  Forgive me.  Say the blessing. |
| In the presence of a hierarch, insert:  \*You have received the grace of Moses,  the priesthood of Melchizedek;  the old age of Jacob, the long days of Methuselah;  the elect understanding of David, the wisdom of Solomon  and the Spirit, the Paraclete, Which came upon the Apostles. |
| The Lord keep the life and the standing of our honoured father,  the high priest, Papa Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_. |
| And our fathers, the bishops, who are with us. |
| May God in heaven confirm him on his throne  for many years and peaceful times,  and humiliate all his enemies  under his feet speedily. |
| Pray to Christ on our behalf,  that He may forgive us our sins in peace,  according to His great mercy.  Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.... |

## THE SHORT BLESSING

PRESBYTER:

May God have compassion upon us, bless us, manifest His face upon us, and have mercy upon us. Lord, save Your people; bless Your inheritance; shepherd them and raise them up forever. Exalt the horn of the Christians through the power of the life-giving Cross, and through the supplications and prayers which our Lady, the lady of us all, the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary, makes for us at all times. And [through the supplications and prayers of] the three great holy luminaries Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael; the four incorporeal living creatures; the twenty-four presbyters; and all the heavenly orders; Saint John the Baptist; the hundred and forty-four thousand; my masters and fathers the apostles; the three holy youths; Saint Stephen; the beholder-of-God, the Evangelist Mark, the holy apostle and martyr; Saint George; Saint Theodore; Philopateer Mercurius; Saint Abba Mina; and the whole choir of the martyrs; our righteous father, the great Abba Anthony; the righteous Abba Paul; the three saints Abba Macarii; our father Abba John; our father Abba Pishoi; our father Abba Paul of Tammoh; our Roman fathers Maximus and Dometius; our father Abba Moses; the Forty-nine Martyrs; the whole choir of the cross-bearers; the just; the righteous; all the wise virgins; the angel of this blessed day, and the angel of this blessed sacrifice; (here, mention is made of the patron saint of the church, and the saint[s] of the day); and the blessing of the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary, first and last {, and the blessing of the Lord’s Day of our Savior (on a Sunday)}.

May their holy blessing, and their grace, and their might, and their favour, and their love, and their help, be with us all, forever. Amen

Sprinkling the people with water,

O Christ our God—

PEOPLE:

Amen. So be it.

PRESBYTER:

O, King of peace, grant us Your peace, establish for us Your peace, and forgive us our sins. For Yours is the power, the glory, the blessing and the might, forever. Amen.

Make us worthy to pray thankfully: Our Father…

PEOPLE:

Our Father…

DEACON:

The grace of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all. Go in peace.

PEOPLE:

Amen. So bit it. A hundred years.

PRESBYTER:

The love of God the Father; the grace of this Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ; and the communion and gift of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Go in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you all. Amen.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

The presbyter turns and kisses the altar, and encircles it once, saying Psalm 46. Then he descends from the altar and takes of his priestly vestments and distributes the eulogia, that is, the blessed bread. And he dismissed the people in peace from the Lord. May His grace, mercy, and blessing be upon us forever. A.men.

# THE ANAPHORA OF SAINT GREGORY

The service begins with the Prayer of Preparation from the Liturgy of Saint Basil and continues to the end of the inaudible Prayer of the Gospel, with the Absolution to the Son replaced by the Absolution to the Father. Then the following Prayer of the Veil is said inaudibly,

## THE PRAYER OF THE VEIL TO THE FATHER

PRESBYTER:

O Lord God the Pantocrator, Who knows the thoughts of men and searches the hearts and inward parts, although I am unworthy, You have called me to this Your holy service. Despise me not, neither turn Your face away from me, but rather wipe away all of my iniquities and wash away the spots of my body and the blemishes of my soul. Purify me to be perfect, lest, as I entreat Your goodness to grant the forgiveness of sins to others, I myself should be disqualified. Yea, Lord, turn me not away humiliated and ashamed, but rather send upon me the grace of Your Holy Spirit. And make me worthy to stand at Your holy altar without casting me into condemnation, and to offer unto You this rational, bloodless sacrifice with a pure conscience, for the remission of my sins and trespasses, and for the forgiveness of the ignorance of Your people, and for the repose and rest of our fathers and brethren who have already fallen asleep in the Orthodox faith, and for the edification of all Your people. Glor to You, with Your Only-Begotten Son and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the ages of ages. All Amen.

## ANOTHER PRAYER OF THE VEIL

Again, we return to You, O God, the Good One, through approaching Your holy altar. And we ask You, O eternal Logos, purify us at this time when we come to You, O You Who came to us in Your unchangeable flesh and filled all by Your boundless divinity. The bitterness of envy that is full of blemish, may it be far from us, together with the stench of abominable slander. Purify our hearts from every blemish and our souls from every vice and our bodies from every defilement. And send down upon us the abundance of Your Holy Spirit, that we may be able, through Your help, to come to Your holy altar and to complete this service according to what is pleasing before You. And may our sacrifice be acceptable before You for the forgiveness of our sins and to the glory of Your Holy Name. For you are kind to everyone who entreats You. And unto You is due the Kingdom, the authority, and the worship, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, anow and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Then the presbyter says the Three Long Litanies, and the people recite the Creed. Meanwhile, the presbyter washes his hands, reciting verses for the Psalms.

## THE PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

PRESBYTER:

O You, THE BEING, Who was and Who abides forever; the Eternal, Co-Essential, Co-Enthroned, Co-Creator with the Father; Who, for the sake of goodness only, brought man into existence out of non-existence, and put him in the Paradise of Joy.

And when he fell, through the deception of the enemy and disobedience of Your holy commandment, You desired to renew him, and to restore him to his first estate.

Neither an angel, nor an archangel, nor a patriarch, nor a prophet, have You entrusted with our salvation. But You, without change, were incarnate and became man, and resembled us in everything, except for sin alone; and became, for us, a Mediator with the Father; and the middle wall You have broken down, and the old enmity You have abolished.

You have reconciled the earthly with the heavenly, and made the two into one, and fulfilled the economy in the flesh; and at Your Ascension into the heavens in the body, having filled all with Your Divinity, You said to Your holy Disciples and Apostles, “My peace I give to you, My peace I leave with you.”

The same grant also, now grant to us, O our Master; and cleanse us from all blemish, all guile, all hypocrisy, all vice, all craftiness, and the remembrance of evil, bearing death.

DEACON:

Pray for perfect peace, love, and the holy Apostolic greetings.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And make us all worthy, O our Master, to greet one another with a holy kiss, that without falling into condemnation, we may partake of Your immortal and heavenly gift, through Your grace, and the goodwill of Your Good Father, and the work of Your Holy Spirit.

For You are the Provider, and the Giver of all goodness, and to You we send up the glory, and the honour and the worship, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You; now, and at all times, and to the age of all ages. Amen.

The people may chant the Aspasmos Adam hymn.

DEACON:

Greet one another with a holy kiss. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Yea, Lord, Who are Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy on us.

Let us stand well, let us stand reverently, let us stand earnestly, let us stand in peace, let us stand int eh fear of God, trembling and stunned.

Offer in order. Stand with trembling. Look towards the East. Let us attend.

PEOPLE:

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| --- |
| Through the inter­cessions  of the Theotokos, Saint Mary,  O Lord,  grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You [have come] and saved us. |
| A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.[[19]](#footnote-19) |

## ANOTHER PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION TO THE SON[[20]](#footnote-20)

PRESBYTER:

O Christ our God, the fearful and incomprehensible power of God the Father, Who is seated upon the flaming throne of the cherubim, Who is served by the fiery powers; and You, as God, are a consuming fire. Because of Your ineffable condescension and love towards mankind, You did not burn the guileful traitor when he drew near to You, but greeted him with the greeting of fellowship, drawing him unto repentance and the recognition of his presumptuousness.

Make us worthy, O our Master—we also at this fearsome hour, that with one mind and without a double heart and the rest of vice—to greet one another with a holy kiss. And cast us not into condemnation, even if, according to the pleasure of Your goodness, we are not perfectly pure from the mire of sin, evil, and the deadly remembrance of vice. But rather through Your ineffable and indestructible compassion, knowing the frailty and fallenness of our form, wipe away all the stain of our trespasses, that we may not be under condemnation nor fall into judgment concerning this Mystery of Your divinity.

DEACON:

Pray for perfect peace, love, and the holy apostolic greetings.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

For You are He Who is able to take away all sins and to remove all the unrighteousness and iniquity of wretched men. Behold, You are the purity of the whole world. And unto You is due the glorification with one voice from everyone: glory, honor, might, and worship, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The people may chant the Aspasmos Adam hymn.

DEACON:

Greet one another with a holy kiss. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Yea, Lord, Who are Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy on us.

Offer in order. Stand with trembling. Look towards the East. Let us attend.

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the inter­cessions  of the Theotokos, Saint Mary,  O Lord,  grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You [have come] and saved us. |
| A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.[[21]](#footnote-21) |

At the time of printing, the only licit place for the Offertory is before the Liturgy of the Word. If, in the future blessing is given to restore it to its original position, it should be inserted now, beginning with the Great Entry, immediately after the deacon has commanded, “Offer.”

## THE ANAPHORA

PRESBYTER:

Turning to the west, he signs the people with the sign of the cross, saying,

The love of God the Father; and the grace of the Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ; and the communion and the gift of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

Signing the deacons on his right, Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE:

We have them with the Lord.

PRESBYTER:

Signing himself: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

It is meet and right.

PRESBYTER:

Meet and right, meet and right, meet and right, it is fitting indeed, and right, that we praise You, bless You, serve You, worship You, and glorify You, the One, Only, True God, the Lover of mankind; Ineffable, Invisible, Infinite, without beginning, Everlasting, Timeless, Limitless, Immeasurable, Unchangeable, Creator of all, Savior of everyone; Who forgives our sins, Who saves our life from corruption, Who crowns us with mercy and compassion.

You are He Whom the angels praise, and the archangels worship. You are He Whom the Principalities bless, and to Whom the Dominions cry. You are He Whose glory the Authorities declare. You are He unto Whom the Thrones send up the honor.

Thousands of thousands stand before You, and ten thousand times ten thousands offer You service. You are He Whom the invisible bless, and the visible worship. They all do Your word, O our Master.

DEACON:

You who are seated, stand.

PRESBYTER:

O You, THE BEING, Master, Lord, True God of True God; Who has manifested to us the Light of the Father; Who has granted us the true knowledge of the Holy Spirit; Who has manifested to us this great Mystery of life; Who has established the rising of the choirs of the incorporeal among men; Who has given to the earthly the praising of the Seraphim—receive from us, also, our voices, together with the invisible. Count us with the heavenly hosts.

Let us also say with them, having cast away from us all the thoughts of the evil imagination, and proclaim that which they send up with unceasing voices and unfailing lips, and praise Your greatness.

DEACON:

Look towards the East.

PRESBYTER:

You are He around Whom stand the Cherubim and the Seraphim, six wings to the one, and six wings to the other: with two they cover their faces, and with two they cover their feet, and with two they fly. And one cries unto another: they send up the hymn of victory and salvation, which is ours, with a voice full of glory.

They praise, they sing, they proclaim, they cry out, saying,

DEACON:

Let us attend.

PEOPLE:

The congregation sings the appropriate “Aspasmos Watos” hymn. Then they sing the following:

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| “Holy, Holy, Holy,  Lord of Hosts,  heaven and earth  are full of Thine holy glory.” |

PRESBYTER:

“Agios (signing himself), Agios (signing the acolytes to his right), Agios (signing the congregation to the West).”

Holy, Holy, O Lord, and Holy are You in everything, and most excellent is the Light of Your Essence. Ineffable is the power of Your wisdom, and no manner of speech can measure the depth of Your love toward mankind.

You, as a Lover of mankind, have created me, as man. You had no need of my servitude, but rather I had need of Your Lordship. Because of the multitude of Your tender mercies, You have brought me into existence when I was not.

You have raised heaven as a roof for me, and established the earth for me to walk upon. For my sake, You have bound the sea. For my sake, You have manifested the nature of animals. You have subjected all things under my feet. You have not left me in need of anything of the works of Your honor.

You are He Who formed me, and laid Your hand upon me, and inscribed in me the image of Your authority. You have placed in me the gift of speech and opened for me Paradise to enjoy, and have given to me the learning of Your knowledge.

You have manifested to me the Tree of Life, and made known to me the sting of death. One plant have You forbidden me to eat, that of which You have said to me, “Of it only do not eat.” But according to my will, I did eat. I put Your Law behind me by my own counsel, and became slothful towards Your commandments. I plucked for myself the sentence of death.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

You, O my Master, have turned for me the punishment to salvation. As a Good Shepherd, You have sought after that which had gone astray.

As a True Father, You have travailed with me—I, who had fallen. You have bound me with all the remedies that lead to life. You are He Who has sent to me the prophets, for my sake—I, the sick. You have given me the Law as a help. You are He Who ministered salvation to me when I disobeyed Your Law. As a True Light, You have shone upon the lost and the ignorant.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

O You, THE BEING throughout all time, have come to us on earth. You have come into the womb of the Virgin. You, the Infinite, being God, did not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Yourself, and took the form of a servant; and blessed my nature in Yourself; and fulfilled Your Law on my behalf.

You have shown me the rising up from my fall. You have given release unto them who were bound in Hades. You have lifted the curse of the Law. You have abolished sin in the flesh. You have shown me the power of Your authority. You have given sight to the blind. You have raised the dead from the tombs. You have established nature by the word. You have manifested to me the economy of Your tender mercy.

You have borne the oppression of the wicked. You have given Your back to the scourge; Your cheeks You have left open to them who smite. For my sake, O my Master, You have not hidden Your face from the shame of spitting.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

You have come to the slaughter as a sheep, even to the Cross. You have manifested the greatness of Your care for me. You have slain my sin in Your tomb. You have brought my first fruit up to heaven. You have shown me the manifestation[[22]](#footnote-22) of Your coming, wherein You shall come to judge the living and the dead, and give each one according to his deeds.

PEOPLE:

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

## THE INSTITUTION NARRATIVE

PRESBYTER:

Taking hold of the spook with a veil and making the sign of the cross over the incense box, he takes a spoonful of incense and puts it in the censer, saying,

I offer to You, O my Master, the symbols of my freedom. I write my works according to You sayings.

You are He Who has given me this service, full of mystery. You have given me the partaking of Your Flesh, in bread and wine. Pointing to the bread and wine.

PEOPLE:

We believe.

PRESBYTER:

Censing his hands over the censer three times, he says,

For, in the same night in which You gave Yourself up, of Your own will and authority alone, lifting his hands from the censer, he takes the bread in his hands, and removes the veil from the paten, saying, You took bread into Your holy hands, which are without spot or blemish, blessed and life giving.

PEOPLE:

We believe that this is true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Looking upwards, You looked up towards heaven, to God, Who is Your Father and Master of everyone, making the sign of the cross over the bread for the first time, and when You had given thanks,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Making the second sign of the cross, You blessed it,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Making the third sign of the cross, And sanctified it.

PEOPLE:

Amen. We believe, we confess, and we glorify.

PRESBYTER:

Breaking the oblation into a two-thirds and one-third part, without separating one part from the other, he says,

You broke it, and gave it to Your own saintly, honorable Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Take, eat of it, all of you. For this is My Body, he breaks the top of the oblation without completely separating it, which is broken for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of Me.”

PEOPLE:

This is true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Placing his hand upon the rim of the chalice, Likewise also, after they had supped, You took a cup, mixed it of the fruit of the vine and water, making the sign of the cross over the chalice, and when You had given thanks,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Making another sing of the cross, You blessed it,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Making a third sign of the cross, And sanctified it.

PEOPLE:

Amen. Again, we believe, we confess, and we glorify.

PRESBYTER:

Holing the chalice, You tasted, and gave it also to Your own saintly, honorable disciples and holy Apostles, saying, he moves the chalice in the form of a cross, inclining it carefully and gently first towards himself to the west, then to the east, to the north, and to the south, saying, “Take, drink of it, all of you. For this is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of me.”

PEOPLE:

This is also true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Pointing with his hands to the Body and the Blood, he says, “For, every time you eat of this bread and drink of this cup, you proclaim My death, confess My Resurrection, and remember Me till I come.”

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Amen. Amen.  Your death, O Lord, we proclaim;  Your Holy Resurrection and Ascension to the heavens, we confess.  We praise You, we bless You, we thank You, O Lord,  and we entreat You, O our God. |

PRESBYTER:

Therefore, O our Master, as we commemorate Your coming to earth, Your life-giving death, Your Burial for three days; Your Resurrection from the dead, Your Ascension into the heavens, Your sitting at the right hand of Your Father; and Your Second Coming from the heavens, awesome and full of glory, we offer unto You Your gifts from what is Yours, for everything, concerning everything, and in everything.

DEACON:

Worship the Lamb, the Logos of God.

Or,

Worship God in fear and trembling.

PEOPLE:

We praise You, we bless You, we serve You, we worship You.

PRESBYTER:

The entire congregation prostrates before God, and the presbyter bows his head, and he says the “Epiclesis,” inaudibly:

O You, our Master, by Your voice alone, change these which are set forth. You, Who are with us, prepare for us this service, full of mystery. Implant in us the remembrance of Your holy service. Send to us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, to purify and change these gifts set forth into the Body and Blood of our salvation.

DEACON:

Let us attend. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Signing the oblation three times quickly, And this bread, He makes into Your Holy Body.[[23]](#footnote-23)

PEOPLE:

I believe—

PRIEST:

Inaudibly, Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, given for the remission of sins and eternal life to those who partake of Him.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Signing the chalice three times quickly, And this cup, also, the precious Blood of the Your New Covenant.

PEOPLE:

Again, I believe—

PRESBYTER:

Inaudibly: Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, given for the remission of sins aloud: and eternal life to those who partake of Him.

CONGREGATION:

Amen. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

## THE LITANY (PART ONE)

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter chants these verses. The congregation responds with “Lord have mercy,” following each one:

Yea, we ask You, O Christ our God, confirm the foundation of the Church.

The oneness of heart that is love, may it take root in us.

May the righteousness of faith grow; straighten for us the path of godliness.

Control the shepherds, and those whom they shepherd, confirm.

Give splendor to the clergy, ascetism to the monks;

Purity to those in virginity, a life of goodness to those in wedlock;

Mercy to those in repentance, goodness to the rich;

Meekness unto the honorable, help unto the poor.

Strengthen the elders; chasten the young.

Restore the unbelievers; may the schisms of the Church cease.

Strip the vanity of the heretics, and count us all in the unity of godliness.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

## THE SHORT PRAYERS

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the peace of Your One, Only, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church—

DEACON:

Pray for the peace of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic, Orthodox Church of God.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

this, which exists from one end of the world to the other; and those who rightly handle the word of truth in Her—most of all our patriarch, the honored father, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mark Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_[, and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_].

DEACON:

Pray for our high priest, Pope Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_—Pope and patriarch, and archbishop of the great city of Alexandria, and his brethren in the apostolic liturgy: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_[, and his partner in the apostolic liturgy, our father the bishop/metropolitan, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_]; and for our Orthodox bishops.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And for those who are in this place, and those who have fallen asleep—the bishops, hegumens, priests, deacons and subdeacons—

DEACON:

Pray for the hegumens, priests, deacons, subdeacons, and the seven orders of the Church of God.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

and the readers, the chanters, the exorcists, the monks, the virgins and the widows; the orphans, the ascetics and the laity; and all the fullness of Your holy Church, O God of the faithful.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, those who have reigned in godliness, and those who are now kings [leaders].

DEACON:

Pray for our Christ loving kings [leaders].

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, our brethren the Orthodox believers who are in the palace [government], and all who are in the military.

DEACON:

Pray for our faithful and orthodox brethren in the palace [government], and for all the troops.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Pointing to the oblation set before him, Remember, O Lord, those who have brought to You these gifts, those on whose behalf they have been brought, and those by whom they have been brought. Give them all the heavenly reward.

DEACON:

Pray for these holy and precious gifts, our sacrifices, and those who bring them.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRIEST:

Remember, O Lord, those who dwell in the mountains and the caves, and our brethren who are in captivity.

DEACON:

Pray for the captives.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Grant them a peaceful return unto their own.

DEACON:

Worship the Lamb, the Logos of God.

Or,

Bow before God in fear.

PRESBYTER:

The entire congregation prostrates before the Lord, and the presbyter bows his head, saying,

Remember, O Lord, my own weakness, and forgive my many sins; and where iniquity has abounded, let Your grace be multiplied in abundance. Because of my own sins and the abominations of my heart, deprive not Your people of the grace of Your Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE:

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

PRESBYTER:

Wrapping his right hand with a veil, he turns and points to the people without making the sign of the cross, and proclaims the following. At ‘ask’ he turns to the East and continues:

For Your people and Your Church ask You, and through You the Father, with You, saying,

“Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.”

PEOPLE:

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior.

PRESBYTER:

Grant Your people oneness of heart. Give dignity to the world, good temper to the air.

From the 6th of June (O.S.)[[24]](#footnote-24), to the 6th of October (O.S.) (7th of October on leap-years)[[25]](#footnote-25), the following prayer is said:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously, accord, O Lord, to bless the fullness of the waters of the river.

DEACON:

Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers this year, that Christ our God may bless them and raise them according to their measure; that He may give joy to the face of the earth, sustain us, the sons of men, save the cattle, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 7th of October (O.S.) (8th of October on leap years) to the 5th of January (O.S.)[[26]](#footnote-26) (6th of January on leap years) the following prayer is said instead:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously, accord, O Lord, to bless the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, that Christ our God may bless them to grow and multiply to perfection with great fruit, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 8th of October (O.S.) (9th of October on leap years) to the 5th of June (O.S.)[[27]](#footnote-27), the following prayer is said instead:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously, accord, O Lord, to bless the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the trees, the vines, and for every fruit bearing tree in all the world, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

The combined prayer may be used instead:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to bless the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the fullness of the waters of the rivers, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the rising of the waters of the rivers, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field, that Christ our God may bless them, have compassion on His creation which He hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Then presbyter then continues:

PRESBYTER:

Raise them to their measure according to Your grace. Give joy to the face of the earth. May its furrows be abundantly watered and its fruits be plentiful. Prepare it for sowing and harvesting. Manage our lives as deemed fit.

Bless the crown of the year with Your Goodness, for the sake of the poor of Your people; the widow, the orphan, the traveler, the stranger; and for the sake of us all who entreat You and seek Your Holy Name.

For the eyes of everyone wait upon You, for You give them their food in due season.

Deal with us according to Your Goodness, O You Who gives food to all flesh. Fill our hearts with joy and gladness; that we too, having sufficiency in everything, always, may abound in every good deed.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE LITANY (PART TWO)

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter chants these verses. The congregation responds with “Lord have mercy,” following each one:

Healing to the sick, rest to the needy;

Release to those in captivity, acceptance to the orphans;

Help to the widows; satisfy the distressed with good things.

Raise the fallen; confirm the upright.

Remember those who have fallen asleep; accept to Yourself the prayers of the confessors[[28]](#footnote-28).

The sinners who have repented, count them with Your faithful; Your faithful, count with Your martyrs.

Those who are in this place, conform them to Your angels; and we also, who have been called by Your grace into Your service, while unworthy, accept us to Yourself.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the safety of this Your holy place, and every place, and every monastery of our Orthodox fathers.

DEACON:

Pray for the salvation of the world, and of this city of ours, and of all cities, districts, islands and monasteries.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And every city, and every region, and the villages and all their adornments; and save us all from famine, plagues, earthquakes, drowning, fire, the captivity of the Barbarians, the sword of the stranger, and the rising up of heretics.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE COMMEMORATION OF THE SAINTS

(The Commemoration of the Saints from Saint Basil’s Liturgy on page 53 may be used instead of this.)

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to remember all the saints who have pleased You since the beginning: our holy fathers the patriarchs, the prophets, the Apostles, the preachers, the Evangelists, the martyrs, the confessors, and all the spirits of the righteous perfected in the Faith.

And most of all, the pure, full-of-glory, Ever-Virgin, holy Theotokos, Saint Mary. And Saint John the forerunner, Baptist and martyr, and Saint Stephen, the protodeacon and protomartyr; Saint Mark, the holy apostle, Evangelist, and martyr; the patriarch Saint Severus; Saint Cyril, Saint Basil, Saint Gregory; our righteous father, the great Abba Anthony, the righteous Abba Paul; the three saints Abba Macarii; our father Abba John; our father Abba Pishoy;

Our holy Roman fathers, Maximus and Dometius; the Forty-Nine Martyrs; the strong saint, Abba Moses; our father Abba Pachom, father of the Koinonia; our father Abba Shenoute the Archimandrite; our father Abba Nopher the anchorite; and our father Abba Samuel the confessor.

And all the choir of Your saints—through whose prayers and supplications, have mercy on us all and save us, for the sake of Your Holy Name, which is called upon us.

DEACON:

Let those who read recite the names of our holy fathers, the patriarchs, who have fallen asleep. O Lord, repose their souls, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

Remember also, O Lord, our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep in the Orthodox faith. Repose them all with Your saints, together with those whose names we mention.

If it is a time when the patriarch, metropolitan, or bishop has fallen asleep, the presbyters prays the appropriate diptych, page ##.

Graciously, O Lord, repose all their souls in the bosom of our holy fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Sustain them in green pastures, beside still waters in the Paradise of joy, the place out of which grief, sorrow, and groaning have fled away in the light of Your saints.

DEACON:

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| --- |
| The great Abba Antony, and the righteous Abba Paul; and the three saints Abba Macarii; Abba John the Short; Abba Pishoy, Abba Paul; our holy Roman fathers, Maximus and Dometius; Abba Moses, Abba John Kami, Abba Daniel; Abba Isidore, Abba Pachom, Abba Shenoute; and Abba Paphnoute, Abba Parsoma, Abba Teji; and all who have rightly taught the word of truth: the Orthodox bishops, priests, deacons, clergy, laity; and all the Orthodox [people]. (Amen.) |

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| [May their holy blessings be with us. Amen.]  Glory to You, O Lord.  Lord have mercy.  Lord have mercy.  Lord, bless us. Lord, repose them.  Amen. |

PRESBYTER:

After the diptych, the presbyter, with his hands extended on high, continues, Remember, O Lord, the others: those of the faithful whom we have remembered and those of the Orthodox whom we have not remembered—them and us—as a Good One, and a Lover of mankind, O God.

PEOPLE:

Loose, remit and forgive us, O God, our iniquities, which we have committed willingly, and which we have committed unwillingly; which we have committed knowingly, and which we have committed unknowingly. (The hidden and the manifest,) O Lord, remit for us.

PRESBYTER:

For You are God the Merciful, Who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that he return and live.

Restore us, O God, to Your salvation. Deal with us according to Your Goodness, O You Who does more than we ask or understand.

PEOPLE:

As it was and is, it shall also be, unto generations of generation, and unto all the ages of the ages. Amen.

Or,

As it was and shall be, it is from generation to generation and all the ages of the ages. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

That, as in this, so also in all things, Your great and Holy Name may be glorified, blessed and exalted, in everything honored and blessed, with Your Good Father, and the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE FRACTION

PRESBYTER:

O our Master and our Savior, the Good One, and Lover of mankind, Life-Giver to our souls; God, Who gave Himself up for salvation from sin; Who, through the multitude of His mercies, has loosed the enmity of mankind; the Only-Begotten God, Who is in the bosom of His Father;

O Lord, bless.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes the pure Body with his right hand places It in his left hand, and places the index finger of his right hand upon the Despotikon. He then dips the tip of his finger into the precious Blood and raises his finger from the Blood and signs with It in the form of the cross over the Blood, saying,

O You, Who did blesse at that time, now also bless.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Raising his finger from the chalice and with the Blood making the sign of the cross on the Body, above and below, he says,

O You, Who did sanctify at that time, now also sanctify.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Breaking the Body into a two-thirds and a one-third part without separating Them, he says,

O You, Who did break at that time, now also break.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter separates the two parts, placing the one-third part upon the two-thirds part in the shape of the cross, saying,

O You, Who gave to His saintly Disciples and holy Apostles at that time, now also give to us and to all Your people, O our Master, the Pantocrator, the Lord our God.

DEACON:

Amen. Amen. Let us pray.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

The presbyter says the appropriate Fraction prayer (page 137), or:

## THE FRACTION

PRESBYTER:

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, the Pantocrator, Savior of Your Church. O Logos Who can be perceived and Man that can be seen, Who through Your incomprehensible incarnation have prepared for us the Bread of heaven—this Your holy Body which is mystical and holy in every way.

You have mixed for us a cup from a true vine, Your unblemished divine side, which, after You had given up the spirit, flowed for us blood and water, and became purification for the whole world.

Acquire us to Yourself, O Good One, we Your undeserving servants. Make us for Yourself an assembled people, a kingdom, a priesthood, a holy nation.

Purify us also, O our Master, as You have sanctified these gifts set forth, which You have made unseen out of those things which are seen and to be Your perceptible Mysteries, O our Lod, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ.

For because of the multitude of Your compassions, You have made us all worthy of sonship through holy Baptism. You have taught us types of mystical prayer, so that we may entreat Your Father thereby.

You also now, O our Master, make us worthy, that, with a pure conscience and good thoughts that befit sons, and with yearning and boldness, we may dare to cry to God, Your holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say, “Our Father…”

PEOPLE:

Our Father… In Christ Jesus our Lord.

## THE PRAYER AFTER “OUR FATHER”

PRESBYTER:

Yea, O Lord, the Lord, Who has given authority unto us to tread on serpents and scorpions and upon all the power of the enemy, crush his heads beneath our feet speedily, and scatter before us his every design of wickedness that is against us. For You are King of us all, O Christ, our God, and to You we send up the glory, and the honour, and the worship, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and to the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Before You, O Lord.

## THE PRAYER OF SUBMISSION TO THE SON

PRESBYTER:

You, O Lord, Who bowed the heavens, You descended and became man for the salvation of the race of men. You are He Who is seated upon the Cherubim and the Seraphim, and beholds them who are lowly. You also now, our Master, art He to Whom we lift up the eyes of our heart; the Lord Who forgives our iniquities and saves our souls from corruption. We worship Your ineffable compassion, and we ask You to give us Your peace, for You have given us all things.

Acquire us to Yourself, O God our Savior, for we know none other but You; Your Holy Name we utter. Turn us, O God, unto the fear of You and the desire of You. Be pleased that we abide in the enjoyment of Your good things; and those who have bowed their heads beneath Your hand, exalt them in [their] ways of life, [and] adorn them with virtues. And may we all be worthy of Your Kingdom in the heavens, through the goodwill of God, Your Good Father, with Whom You art blessed, with the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Let us attend with the fear of God. (Amen.)

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE ABSOLUTION TO THE SON

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son and Logos of God the Father, Who has broken every bond of our sins through His saving, life-giving sufferings; Who breathed into the face of His holy Disciples and saintly Apostles, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

You also now, our Master, have given grace through Your holy Apostles to those who for at time labor in the priesthood in Your Holy Church, to forgive sin upon the earth, and to bind and to loose every bond of iniquity.

Now, also, we ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, for Your servants, my fathers, and my brethren and my weakness; those who bow their heads before Your Holy Glory. Dispense to us Your mercy, and loose every bond of our sins, and, if we have committed any sin against You, knowingly or unknowingly, or through anguish of heart, or in deed, or in word, or from faint heartedness, O Master, Who knows the weakness of men, as a Good One, and a Lover of mankind, O God, grant us the forgiveness of our sins; bless us, purify us; absolved us, and all Your people. Remember O Lord Your servants the ministers of this day, absolve them all and make them worthy to complete this service as pleases You. (Here he mentions the names of those whom he wishes to remember.) Remember, O Lord, the children of the Church: the hegumens, and the priests, and the deacons, and the monks, and the clergy, and all the people that have gathered themselves together in the Holy Church; the men and the women, the old and the young, the small and the great, those who we know and those who we do not know, our enemies and our friends. O Lord, absolve them all and forgive them all sin.

Fill us with Your fear, and straighten us for Your holy, good will, for You are our God, [and] the glory, and the honour, and the dominion, and the worship are due to You, together with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now, and at all times, and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

He continues inaudible the short prayers for the peace of the church and for the fathers, then exclaims aloud,

Remember, O Lord, our assemblies; bless them.

DEACON:

Saved. Amen. And with your spirit. In the fear of God, let us attend.

PEOPLE:

(with heads still bowed,) Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Taking the Despotikon and raising It up to arm’s length, and with bowed head, he exclaims aloud,

The Holies for the holy.

The entire assembly prostrates to the Lord in fear and trembling, asking for the forgiveness of their sins in tears, contrition, and supplication.

The presbyter takes the Despotikon between the tips of two fingers of his right hand, and with It he signs the precious Blood inside the chalice in the form of the cross. Then he dips the extremity of It inside the chalice and carefully raises It soaked in the Blood, and with It signs, in the form of the cross, the pure Body which is all on the paten. Then he takes the Despotikon and signs with It the Blood inside the chalice in the form of the cross. He then carefully places the Despotikon upside down in the Blood inside the chalice, all the while with his left hand cupped under the Despotikon lest any of the pearls should fall or drip, while saying,

Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God; the sanctification is by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PEOPLE:

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| --- |
| One is the Holy Father.  One is the Holy Son.  One is the Holy Spirit.  Amen. |
| (Or, “All-Holy”, as in St. Basil’s Liturgy) |

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

The holy Body and the precious, true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The holy, precious Body, and the true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The Body and the Blood of Immanuel our God; this is in truth. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen. I believe.

## THE PROFESSION

PRESBYTER:

Amen. Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe and confess to the last breath, that this is the life-giving Flesh that You took, O Christ my God, from the lady of us all, the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary. You made it one with Your Divinity without mingling, without confusion, and without alteration.

You made the good confession before Pontius Pilate.

You gave It up for us upon the holy wood of the Cross, of Your own will, for us all.

I believe that Your Divinity parted not from Your Humanity for a single moment, nor a twinkling of an eye.

Given for us for salvation, remission of sins, and eternal life to those who partake of It, I believe that this is so in truth. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen. Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe, that this is true. Amen.

Pray for us and for all Christians who said to us concerning them, “Remember us (in the house of the Lord).” The peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you. [Let us sing, “Alleluia.”]

DEACON:

Pray for the worthy partaking of the immaculate and heavenly holy Mysteries. Lord have mercy.

PEOPLE:

Glory to Thee, O You. Glory to You.

The service concludes with Holy Communion, as in the Liturgy of Saint Basil on page 64.

## A PPRAYER OF THANKSGIVING TO THE SON AFTER THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY MYSTERIES

PRESBYTER:

We give thanks to You, O Lord Christ our God, the true Logos Who is of the Essence of the holy and spotless Father. For You have loved us and have given Yourself unto slaughter for ours sins. By Your stripes You have healed us and through Your bruises we have become whole. You have granted us life through Your holy Body and Your precious Blood, of which You have now also made us worthy to partake. Therefore, we give thanks to You, O God, the love of Your creation. And unto You we send up the glory, the honor, and the worship with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

## THE PRAYER OF THE LAYING-ON OF HANDS AFTER THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY MYSTERIES

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Before You, O Lord.

PRESBYTER:

O You, THE BEING, Who was, Who came, and Who is coming again; Who was incarnate and became man, and was crucified for us on the Cross; Who suffered by His will in the flesh but suffered not in His divinity; Who was buried in the tomb, and on the third day rose from the dead; Who ascended into the heavens and sat at the right hand of the Father; and Who shall come to judge the living and the dead; Whom the angels bless and the archangels praise; Whose glory the seraphim declare, and Who is worshiped by the cherubim; before Whom the nature of everything fears and trembles—the Son and Logos of God the Father, Jesus Christ our Lord.

You are He before Whom Your people and Your inheritance submit themselves, those Whom You have acquired to Yourself by Your precious Blood. Look upon us all, O Lord, from Your holy heaven and from Your prepared mansion. Bless Your servants with every spiritual blessing, keep them by Your mighty hand, and confirm them in Your faith. Grant them and us the purity of souls, bodies, and spirits, and give us our Christian perfection that would be pleasing to You. For Your Kingdom, which we all hope to attain, is pure and fully of glory, O Christ our God.

And unto You we send up the glory, the honor, and the worship, with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

After he finishes this prayer and the washing of the sacred vessels, water is poured into the palms of his hands, of which he sprinkles a small amount onto the table, and he says,

O angel of this sacrifice, flying up to the highest with this hymn, remember us before the Lord, that He may forgive us our sins.

The Liturgy concludes as in the Liturgy of Saint Basil, with the dismissal prayer and the blessing, distributing the eulogia, or blessed bread, and the dismissal of the assembly in peace.

# THE ANAPHORA OF SAINT CYRIL

## A PRAYER OF THE VEIL

The Liturgy begins as in the Liturgy Saint Basil until the end of the Liturgy of the Catechumens. Then the presbyter says the Prayer of the Veil to the Father from our holy father the thrice-blessed John, inaudibly,

PRESBYTER:

O Creator of the whole creation, visible and invisible; You provide for all things because they are Yours. O our Master, the Lover-of-souls. I beseech You, O Lord, You Who are Omnipotent, even I, the weakest, the neediest, and the unprofitable among all Your servants, that while I am coming forward unto Your Holy of Holies to touch this holy mystagogy; Give me, O Lord, Your Holy Spirit, the immaterial, incomprehensible fire, Who devours all infirmities and consumes wicked inventions. May He mortify the members of the flesh that are upon the earth, and bridle the movements of the thought that lead into fantasies, full of passion and pain. And, as is befitting priests, may He make me to be above all deadly thoughts. And may He let the consecrating words be within me to perfect this oblation set forth, which is the Mystery of all mysteries, in the fellowship and the communion of Your Christ. O You, to whom is due the glory, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

## ANOTHER PRAYER OF THE VEIL

O Lord, God of the powers, King of glory, Who alone does wonders, the Good One, being gentle to all who call upon You in truth. Be mindful of our supplications, and give us power towards this awesome service of the great heavenly Mystery of this bloodless and rational sacrifice, set forth. So that Your will may be for the salvation of those who come forward to these holy Mysteries.

You, also, O Lord, Who have mercy on every one, having had compassion on my weakness, put off from me the old man, with his corrupt deeds and his lusts.

Leave behind me every sin that I had committed, whether willingly or unwillingly. And make me worthy, with a pure heart and clean lips, to bring in unto You this awesome sacrifice. Cast me not away from Your servants as a servant of sin, but, I beseech You, according to Your compassions: Grant me to serve Your Holy and honorable Name without ceasing, that I may gain the wages of the wise and faithful steward, on the day of Your just recompense. May Your people have a share in the eternal things, which You have promised to those who love You.

Through the grace, compassion, and love-of-mankind of Your Christ. This is He with Whom You are blessed together with the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The people recite the Creed.

## A RECONCILIATION PRAYER BY SAINT SEVERUS

PRESBYTER:

Let us pray.

DEACON:

Stand up for prayer.

PRESBYTER:

Peace by with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

Author of Life and King of the ages; O God, unto Whom every knee bows, those in the heavens, those on earth, and those under the earth; to Whom all are humbled and under the yoke of servitude bowing the head to the sceptre of His Kingship; Who is glorified by the angelic hosts and the heavenly orders and the rational natures, with incessant voices declaring His Godhead.

And since You were pleased that we frail earthly men should also serve You, not on account of the purity of our hands, because we have not wrought goodness on earth, but rather desiring to give to us, we the undeserving wretches, of Your Purity.

Receive us unto Yourself, O Good One, and Lover of mankind, as we draw near to Your holy altar, according to the abundance of Your mercy. And make us worthy of the heavenly peace which befits Your divinity and is full of salvation, that we may give the same to one another in perfect love, and greet one another with a holy kiss—

DEACON:

Pray for perfect peace, love, and the holy Apostolic greetings.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

not with a vile sense that defies Your fear, nor with thoughts of guile filled with the wickedness of the traitor, for our conscience is not bent on evil, but rather by the eagerness of our souls and the rejoicing of our hearts, having the great and perfect sign of the love of Your Only-Begotten Son.

And cast us not behind, we Your servants, on account of the defilement of our sins, for You know, as Creator of our being, that no one born of a woman shall be justified before You.

So, make us worthy, O our Master, with a holy heart, and a soul filled with Your grace, to stand before You and bring in unto You this holy sacrifice—which is rational, spiritual, and bloodless—unto the remission of our transgressions and the forgiveness of the ignorances of Your people. For You are a compassionate and a merciful God, and unto You we send up the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

## A RECONCILIATION PRAYER BY THE THRICE BLESSED JOHN[[29]](#footnote-29)

PRESBYTER:

O God of Love and Giver of the oneness of heart, Provider of the oneness of mind that is of virtue; Who has granted to us the new commandment, through Your Only-Begotten Son, that we should love one another even as You have loved us—we the undeserving and lost—and gave Your beloved Son for our life and salvation.

We ask You, O our Master, to grant us, Your servants, for all the days of our life on earth, and most especially now, a reasoning that remembers not the earlier evils, and a conscience without hypocrisy, and truthful thoughts, and a heart that loves the brethren; that, as we give a spiritual greeting, we may flee from the likeness Judas the traitor, but, having been reconciled to one another in the likeness of Your holy Disciples and Apostles, in purity we are purified and become sanctified through the mediation of Your Holy Spirit. Through the grace, compassion, and life-of-mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Yea, Lord, Who are Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy on us.

Offer, offer, offer in order. Stand with trembling. Look towards the East. Let us attend.

The congregation may now sing an “Aspasmos Adam” hymn, as appropriate. Then they sing the following:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the inter­cessions of the holy Theotokos Mary,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You [have come] and saved us. |

## THE ANAPHORA

DEACON[[30]](#footnote-30):

Offer in order, stand with trembling, look towards the East. Let us attend.

PEOPLE:

A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.[[31]](#footnote-31)

At the time of printing, the only licit place for the Offertory is before the Liturgy of the Catechumens. If, in the future, blessing is given to pray it in its original location, it can be inserted here, starting with the Great Entrance.

PRESBYTER:

Turning to the west, the presbyter signs the people once with the sign of the cross, saying,

The Lord be with you all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

Turning to the East and signing the deacons on his right once, he says,

Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE:

We have them with the Lord.

PRESBYTER:

Signing himself once, he says,

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

It is meet and right.

PRIEST:

Meet and right, meet and right, meet and right. For truly it is fitting and right and holy and becoming and profitable to our souls, our bodies and our spirits—O You, THE BEING, Lord, God the Father the Pantocrator, at all times and in all places of Your dominion—to praise You, hymn You, bless You, serve You, worship You, thank You, and glorify You. And confess to You night and day, with incessant lips, with a heart that keeps not silence, and unceasing doxologies.

You are He Who has created the heavens and that which is in the heavens, the earth and everything that is therein, the seas, the rivers, the springs, the lakes and that which is in all of them.

You are He Who has created Man according to Your own image and after Your likeness. And You have created everything through Your Wisdom; Your True Light, Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord, God, Savior, and King of us all Jesus Christ. Through Whom we give thanks and offer to You, with Him and the Holy Spirit—the Holy, Co-Essential and indivisible Trinity— this rational sacrifice and this bloodless service.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter signs the incense box, puts a spoonful of incense into the censer, takes it in his hands and says,

This, which all nations offer unto You.

Here, he signs the gifts on the altar with the censer, from east to west and from north to south, saying,

From the East to the West and from the North to the South.

Here, he offers incense over the gifts, saying,

For great is Your Name, O Lord among all the nations, and in every place incense is offered unto Your Holy Name, and a pure sacrifice, and upon this sacrifice and this offering.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE SHORT PRAYERS

### THE LITANY FOR PEACE

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind: remember, O Lord, the peace of Your one, only, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

DEACON:

Pray for the peace of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic, orthodox Church, for God’s salvation among the people, for dignity in all places, that He may forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

This which exists from one end of the world to the other. All peoples and all flocks do bless. The heavenly peace, send down into our hearts; even the peace of this life, graciously grant to us. The king [leader], the armies, the rulers, the counsellors, the multitudes, our neighbors, our coming in and our going out, adorn them with all peace.

O King of peace, grant us Your peace, for You have given us all things. Acquire us to Yourself, O God our Savior, for we know none other but You; Your Holy Name we utter. May our souls live by Your Holy Spirit, and let not the death of sin have dominion over us—we Your servant—[or over all Your people][[32]](#footnote-32).

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE SICK

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, the sick of Your people.

DEACON:

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are sick with any sickness, whether in this place or in any place, that Christ our God may grant us, with them, health and healing, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Thou hast visited them with mercies and compassion; heal them. Take away from them and from us every sickness and every malady; the spirit of sicknesses chase away.

Those who have long lain in maladies raise up and comfort. Whose who are afflicted by unclean spirits, set them all free.

Those who are in prisons or dungeons, and those who are in exile or captivity, or those who are held in bitter bondage, O Lord, set them all free and have mercy upon them.

For You are He Who loosens the bound and uplifts the fallen; the hope of those who have no hope and the help of those who have no helper; the comfort of the faint0hearted; the harbor of those in the storm.

All souls that are distressed or bound, grant them mercy, O Lord; grant them rest, grant them refreshment, grant them grace, grant them help, grant them salvation, grant them the forgiveness of their sins and their iniquities.

As for us too, O Lord, the sicknesses of our souls heal, and those of our bodies, cure. O You, the True Physician of our souls and our bodies, the Bishop of all flesh, visit us with Your salvation.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE TRAVELERS

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, our fathers and our brethren who are travelling—

DEACON:

Pray for our fathers and our brethren who are travelling, and those who intend to travel anywhere. Straighten all their ways, whether by sea, rivers, lakes, roads, [air,] or those who are travelling by any other means, that Christ our God may bring them back to their own homes in peace, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

and those who intend to travel anywhere, straighten all their ways, whether by sea, rivers, lakes, roads, [air,] or those who are travelling by any other means—everyone anywhere. Lead them into a haven of calm, a haven of safety.

Graciously accompany them in their departure and be their companion in their travel. Bring them back to their own, rejoicing with joy and safe in security.

Be a fellow worker in work with Your servants in every good deed. As for us, O Lord, our sojourn in this life keep without harm, without storm and undisturbed unto the end.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

From the 6th of June (O.S.)[[33]](#footnote-33), to the 6th of October (O.S.) (7th of October on leap-years)[[34]](#footnote-34), the following prayer is said:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously, accord, O Lord, to bless the waters of the river.

DEACON:

Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers this year, that Christ our God may bless them and raise them according to their measure; that He may give joy to the face of the earth, sustain us, the sons of men, save the cattle, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 7th of October (O.S.) (8th of October on leap years) to the 5th of January (O.S.)[[35]](#footnote-35) (6th of January on leap years), the following prayer is said:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously, accord, O Lord, to bless the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year, that Christ our God may bless them to grow and multiply unto perfection with great fruit, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

From the 8th of October (O.S.) (9th of October on leap years) to the 5th of June (O.S.)[[36]](#footnote-36), the following prayer is said:

PRESBYTER:

Graciously, accord, O Lord, to bless the air of heaven and the fruits of the earth this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the trees, the vines, and for every fruit-bearing tree in all the world, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Or else this unified prayer,

PRESBYTER:

Graciously accord, O Lord, to bless the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the waters of the river, the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field this year.

DEACON:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the rising of the waters of the rivers, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field, that Christ our God may bless them, have compassion on His creation which His hands have made, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Raise them to their measure according to Your Grace. Give joy to the face of the earth. May its furrows be abundantly watered and its fruits be plentiful. Prepare it for sowing and harvesting. Manage our lives as deemed fit.

Bless the crown of the year with Your Goodness, for the sake of the poor of Your people; the widow, the orphan, the traveler; the stranger; and for the sake of us all who entreat You and seek Your Holy Name.

For the eyes of everyone wait upon You, for You give them their food in due season.

Deal with us according to Your Goodness, O You Who gives food to all flesh. Fill our hearts with joy and gladness, that we too, having sufficiency in everything, always, may abound in every good deed.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE LEADER

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind: remember, O Lord, the king [leader] of our land, Your servant.

DEACON:

Pray that Christ our God may give us mercy and compassion before the ruling authorities, and soften their heart towards us for that which is good at all times, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Keep him in peace, righteousness and strength. May all the barbarians, the nations that desire war against all our prosperity by subdued unto him. Speak to his heart concerning the peace of Your one, only, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Grant him to think peacefully towards us and towards Your Holy Name that we too, may lead a quiet and peaceable life, and may be found dwelling in all godliness and all dignity in You.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

## THE COMMEMORATION OF THE SAINTS

PRESBYTER:

Our fathers and our brethren who have fallen asleep, whose souls You have taken, repose them, remembering also all the saints who have pleased You since the beginning: our holy fathers the patriarchs, the prophets, the Apostles, the preachers, the Evangelists, the martyrs, the confessors, and all the spirits of the righteous, perfected in the Faith.

Most of all, the pure, full-of-glory, Ever-Virgin, holy Theotokos, Saint Mary. And Saint John the forerunner, Baptist and martyr; Saint Stephen, the protodeacon and protomartyr; and Saint Mark, the holy apostle, the Evangelist, and martyr; the patriarch Saint Severus; Saint Cyril, Saint Basil, Saint Gregory; our righteous father, the great Abba Antony, the righteous Abba Paul; the three saints Abba Macarii, our father Abba John; our father Abba Pishoy.

Our holy Roman fathers, Maximus and Dometius; the Forty-Nine Martyrs; the strong saint Abba Moses; our father Abba Pachom of the Koinonia; our father Abba Shenoute the Archmandrite; our father Abba Nopher the anchorite; and our father Abba Samuel the confessor.

And all the choir of Your saints.

The presbyter says in the mourning tune:

Not that we are worthy, O our Master, to intercede for the blessedness of those [who are there], but rather they are standing before the tribunal of Your Only-begotten Son, that they may be interceding instead for our poverty and our frailty.

Here, he cries out saying:

May You be a forgiver of our iniquities, for the sake of their holy supplications, and for the sake of Your Holy Name, which is called upon us.

DEACON:

Let those who read recite the names of our holy fathers, the patriarchs, who have fallen asleep. O Lord, repose their souls, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

Remember O Lord, our holy fathers the orthodox archbishops who have already fallen asleep, those who have rightly handled the word of truth. And give us, we too, a share and an inheritance with them, remembering also those whom we mention this very day.

Here the presbyter says the diptych, then the deacon says,

DEACON:

Pray for our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep and reposed in the Faith of Christ since the beginning: our holy fathers the archbishops and our fathers the bishops; our fathers the hegoumen, our fathers the priests, our brethren the deacons, our fathers the monks, and our fathers the laymen, and for the full repose of the Christians, that Christ our God may repose all their souls in the Paradise of Joy, and we too, accord mercy unto us, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

They may say the commemoration of the earthy fathers, and “The Great Abba Anthony…”

After the diptych, the presbyter says the blessing according to the season as in the conclusion of the offering of incense, then says:

PRESBYTER:

Those, O Lord, and everyone whose names we have mentioned, and those we have not mentioned, those whom each one of us has in mind, and those who are not; who have fallen asleep and reposed in the faith of Christ.

Graciously, O Lord, repose all their souls in the bosom of our holy fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Sustain them in a green pasture, beside still waters, in the Paradise of Joy; the place out of which grief, sorrow and groaning have fled away, in the light of Your saints.

Raise up their bodies also, on the Day which You hast appointed, according to Your true promises, which are without lie. Grant them the good things of Your promises; that which an eye has not seen nor ear heard, neither have come upon the heart of man; the things which You, O God, have prepared for those who love Your Holy Name.

For there is no death for Your servants, but a departure. Even if any negligence or heedlessness has overtaken them as men, since they were clothed in flesh and dwelt in this world, O God, as a Good One, and a Lover of mankind, graciously forgive them. For no one is pure from blemish even though his life on earth be a single day.

As for those, O Lord, whose souls You have taken, repose them, and may they be worthy of the Kingdom of the heavens.

As for us all, grant us our Christian perfection that would be pleasing to You, and give them, and us, a share and an inheritance with all Your saints.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE OBLATIONS

PRESBYTER:

The priest puts incense in the censer, censes the paten and the chalice, saying:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, the sacrifices, the offerings—

DEACON:

Pray for those who provide for the sacrifices, oblations, first fruits, oil, incense, coverings, reading books and altar vessels, that Christ our God may reward them in the heavenly Jerusalem, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

And the thanksgivings of those who have offered to the honor and glory of Your Holy Name. Receive them upon Your holy, rational altar in heaven, as a savor of incense before Your Greatness in the heavens, through the service of Your holy angels and archangels.

As You have received the gifts of the righteous Abel, the sacrifice of our father Abraham, and the two mites of the widow, so also receive the thank offerings of Your servants—those in abundance or those in scarcity, hidden or manifest—those who desire to offer to You but have none, and those who have offered these gifts to You this very day, give them the incorruptible instead of the corruptible, the heavenly instead of the earthly, and the eternal instead of the temporal.

Their houses and their stores, fill them with every good thing.

Here he faces west and censes the people saying,

Surround them, O Lord, by the power of Your holy angels and archangels. As they have remembered Your Holy Name on earth, remember them also, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and in this age too, leave them not behind.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE PATRIARCH

PRESBYTER:

Here he does not mention the names of the bishops, but only the name of the Patriarch,

Remember, O Lord, our patriarch, the honored father, Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_\_—

DEACON:

Pray for the life and the standing of our honored father the high priest Papa Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and his spiritual brethren: the Patriarch of Antioch Mar Ignatius \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Patriarch of Eritrea Abouna \_\_\_\_\_\_, that Christ our God may keep their lives for us, for many years and peaceful times, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

keeping them secure for us for many years and peaceful times, fulfilling that holy high priesthood with which You have entrusted them from Yourself, according to Your holy and blessed will; rightly handling the word of truth, shepherding Your people in purity and righteousness.

Grant them and us peace and safety in every place. Their prayers which they offer on our behalf, [and on behalf of all Your people][[37]](#footnote-37), as well as ours on their behalf, receive upon Your holy, heavenly, and rational altar, as a sweet savor of incense.

All their enemies, visible and invisible, trample and humiliate under their feet speedily. As for them, keep them in peace and righteousness in Your Holy Church.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE BISHOPS

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, our father the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and the orthodox bishops in all places—

DEACON:

Pray for our fathers the [bishop/metropolitan], Abba \_\_\_\_\_\_, and our fathers the orthodox bishops in every place of the whole world, and the hegumens, the priests, the deacons, and every order of the Church, that Christ our God may keep them from every evil, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

and the priests, the deacons, the subdeacons, the readers, the chanters, the exorcists, the monks, the virgins, the widows, the orphans, the ascetics, the laity; those who are joined in wedlock, and those who rear children; those who said to us, “Remember us,” and those who did not say this. Those whom we know and those whom we know not; our enemies and our loved ones, O God, have mercy upon them.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE REST OF THE ORTHODOX

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, the rest of the Orthodox, in every place of the world.

DEACON:

Pray for the rest of the Orthodox in every place of the whole world, that Christ our God confirm them in the orthodox faith and keep them from every evil all the days of their lives, and forgive us our sins.

PEOPLE:

In the long tune: Lord have mercy*.*

### THE LITANY FOR THE PLACE

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, this Your holy place, and every place, and every monastery of our orthodox fathers—

DEACON:

Pray for the safety of this holy place and every place, and every monastery of our orthodox fathers; the deserts and the elders who dwell therein. And for the security of the world altogether, that Christ our God keep them from every evil, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

and every city and every country, and the villages, and every house of the faithful. And keep us all in the orthodox faith to the last breath; for this alone is our hope.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THOSE STANDING IN THIS PLACE

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, those who are standing in this place, and who are partners with us in prayer—

DEACON:

Pray for those who are standing in this place, and who are partners with us in prayer, that Christ our God keep them and guard them. Receive their prayers to Himself, and have mercy upon them, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

our fathers and our brethren, and the rest who are in every place of the world. And keep them with us by the armies of the holy powers, and save us from the fiery, blazing darts of the Devil, from every diabolic ambush, and from the trap of false justification.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR PRAYER

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord, all those who have bidden us to remember them—

DEACON:

Pray for those who have bidden us to remember them, in our supplications and prayers, each one according to his name, that Christ our God may remember them in goodness at all times, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

in our supplications and prayers which we offer up unto You, O Lord our God, and at this time of this Holy Anaphora, those whom we remember at all times, those in the mind of each one of us. And their memorial which has now taken place, may it be for them like a steadfast fortress, overcoming every harm of the demons and the counsel of wicked men.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE SERVANT PRIEST[[38]](#footnote-38)

DEACON:

Worship God in fear and trembling.

PRESBYTER:

Remember, O Lord my weak and wretched soul. give me to understand, the greatness of my standing before Your holy altar. Cut off from me all the pleasures of ignorance and those of youth, that this might not be a burden to me at the defense of that fearful judgment day. Save me from every work of the adverse powers. And do not destroy me with my iniquities, nor be angry forever, thus reserving my evils against me, but rather show me also Your goodness in me, and save me, even I, the unworthy, according to the multitude of Your mercy upon me.

Here he cries out in the ancient tune of Moses, saying:

That I may bless You at all times, all the days of my life.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

PRESBYTER:

Remember also, O Lord, this Your holy priesthood—

DEACON:

Pray for this holy priesthood, and all the orthodox priestly orders, that Christ our God may harken unto them, guard them, strengthen them, and have mercy upon them, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

and all the orthodox priestly orders, and all Your people, who are standing before You. Remember us also, O Lord—Lord of mercies and compassions—and blot out our iniquities as a Good One and a Lover of mankind. O God be a partner residing with us, that we may serve Your Holy Name.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

### THE LITANY FOR THE ASSEMBLIES

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, remember, O Lord, our assemblies: bless them.

DEACON:

Pray for this assembly of ours, and for every assembly of the Orthodox (people), that Christ our God may bless them and perfect them in peace, and forgive us our sins.

PRESBYTER:

Here the presbyter takes the censer in his hand and continues,

The worship of idols, utterly uproot from the world. Satan and his evil powers, trample and humiliate under our feet speedily.

Offences and their instigators, abolish. May all dissensions of corrupt heresies cease.

The enemies of Your Holy Church, O Lord, as at all times, now also humiliate. Strip their vanity; show them their weakness speedily. Bring to nought their envy, their intrigues, their madness, their wickedness, and their slander which they commit against us. O Lord, bring them all to no avail; disperse their counsel,

Here he says in the ancient tune,

O God, Who dispersed the counsel of Ahithophel.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

He offers incense over the paten saying,

Arise, O Lord God. Let all Your enemies be scattered, and let all who hate Your Holy Name flee before Your face.

Here the priest turns towards the west and censes the people saying,

But let Your people be in blessing; thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand doing Your will.

DEACON:

You who are seated, stand.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter says this Litany and the congregation responds saying “Lord have mercy,” following each verse.

Loose the bound; save those who are in distress.

Satisfy the hungry; comfort the faint-hearted.

Raise the fallen; confirm the upright.

Return those who have strayed; Bring them all into the way of Your salvation.

Count them with Your people, and we, too, redeem us from our sins.

Be a guardian and a cover over us in everything.

DEACON:

Look towards the East.

PRESBYTER:

For You are God, Who is above every principality and every authority, every power, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come.

You are He before Whom stand thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand of holy angels and archangels, serving You.

You are He before Whom stand Your two, most honored creatures, with their six wings and many eyes, the Seraphim and the Cherubim. With two wings they cover their faces, on account of Your Divinity that cannot be seen or comprehended, and with two, they cover their feet, and with the other two, they fly.

Here he cries out, saying,

For at all times, all hallow You, but, with everyone who hallow You, receive from us—we too—our hallowing, O Lord, as we praise You with them, saying—

DEACON:

Let us attend.

They may say the following “Aspasmos,” or any other, before the “Holy”:

PEOPLE:

Come to the table;

we bless God with the angels and the archangels,

proclaiming and saying,

Holy, Holy, Holy, art Thou, O Lord, Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, …

Whether or not the preceding is said, the congregation sings the following:

|  |
| --- |
| “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Hosts,  heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory.” |

PRESBYTER:

Meanwhile, the priest washes his hands three times at the north side of the sanctuary, saying first,

You will sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (Ps 50:7)

*The second time,* You shall make me to hear jubilation and gladness; humbled bones shall exult. (PS 50:8)

*The third time, I will wash my hands in innocence, and go round about Your altar, O Lord, that I may hear the voice of Your praise. Alleluia. (PS 25:6,7)*

Then, taking the veil which is on the chalice on his right hand, he signs three times, the first time, on himself, the second on the servants and the third on the people while the con-celebrating priest circles the altar with the censer, then the presbyter says,

Agios, Agios, Agios,

Holy, O Lord of hosts; heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory, O Lord our God. Truly, heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory.

Through Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord, God, Savior, and King of us all Jesus Christ, fill this, Your sacrifice, O Lord with the blessing—

Here he signs the paten and the chalice together, once, and says,

which is from You, by the coming upon It of Your Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Signing a second time, And with the blessing, bless.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Signing a third time, And with the sanctification, do Thou sanctify.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Pointing to the bread and the wine with his hand and says,

Your precious gifts, which had been set forth before You, this bread, and this cup.

## THE INSTITUTION NARRATIVE

For Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord, God, Savior, and King of us all Jesus Christ,

Here, he holds the spoon with a veil, signs the incense box with it once, puts a spoonful of incense into the censer, censes his hands three times, as is the custom, and says,

In the night in which He gave Himself up to suffer for our sins—and death, which He accepted by His own will, for us all—

PEOPLE:

We believe.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter take4s the bread into his hand, saying,

He took bread into His holy hands, which are without spot or blemish, blessed and life giving.

PEOPLE:

We believe that this is true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

He looked up toward heaven, to You, O God, Who are His Father and Master of everyone, and when He had given thanks—

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

He blessed it—

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

And He sanctified it.

PEOPLE:

Amen. We believe, we confess, and we glorify.

PRESBYTER:

He broke it; gave it to His own honored saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Take, eat of it, all of you. For this is My Body, which is broken for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of Me.”

PEOPLE:

This is true. Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Likewise also, the cup, after supper: He mixed it of wine and water, and when He had given thanks—

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

He blessed it—

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

And He sanctified it.

PEOPLE:

Amen. Again, we believe, we confess, and we glorify.

PRESBYTER:

He tasted, and gave it also to His own honored saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Take, drink of it, all of you. For this is My Blood of the New Covenant, which shall be shed for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. This do in remembrance of Me.”

PEOPLE:

This is also true. Amen.

PRIEST:

The concelebrant encircles the altar with the censer, while the celebrant points to the Body and Blood, saying,

“For, every time you eat of this bread and drink of this cup, you proclaim My death, confess My Resurrection, and remember Me till I come.”

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Amen. Amen.  Your death, O Lord, we proclaim;  Your Holy Resurrection and Ascension into the heavens, we confess.  We praise You, we bless You, we thank You, O Lord, and we entreat You, O our God. |

PRESBYTER:

Therefore, now, O God the Father the Pantocrator, as we proclaim the death of Your Only-begotten Son our Lord, God, Savior and King of us all Jesus Christ, and confess His Holy Resurrection, His ascension into the heavens, His sitting at Your right hand, O Father, and look for His Second Advent, coming from the heavens, awesome and full of glory, at the end of this age, wherein He comes to Judge the world in righteousness, and give each one according to his deeds, whether they be good or evil.

PEOPLE:

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

PRESBYTER:

You are He, before Whose holy glory we have put Your own gifts, from what is Your own, O our Holy Father.

DEACON:

Bow to God in fear.

PRESBYTER:

We ask and entreat Your Goodness, O Lover of mankind, put us not to everlasting shame, nor cast us away, we, Your servants. Drive us not away from Your face, neither say to us, “I know ye not.” But rather give water for our heads and fountains of tears for our eyes, that we may weep day and night before You, on account of our transgressions. For we are Your people, the sheep of Your flock, pass by our iniquities and forgive our transgressions; which we have committed willingly, and which we have committed unwillingly; which we have committed knowingly, and which we have committed unknowingly, the hidden and the manifest, those which were formerly confessed, and those which we have forgotten, those which are known before Your Holy Name. Harken, O Lord to the prayer of Your people, and be mindful of the groaning of Your servants. Because of my own sins and the abominations of my heart, deprive not Your people of the coming down of Your Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE:

Have mercy upon us, O God, the Father the Pantocrator. (Three times.)

PRESBYTER:

Here, the presbyter takes the veil on his hand, turns towards the people, points to them with his hand, then he turns back to the East and cries saying,

For Your people and Your Church entreat You saying, “Have mercy upon us, O God, the Father the Pantocrator.” (Three times.)

DEACON:

Worship God the Father the Pantocrator.

PRESBYTER:

And send down from Your holy highest, and from Your prepared mansion, and from Your unbounded bosom, and from the throne of the kingdom of Your glory, the Paraclete, Your Holy Spirit, Who is a hypostasis; the Immutable, the Unchangeable, the Lord, the Giver-of-Life, Who spoke in the Law, the Prophets and the Apostles; Who is present in every place and Who fills every place, yet no place contains Him; Who, by His own authority and not as a service, works sanctification on whom He wills, according to Your good pleasure. Who is single in His nature, and manifold in His working, the fountain of Divine graces. Who is of One Essence with You, Who proceeds from You. The sharer of the throne of the kingdom of Your glory, with Your Only-Begotten Son our Lord, God, Savior and King of us all Jesus Christ, upon us, we Your servants, and upon these Your precious gifts which had been set forth before You—

Here, he points to the bread and cup, and continues:

Upon this bread and this cup, that they may be sanctified and changed.

DEACON:

Let us attend. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter signs the bread thrice, as he cries out saying,

And this bread He makes into the holy Body of Christ.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRIEST:

Here he signs the cup thrice as he says,

And this cup also, the precious blood of His New Covenant.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

Our Lord, God, Savior and King of us all Jesus Christ,

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The priest says the following Litany, the people says, “Lord have mercy” following each verse,

That they may be unto all of us, who partake of them, faith without searching.

Love without hypocrisy Perfect patience.

Firm hope. Faith and watchfulness.

Health and joy. Renewal for the soul, body and spirit.

Glory to Your Holy Name. Sharing in the blessedness of eternal life and incorruption. And forgiveness of sins.

PEOPLE:

As it was and is,

it shall also be

unto generation to generation,

and unto all ages of ages.

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

That, as in this, so also in all things, Your great and Holy Name may be glorified, blessed and exalted—In everything, honored and blessed—with Jesus Christ, Your Beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit. Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

## THE INTRODUCTION TO THE FRACTION

PRESBYTER:

Again, let us give thanks to God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, for He also has made us worthy now, to stand in this holy place, to lift up our hands, and to serve His Holy Name. Let us also ask Him to make us worthy of the communion and partaking of His divine and immortal Mysteries.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter takes the Body in his hands and says,

The holy Body and the precious Blood of His Christ, the Pantocrator, the Lord our God.

DEACON:

Amen. Amen. Pray.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

The presbyter says the appropriate Fraction prayer (page 137), or:

## THE FRACTION ADDRESSED TO THE FATHER

PRESBYTER:

O God, Who predestined us to sonship, through Jesus Christ our Lord, according to the good pleasure of Your will unto the honor of the glory of Your grace, which You have granted to us, through Your Beloved—this is He in Whom we had our redemption, through His holy Blood, unto the forgiveness of our sins.

We give thanks to You, O Lord God the Pantocrator, for You have made us, who are sinners, worthy to stand in this holy place, and fulfill this holy, heavenly Mystery,

so that, as You have made us worthy to fulfill Them, so also, may we be worthy of their communion, and partaking of Them.

O You, Who opened the eyes of the blind, open the eyes of our hearts, so that, having cast away from us all the darkness of vice and evil, which is the likeness of defilement,

we may be able to raise up our eyes towards the splendor of Your holy glory.

And (even) as You have cleansed the lips of Your servant Isaiah the prophet, as one of the Seraphim took an ember with the tongs from the altar, cast it into his mouth and said to him, “Behold, this has touched your lips, it shall take away your iniquities, and cleanse all your sins.” Likewise—we too, weak winners, Your pitiable servants—graciously cleanse our souls, our bodies, our lips and our hearts, and give us this true Ember that is life-giving to soul, body and spirit, which is the holy Body and the precious Blood of Your Christ;

not unto judgement, nor unto falling into condemnation, nor unto shame and reproof of our transgressions, lest, partaking of Them unworthily, we become guilty by Them. So that the abundance of Your gifts, O our Master, may not be for us a cause of excess burden towards falling into condemnation, as having become ungrateful towards You, O You the Benefactor.

But rather grant us Your Holy Spirit, that with a pure heart, an enlightened conscience, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, a perfect love, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to say the holy prayer that Your beloved Son gave unto His saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying to them, “For, indeed, at all times, whenever you pray, entreat in this manner, and say: Our Father....”

PEOPLE:

Our Father… In Christ Jesus our Lord.

The priest says, inaudibly:

## THE PRAYER AFTER OUR FATHER

PRESBYTER:

Yea, we ask You, O God the Father the Pantocrator, lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the Evil One. Take away from us the manifold works of Satan, and the intrigues that are from the counsel of the wicked men; bring them all to no avail, and fortify us at all times by Your life-giving right hand, for You are our Helper and Protector, in Christ Jesus our Lord, Through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Or, he may say this alternate prayer,

Yea, we ask You, O Lord our God, lead none of us into temptation—this which we cannot endure on account of our weakness—but grant us also to walk out of the temptation, that we may be able to quench all the fiery, blazing darts of the Devil. And deliver us from the Evil One and his deeds in Christ Jesus our Lord. Through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Before You, O Lord.

PRESBYTER:

O God, Who loved us so, and granted us the rank of sonship, so as to be called the sons of God, and as such, we are indeed heirs of You, O God the Father, and join heirs of Your Christ.

Incline Your ears, O Lord, and harken to us, we who bow our heads to You. And cleanse our inner man according to the manner in which Your Only-begotten Son is holy. He is the One we intend to take hold of..

Indeed, may fornication and every defiled thought flee from us, for the sake of God, Who is of the Virgin.

Pride also, and the early evil, which is arrogance, for the sake of Him, Who alone humbled Himself for our sake.

Fear, for the sake of Him, Who suffered in the flesh on our behalf, and established the victory of the Cross.

Vainglory, for the sake of Him, Who was buffeted and scourged for our sake, and turned not His face from the shame of spitting.

Envy, murder, divisions and hatred, for the sake of the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world.

Anger and the remembrance of vice, for the sake of Him, Who nailed the handwriting of our sins to the Cross.

The demons and the Devil, may they flee, for the sake of Him, Who made a public spectacle of the evil principalities, and disarmed authorities of darkness.

May every evil earthly thought be far from us, for the sake of Him, Who ascended into the heavens.

So that, this manner, in purity, we may partake of these pure Mysteries, and be purified, brought to completion, all of us, in our souls, our bodies and our spirits, having become partakers of the Body, partakers of the form, and partakers in the succession of Your Christ.

This is He, with Whom You are blessed, with the Holy Spirit, the Giver-of-life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Let us attend in the fear of God.

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter then says the “Absolution to the Father” as in the Liturgy of Saint Basil (Page 14), and then says,

Remember, O Lord, our congregations. Bless them.

DEACON:

Raising the cross,

Saved. Amen. And with your spirit. In the fear of God, let us attend.

PEOPLE:

Still bowed,

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

Taking in his hands the Despotikon and raising It up to arm’s length, and with bowed head he exclaims,

The Holies for the holy.

The entire assembly prostrates to the Lord in fear and trembling, asking of the forgiveness of their sins with tears and supplications. Then the presbyter takes the Despotikon between the tips of two fingers of his right hand, and with It he signs the precious Blood inside the chalice in the form of the cross. Then he dips the extremity of It inside the chalice and carefully raises It soaked in the Blood, and with It signs, in the form of the cross, the pure Body which is all on the paten. Then he takes the Despotikon and signs with It the Blood inside the chalice in the form of the cross. He then carefully paces the Despotikon upside down in the Blood inside the chalice, all while with his left hand cupped under the Despotikon lest any of the pearls should fall or drip, while saying,

Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God; the sanctification is by Holy Spirit. Amen.

PEOPLE:

|  |
| --- |
| One is the Holy Father.  One is the Holy Son.  One is the All Holy Spirit.  Amen.  Or, “All-Holy”, as in St. Basil’s Liturgy |

PRESBYTER:

Peace be with all.

PEOPLE:

And with your spirit.

PRESBYTER:

The holy Body and the precious, true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The holy, precious Body, and the true Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen.

PEOPLE:

Amen.

PRESBYTER:

The Body and the Blood of Emmanuel our God: this is in truth. Amen.

|  |
| --- |
| PEOPLE: |
| Amen. I believe. |

## THE PROFESSION

PRESBYTER:

Amen. Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe and confess to the last breath, that this is the life-giving Flesh that Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, took from our Lady, the lady of us all, the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary. He made It one with His Divinity without mingling, without confusion, and without alteration.

He made the good confession before Pontius Pilate.

He gave It up for us upon the holy wood of the Cross, of His own will, for us all.

Truly I believe that His Divinity parted not from His Humanity for a single moment, nor a twinkling of an eye; given for us for salvation, remission of sins, and eternal life to those who partake of Him. I believe, I believe, I believe that this is so in truth. Amen.

DEACON:

Amen. Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe that this is true. Amen.

Pray for us and for all Christians who said to us concerning them, “Remember us (in the house of the Lord).} The peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you. (Let us sing, Alleluia.”)

(Pray for the worthy partaking of the immaculate and heavenly holy Mysteries. Lord have mercy).

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| --- |
| PEOPLE: |
| Glory to You, O Lord. Glory to You. |

The service continues with Holy Communion, as in the Liturgy of Saint Basil (page 64).

After Communion, the priest says the following “Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion”

DEACON[[39]](#footnote-39):

Pray for the worthy communion of the immaculate, heavenly and holy Mysteries.

PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

PRESBYTER:

What blessing, what praise, what thanksgiving, can we give You in return, O Lover of mankind? For, while we were cast into the sentence of death and overwhelmed in the depth of our sins, You have granted us freedom, and gave us this immortal, heavenly Food. And You manifested to us this whole Mystery, hidden since the ages and the generations, so that through the Church Your manifold wisdom might now be made known to the rulers[[40]](#footnote-40) and the authorities in the heavenly realms.

O God, Who manages our affairs in wisdom, and in a manner that is more than what we can comprehend. What is all this compassion! What is this greats care of Your Fatherhood! Or what is this ocean of Your Goodness!

Truly, You are He, unto Whom is due the glory, the greatness, the might, and the authority, before all time, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now, and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

DEACON:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

CONGREGATION:

Before Thee, O Lord.

PRESBYTER:

The priest says this “Prayer of Inclination after Communion,” by the Triple Blessed John:

You are He, with Whom we have laid our life. O Lord, Who fills all, guard us, in every place where we shall go. And the compunction that became ours through prayer, and the contentment of heart of upright living, guard them for us, unstolen and without regret.

So that—at every time and in every place of Your dominion, we may look towards You, and follow after that which pleases You, and that which You desire—we may be not put to shame on the day of righteous judgment, when everyone shall take a retribution, when the angels shall stand, and Your Only-begotten Son our Lord, God, Savior Jesus Christ shall judge.

This is He, through Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, Who is of One Essence with You, now and ant all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

The service ends, as in the Anaphora of Saint Basil, with the dismissal prayer and the blessing, the distribution of the eulogia, that is, blessed bread, and the dismissing of the people in peace.

# FRACTION PRAYERS

## SHORT FRACTION

O God, Who granted us sinners the foreordained salvation and the rational, heavenly sacrifice, which is the divine Body and the precious Blood of Your Christ.

These, which have become for us purification, salvation, free gift and forgiveness of sins.

So with thankfulness, we cry unto You, O Holy Father, Who are in the heavens, saying: Our Father...

## A FRACTION TO THE FATHER

O Lord, our God, the great, Whose Name is Great, the Father of compassion and God of all comfort, Who received from our hands, we frail sinners, this perceptible, true, and bloodless sacrifice.

You also, O our Master, the Good One and Lover of mankind, purify us from every stain of flesh and spirit, and make us worthy to partake of Your ineffable good things, for the salvation of our souls, our bodies and our spirits, and for a defense before Your fearful tribunal.

May we be worthy to dare with boldness, to cry out to You, O Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## ANOTHER FRACTION TO THE FATHER

O God, Begetter of the Light, Author of Life, Granter of knowledge, Creator of grace, beneficent to our souls, Treasure of wisdom, Teacher of purity, Founder of the ages, Who receives to Himself the pure prayers.

Who gives to those who trust in Him with all their hearts the things which the angels desire to behold. Who has brought us out of the depths into the light.

Who gave us life from death. Who granted us freedom from bondage. Who made the darkness of error, which is in us to lighten, through the coming in the flesh of Your Only-Begotten Son.

Now, also, O our Master, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, and purify us wholly, in soul, body and spirit, so that with a pure heart, and hallowed lips, we dare to entreat You, O God, the Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION TO THE SON

You are the Logos of the Father—God before the ages; the great High Priest; Who was incarnate and became man for the salvation of mankind. And out of all the nations, He called to Himself a chosen race, a kingdom, priesthood[[41]](#footnote-41), a holy nation, and a justified people.

Therefore, we ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, that this sacrifice may not be a rebuke of our sins, nor a shame of our iniquities, for we have brought it to You on account of our weakness.

Rather, even as these gifts are pure in everything—You having graciously filled them with every holy thing through the coming upon them of Your Holy Spirit;

Likewise, we sinners also, graciously accord to purify our souls, bodies, spirits, and consciences, so that with an enlightened soul, an unashamed face, a pure heart, a faith unfeigned, a perfect love, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to say the holy prayer which You have given to Your saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Whenever you pray, entreat in this manner, and say: Our Father...”

## A FRACTION TO THE SON

O Lamb of God, Who through Your sufferings have borne the sins of the world, blot out our iniquities through Your compassion.

O Only Begotten of God, Who through Your Blood have cleansed the filth of the world, cleanse the filth of our souls through Your mercies.

O Christ of God, Who through Your death have slain death that had slain all, by Your power raise up the deadness of our souls.

O You Who received the offerings, Who have offered Yourself in place of sinners, accept our repentance, we, who are sinners.

For without favor have we come forth into Your presence, knocking on the door of Your tender mercies. So, grant us, O You Who are rich in mercies, healing out of the treasures of Your remedies.

Heal, O Compassionate One, our wretched souls by the emollient ointments of Your life-giving Mysteries.

Cleanse our bodies; wash away our iniquities; make us worthy of the coming down of Your Holy Spirit upon our souls.

Enlighten our minds that we may behold Your praiseworthiness. Purify our thoughts and mingle us with Your glory.

Your love has brought You down to our lowliness; let Your grace raise us up to Your highness.

Your compassion has compelled You and You were incarnate in our flesh; and You have manifested Your hiddenness openly.

Manifest in the souls of Your servants the glory of Your life-giving Mysteries.

At the offering of the sacrifice upon the altar, sin shall cease from our members through Your grace.

When Your glory comes down upon Your Mysteries, we lift our minds up to behold Your splendor.

At the turning of the bread and wine into Your Body and Blood, our souls shall be turned unto fellowship with Your glory, and our souls shall be united to Your divinity.

Create in us, O our Lord and our God, a pure heart, and let Your Spirit dwell within us.

Renew our senses by Your power and make us worthy of Your gift.

From the cup of Your Blood, we drink; grant us a spiritual taste that we may discern the taste of Your life-giving Mysteries.

We come forth into Your presence trusting in Your mercy, and You shall dwell in us with love.

Fill us with Your fear and inflame our hearts with desire for You.

Place Your grace in us; purify our senses through Your mercy.

Grant us pure tears and cleanse us from the filth of sin.

Make us a holy temple for Your dwelling and purified vessels for receiving You, that having tasted of Your Flesh, we may be made worthy to taste Your grace, and having drunk Your Blood, we may be made worthy of the sweetness of Your love.

You have granted us to eat Your Flesh openly, make us worthy to be united to You secretly.

You have granted us to drink of the cup of Your Blood openly, make us worthy to mingle with Your purity secretly.

And as You are One in Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, may we be one in You and You in us, that Your saying may be fulfilled, “That they may all be one in us.” So that with boldness, we may call God Your Father, a Father to us, saying in an expressive voice, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION TO THE SON

O You, THE BEING, Who was, the Eternal, everlasting before the ages, co-enthroned with the Father, Who is one with Him and the Holy Spirit in Lordship, the source of mercy and compassion, Who, according to His own will, was pleased to suffer on behalf of sinners, of whom I am chief.

For when You desired to save me, You did not send me an angel nor an archangel nor a cherub nor a prophet.

Rather You alone descended from Your Father’s bosom to the womb of the Virgin. You emptied Yourself, taking the form of a servant and walking upon the earth as a man. And this is the wonder of Your humility.

A manger carried You as one needy, and swaddling clothes enwrapped You. Arms carried You, and the knees of the Virgin lifted You up. A mouth has kissed You, and milk fed You, O You Who provide for all creation out of Your bounty.

For my sake, O my Master, You accepted shame and blasphemy, and consented to contempt, slander, threats, and smiting. Adamant people treated You unjustly. They knew not that You are the Savior of the world.

They stood You up to be judged as one wretched. They rendered the judgment that You are worthy of death, and they cried out to Your face that You be crucified on behalf of Your people. Curel people made You to carry the wood of the Cross for my sake, I, who carry the sentence of death by my own will.

Sinners buffeted Your cheek; they scourged Your back with scourges for my sake. They dressed You in a purple robe. They put a crown of thorns upon Your head and a reed in Your right hand. They spat on Your face for my sake.

They took the reed and smote You on Your head, and they mocked You. And You, in Your humility, bore all of this for my sake.

They lifted You up upon the tree, O You who lifted all things by Your beckoning. In the time of Your thirst, they gave You vinegar, O You Who water all creation by Your grace.

You accepted death by Your own will, and You were buried in a sepulcher as dead, that You might bury my iniquities. They guarded Your tomb in fear of You, for in truth You are very fearful above all gods.

You arose, O my Savior, in might, and You abolished the sting of Hades from me. You have given me Your Body and Blood that I may life therewith. And You made me to hear Your voice, saying, “He who eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood dwells in Me and I in him, for My Flesh is food indeed and My Blood is drink indeed. He who eats Me shall live also because of Me.”

You have taught me to keep Your commandments and to meditate upon Your law, and You cried out after me, saying, “Come and draw near to me that you may be justified from your sins.”

Behold, I have come, O my Master, knocking on the door of Your compassion. Accept from this this sacrifice as a ransom for my sins and the ignorance of Your people.

Dwell in us by Your Holy Spirit. Cleanse us from all transgression and hypocrisy. May Your Body and Blood be a propitiation and redemption and vindication from all of our iniquities.

For I came forth to touch Your Body and Blood out of yearning for Your life; do not burn me therewith, O my Father, rather burn all of the thorns that choke my soul. Accept this sacrifice from us, that we may come to You and You come to us and dwell within us by Your Holy spirit.

And with Your favor, we call God, Your Father, a Father of us, and we cry out, saying, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION TO THE SON

O Only Begotten Son, God, the Logos, Who loved us, and through His love, He desired to redeem us from eternal perdition. And since death was in the way of our redemption, He desired to go through it out of His love for us. And thus He ascended upon the Cross that He may bear the punishment of our sins.

We are the ones who sinned, and He is the One who suffered. We are the ones who were indebted to the divine justice because of our sins, and He was the One Who paid off the debts on our behalf.

For our sake, He preferred suffering over joy, toil over rest, contempt over glory, and the Cross over the throne which is carried by the cherubim. He consented to be tied by ropes that He may lose us from the bonds of our sins. He humbled Himself that he may lift us up. He hungered to satiate us, and thirsted to quench our thirst.

And He ascended upon the Cross naked that He might clothe us with the garment of His righteousness. And He opened His side by the spear that we might enter into Him and dwell in the throne of His grace, and that the blood might flow from His Body that we might wash ourselves from iniquities.

Indeed, He died and was buried in the tomb, then He arose that He might raise us from the death of sin, and give us life unto life eternal.

My sins, O my God, are the thrones that pierce Your holy head; I, who have saddened Your heart by my rejoicing the vain pleasures of the world.

What is this road that leads to death in which You are walking, O my God and my Savior? What is it that You are carrying upon Your shoulders? This is the cross of shame which You have carried on my behalf. What is this, O Redeemer? What has caused You to consent to this?

Shall the Great One be despised? Shall the Glorified One be afflicted? Shall the Exalted One be humbled? Oh! The greatness of Your love.

Yes, it is Your great love that made You accept with endurance all these sufferings for my sake. I give thanks to You, O my God, and Your angles, with all Your creation, give thanks to You on my behalf, for I am unable to present Your praise as befits Your love. Have we ever seen a greater love?

So be sorrowful, O my soul, for your sins that caused these sufferings to Your compassionate Redeemer. Portray His wound before you, and hope in Him when the enemy rages against you.

Grant me, O my Savior, to consider Your suffering my treasure, the crown of thorns my glory, Your sorrows my joy, Your bitterness my sweetness, Your blood my life, and Your love my pride and my thanksgiving.

O my Lord Jesus Christ, Who was wounded on account of our sins, and by Your bruises we were healed, wound me by the spear of Your healing divine love. And by the blood of Your Cross, purify me from my sins. Cheer me also by Your love, O You Who accepted death for my sake, that You may redeem me and give me life.

O My Lord Jesus, my beloved, if You see me as a withered organ, soften me with the oil of Your grace, and confirm me in You as a living branch, O True Vine. And when I come forth to partake of Your Mysteries, make me worthy of Them, and fit for communion with You, so that I may dare with boldness without fear to call on Your holy Father, Who is in the heavens, with the voice of children, saying, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION FOR ADVENT AND NATIVITY

O Master and Lord, our God, the Creator—Invisible, Uncontainable, Immutable, and Immeasurable—Who sent His True Light, His Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the Eternal Logos.

He Who is in the Fatherly bosom at all times has come down and dwelt in the undefiled virginal womb. She, being a virgin, gave birth to Him, and her virginity is sealed.

Lo, the angels praise Him, and the heavenly hosts chant to Him, proclaiming and saying, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory.”

Likewise, we too, the weak and sinful, make us worthy with them, O our Good Master, and Lover of mankind, that with a pure heart we praise You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Co-Essential Holy Trinity, and raise our eyes towards You, our Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR THEOPHANY

As You have bestowed upon us the grace of sonship through the washing of rebirth and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, so make us worthy now also that, without hypocrisy, with a pure heart, a conscience full of boldness, and unerring lips, we may entreat You, O Abba, Father.

So that having abandoned the vanity of the excessive words of the heathens and the haughtiness of the Jews, we may be able to offer unto You the supplication of prayer, according to the decree of Your Only-Begotten Son, which is full of salvation.

So with a humble voice befitting Christians, and with the purity of soul, body, and spirit, we dare without fear to cry out to You, Who are uncreated, without beginning, and unbegotten, the Master of everyone, God, the Holy Father, Who are in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR THEOPHANY AND SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

O God, Who granted Zachariah a son in old age from Elizabeth his barren wife, who gave birth to him in her old age, and called his name John.

And Zachariah’s mouth was opened immediately, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed after his muteness, and he spoke, praising God, and prophesied.

Elizabeht also rejoiced, saying, “Blessed be the Lord God, Who has taken away my reproach among men.”

And John grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts. And his clothing was of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his loin; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

He was in the desert preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Christ our God testified concerning him that he was the messenger who would prepare the way before Him; and that among those born of women none is greater than John the Baptist.

And John confessed, “I am not the Messiah, but He Who is coming after me has surpassed me because He was, indeed, before me; I am not worthy to untie a strap of His sandal.

John, too, was given grace for grace, since the Master of all came to him to be baptized by him in the Jordan River.

And when He had been baptized, He came up immediately out of the water, and behold, the heavens opened to Him and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

And lo, a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.”

O John, son of the promise, we entreat you for intercessions that God may forgive us our iniquities, and to call upon Him in thanksgiving, saying, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION TO THE SON FOR HOLY LENT

You are the merciful God, the Redeemer of everyone, Who was incarnate for our salvation, Who has enlightened us sinners, Who fasted for us forty days and forty nights in mystery ineffable,

Who saved us from death and gave us His holy Body and His precious Blood for the forgiveness of our sins, Who spoke to the multitude and to His saintly disciples and holy apostles, saying, “This is the Bread of life which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and died. He who eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood shall live forever, and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Therefore, we ask and entreat Your goodness, O Love of Mankind, purify our souls, bodies, and spirits, so that with a pure heart, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to cry to Your holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION FOR HOLY LENT

O Master and Lord, God the Pantocrator, Who sent His Only-Begotten Son into the world; He taught us the Law and commandments written in the Holy Gospel; and He taught us that fasting and prayer cast out demons when He said, “this kind cannot come out by anything but prayer and fasting.”

Fasting and prayer are those which raised Elijah to heaven and saved Daniel from the lions’ den. Fasting and prayer are those which Moses pursued, until he received the Law and the Commandments, written with the finger of God.

Fasting and prayer are those which the Ninevites pursued, so God had mercy on them and forgave them their sins, and lifted His wrath away from them.

Fasting and prayer are those which the prophets pursued, and prophesied concerning the Advent of Christ many generations before His coming.

Fasting and prayer are those which the Apostles pursued, and they preached to all nations and made them Christians, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Fasting and prayer are those which the martyrs pursued, until they shed their blood for the Name of Christ, Who confessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate.

Fasting and prayer are those which the righteous and the just and the cross-bearers pursued; they dwelt in the mountains, deserts and holes of the earth because of their great love for Christ the King.

And we too, let us fast from all evil, in purity and righteousness; and let us proceed forth to this holy Sacrifice, and partake of It with thanksgiving, so that with a pure heart, an enlightened soul, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, a perfect love, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to pray to You, O God, the Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR PALM SUNDAY

O Lord, our Lord, how wonderous has become Your Name in all the earth, for the greatness of Your beauty is exalted above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of little children and babies, You have prepared praise. Prepare also, O Lord, our souls for praising You, hymning You, blessing You, serving You, worshipping You, glorifying You, giving thanks to You, every day and every hour.

That we may confess to You and cry out to You, O Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR HOLY THURSDAY

And it came to pass, in the days when God wanted to test Abraham and know his heart and his love for Him, that He said to him, “Abraham, Abraham, take your beloved son Isaac, and offer him to Me as a burnt offering, upon the mountain of which I tell you of.”

And Abraham rose up in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two servants and Isaac his son. He took a knife and fire, walked on the earth, and saw from afar the place of which the Lord told him.

And he said to his servants, “You sit in this place with the donkey, and I and Isaac my son shall go to worship and return to you.”

And Abraham took the firewood for the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son, and took fire in his hand, and the knife.

And Isaac spoke to his father, saying, “My father, behold the fire and the wood, but where is the sheep which we shall offer as a burnt offering?”

And Abraham said to him, “God Who commanded us to o-fer to Him a sacrifice, will provide Himself the sheep for the burnt offering, my son.”

And Abraham took stones and built an altar, and took the firewood and laid it on the altar, and took Isaac his son, and bound him and laid him on the altar, and took the knife to slay him.

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham, saying to him, “Abraham, Abraham, behold, touch not your lad, or do him any harm. When the Lord saw your love for Him, He said, ‘I am the Lord your God. By Myself I have sworn that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your seed.’”

And Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw a sheep laid upon the tree, bound by its horns. So he left Isaac his son and took the sheep, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of him.

Thus, the slaying of Isaac was a type of the shedding of the Blood of Christ, the Son of God, on the Cross, for the salvation of the world; and as Isaac carried the firewood for the burnt offering, likewise Christ carried the wood of the Cross.

And as Isaac returned alive, likewise Christ rose alive from the dead and appeared to His holy Disciples.

O God, Who received the sacrifice of our father Abraham, receive this sacrifice from our hands in this hour. Bless these gifts. Bless those on whose behalf they have been offered, and repose the souls of those who died.

May Christ bless the hearts and spirits of us all, so that, with a pure heart, an enlightened soul, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, a perfect love, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to pray to You, O God, the Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR JOYOUS SATURDAY

O Jesus Christ, to Whom belongs the Name of Salvation, Who according to the multitude of His mercy descended into Hades and destroyed the power of death.

You are the King of the ages, the Immortal, the Everlasting, the Logos of God, Who is above all, the Shepherd of the rational sheep, the High Priest of the good things to come, Who ascended into the heavens and became above the heavens.

He went within the veil, to the place of the Holy of Holies, the place into which anyone of a human nature cannot enter. He became a forerunner on our behalf, having become a High Priest forever, after to the order of Melchizedek.

You are He concerning Whom the prophet Isaiah prophesied, saying, “He was led as a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before his shearers is silent, so He opens not His mouth. In the humiliation, His judgment was taken away; who shall declare His generation?”

You were wounded on account of our sins and were weakened for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon You, and with Your bruises we were healed.

We were all going astray like sheep. You have come, O our Master, and saved us, through the true knowledge of Your Cross, and granted us the Tree of Life, which is Your divine Body and true Blood.

Therefore we praise You, we bless You, we serve You, we worship You, we glorify You, and we give thanks to You at all times.

We ask and entreat You, O God, Lover of mankind, receive our sacrifice from our hands, O our Master, as You have received the gifts, the incense, and the supplications of the patriarchs, the prophets, the apostles and all Your saints.

Purify our souls, our bodies, our spirits and our consciences, so that, with a pure heart, an enlightened soul, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, a perfect love, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to say the holy prayer which You have given to Yoyr saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying to them, “Whenever you pray, entreat in this manner, and say: Our Father...”

## A FRACTION TO THE SON FOR RESURRECTION

O Christ our God, the High Priest of the good things to come, King of the ages, the Immortal, the Everlasting, the Logos of God Who is above all, Who granted us this great Mystery which is His holy Body and His precious Blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

This is the Body which He took from our Lady, the Lady of us all, Saint Mary, and made It one with His divinity.

This is He Who descended into Hades, abolished the power of death, led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.

He lifted His saints up on high with Hiim and gave them as gifts to His Father. Through His tasting of death for us, He saved those who are alive and reposed those who have died.

And we too, who were sitting in darkness for a season, He granted us the light of His Resurrection through His holy Incarnation.

May the illumination of Your true knowledge shine upon us, that we may shine with Your living image and may dare with boldness, without fear, to cry out to Your Father, Who is in the heavens, and say, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION FOR RESURRECTION AND THE HOLY FIFTY

O Master, Lord, God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, Who through His Cross descended to Hades, and restored our father Adam and his children to Paradise.

He buried us with Himself, and through His death He abolished the power of death, and on the third day He rose from the dead.

He appeared to Mary Magdalene and spoke with her in this manner, saying, “Tell My brethren that they go to Galilee, and there shall they see Me.”

The Archangel descended from heaven and rolled the stone from the door of the tomb, and proclaimed the glad tidings to the women carrying the spices, saying, “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing eternal life.”

He breathed into the face of His saintly Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If You forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven, if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

From Ascension to Pentecost, the presbyter adds the following:

And after forty days, He ascended to the heavens, was seated at the right hand of His Good Father, and sent us the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, in the likeness of tongues of fire.

The presbyter then continues:

Therefore, we ask You, our Master, purify us from all hypocrisy, that, with a pure heart, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to entreat You, O God the Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR THE APOSTLES’ FAST & FEAST

You are the Logos of the Father—God, Who is before the ages; the great High Priest; Who was incarnate and became man for the salvation of mankind. Out of all the nations, He called unto Himself a chosen generation, a kingdom, a priesthood[[42]](#footnote-42), a holy nation and a justified people.

Having sent the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost, He came upon each one of them like cloven tongues of fire.

And filled them with every knowledge, all understanding and every spiritual wisdom, according to Your faithful promise. And they spoke in every language, and they proclaimed Your Holy Name to all the nations.

As for Peter and Paul, the Apostles, the shadow of the one was healing the sick, whereas the handkerchiefs and aprons of the other caused diseases to leave, and evil spirits to go out.

And after they preached the Gospel of the Kingdom, and taught the nations, they shed their blood for Your Name’s sake, and received the crown of Apostleship and of martyrdom.

O You, Who granted His holy Disciples and honored Apostles the descent of the Spirit, the Paraclete, upon them, and gave them authority to work healings, signs and wonders. They proclaimed to us the glad tidings of His Holy Name and restored us to the True Faith of the Holy Trinity.

We praise You, we bless You, we glorify You, and we give thanks to You, on account of these great gifts.

And we ask You, O our Master, to also grant us the forgiveness of our sins, and to purify our hearts, our souls, our bodies and our spirits, so that, with a pure heart, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to cry to Your Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION TO THE SON FOR THE APOSTLES’ FAST

How unsearchable are Your judgments and Your ways past finding out! As the heavens are higher than the earth, so also are Your thoughts higher than the sons of men.

“Lo, You have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and have revealed them to little children.” “Yea, O Father, this is the good pleasure before You.”

You have chosen what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, and You have chosen what is weak in the world to shame the strong. You have chosen Peter, who was a fisherman, and have made him into a fisher of men.

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. This is he, who, when You asked Your holy disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I am?” he proclaimed saying, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

“Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father Who is in the heavens.” Simon Peter, who had denied You before the servant girl, did confess You before kings and rulers.

Likewise also, Paul, who was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor, persecuting the church of god exceedingly to destroy it, You made him a chosen vessel for Yourself bearing Your holy Name before the Gentiles and kings and sons of Isreal.

When he was going to Damascus to bind the Christians and torture them, suddenly a light shined upon him from heaven, and he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is a hard thing for you to kick against the goads.”

Paul, the tongue of incense! He has preached the gospel to the Gentiles, establishing churches for them, and confirming them in the upright faith.

Finally, when Your two apostles, Peter and Paul, had fought the good fight and finished their race, You granted them the things which an eye has not seen nor ear heard, neither have come upon the heart of men. Behold, Peter was martyred, crucified upside down with his head below, and Paul by the edge of the sword, and they received the crown of apostleship and of martyrdom.

O God, Who granted His apostles these many graces, grant us, who are sinners, the forgiveness of ours ins, our trespasses, and our iniquities, that we may call upon You in thanksgiving, saying, “Our Father…”

## A FRACTION FOR FEASTS OF THE VIRGIN AND THE ANGELS

Behold, Immanuel our God, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the whole world, is with us today on this table; Who is seated on the Throne of His Glory, and before Whom stand all the heavenly orders; Whom the angels praise with the voices of blessing, and before Whom the archangels fall down and worship.

The Four Incorporeal living Creatures sing the hymn of the Trisagion, and the Twenty-Four Presbyters are seated on their thrones, and twenty-four golden crowns upon their heads, and in their hands twenty-four golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints, and they fall down before [Him] Who lives forever and ever.

And the one hundred and forty-four thousand, the undefiled virgins praise the Lord, saying, “Holy, Holy, Holy. Amen. Alleluia.”

And we also worship the Holy Trinity, praising Him, saying,

“Holy is God the Father, the Pantocrator. Amen. Alleluia.

Holy is His Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Alleluia.

Holy is the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. Amen. Alleluia.”

Holy and full of glory is the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary, the Virgin. Amen. Alleluia.

Holy and full of glory is this sacrifice, which has been slain for the life of the whole world. Amen. Alleluia.

Therefore, our Good Savior proclaimed, saying, “My Body is food indeed, and My Blood is drink indeed. He who eats My Body and drinks My Blood dwells in Me, and I in him.”

We ask You, O our Master, purify our souls, our bodies and our spirits, so that, with a pure heart, cleansed lips, an enlightened soul, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, a pure conscience, a perfect patience, and a firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to pray to You, O God, the Holy Father, Who is in the heavens, and say: Our Father...

## A FRACTION FOR THE FEASTS OF OUR LORD

We praise and glorify the God of gods and the Lord of lords, Who was incarnate of Saint Mary; she gave birth to Him in Bethlehem. And, lo, the angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds, and proclaimed the glad tidings of His wonderful Nativity to them, and they came and beheld Him.

Whose star the Magi saw; they came and worshipped Him, and presented gifts to Him.

Who came to the land of Egypt, and then returned and dwelt in Nazareth of Galilee.

Who grew little by little, according to the form of men, yet He alone, was without sin. Who came to the Jordan and was baptized by the forerunner.

Who fasted on our behalf forty days and forty nights in a mystery ineffable. Who made the water wine by the power of His Divinity at the wedding of Cana of Galilee.

Who gave sight to the blind, made the lame to walk, the maimed whole, the lepers pure, the deaf to hear, the mute to speak, and the demons to depart.

Who raised the son of the widow of Nain, and the daughter of Jairus. Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor before His holy Disciples, and His face shone like the sun.

Who raised Lazarus from the tomb after four days. Who entered into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey and a colt of a donkey, as a king.

Who established a covenant with His holy Disciples and gave them His holy Body and His precious Blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

Who was crucified on the Cross and trampled down Satan, and was placed in the tomb, and after three days rose from the dead.

Whom His chosen Disciples saw on the Sea of Tiberias after His holy Resurrection; and after forty days He ascended into the heavens, and was seated at the right hand of His Good Father, and sent us the Paraclete like tongues of fire.

Who taught His chosen Disciples and holy Apostles, saying, “Whenever you pray, entreat in this manner, and say: Our Father...”

## THE SYRIAN FRACTION[[43]](#footnote-43)

Thus truly did the Logos of God suffered in the flesh, was slain, bowed on the Cross, and His soul parted from His body, even though His Divinity never parted, either from His soul or from His body.

He was pierced with the spear in His side, out of which flowed blood and water for the forgiveness of the whole world. His body was smeared in them, and His soul came and was reunited with His body.

In place of sins which engulf the world, the Son died on the Cross, and turned us from the way-of-life on the left to that on the right. He made peace through the blood of His Cross, uniting and reconciling the heavenly with the earthly, the people the peoples[[44]](#footnote-44), and the soul with the body; and on the third day He rose from the tomb.

One is Immanuel Who is indivisible after the union, and undivided into two natures. Thus we believe, thus we confess, and thus we affirm, that this Body belongs to this Blood, and this Blood belongs to this Body.

You are Christ our God, Who was pierced in His side on Golgotha at Jerusalem for our sakes.

You are the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. Forgive our trespasses, and remit our sins, and make us stand on Your right-hand side.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is blessed by the Cherubim, hallowed by the Seraphim, and exalted by thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousands of the rational servants; Who sanctifies and completes the gifts and the fruits that have been brought to You, as a sweet savor: Sanctify also all of our bodies, souls and spirits,

so that with a pure heart and an unashamed face, we may call upon You, O God the Father, Who is in the heavens, and pray saying, “Our Father...”

# LITURGICAL HYMNS FOR THE SEASONS

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## THE ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Bless the crown of the year  with Your goodness, O Lord,  the rivers and springs,  the plants and fruits. |
| Blessed are You.... |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia.  Bless the crown of the year  with Your Goodness, O Lord,  the rivers and springs,  the plants, and the fruits.  Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.  Bless the crown of the year  with You Goodness, O Lord. |
| This is the One to Whom the glory is due,  with His Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  henceforth and forever. |
| Blessed be.... |

### ADAM ASPASMOS

|  |
| --- |
| Every evil excuse,  let us place behind us;  let us purify our hearts  in the Name of the Lord. |
| May the Name of the Lord be within us,  to enlighten us in our inner man. |

### BATOS ASPASMOS

|  |
| --- |
| The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  because He has anointed me and sent me  to preach the Gospel to the poor,  to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.  Bless the crown of the year  with Your goodness, O Lord;  save us and have mercy on us. |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia. ... |
| We proclaim and say, “O our Lord Jesus Christ,  bless the crown of the year with Your Goodness, O Lord,  the rivers and springs, the plants and fruits.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us... |

## THE FEASTS OF THE CROSS

“For You [have come] and saved us,” is replaced by, “for You have been crucified and saved us.”

### THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

This verse is added following the martyrs' verses:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the prayers of my lord the king, Constantine,  and Helen his mother, the queen,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to the Cross,  upon which my Lord was crucified to save us  from our sins. |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia.  Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was crucified upon the Cross,  trampling Satan under our feet.  Alleluia. Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| For greatly honored  is the sign of the Cross  of Jesus Christ the King,  Our true God. |
| Blessed the Father and the Son  and the Holy Spirit,  the perfect Trinity.  We worship Him and glorify Him. |

### THE ADAM ASPASMOS

|  |
| --- |
| They likened the rod of Aaron to the wood of the Cross, upon which my Lord was crucified  in order to save us. |

### THE BATOS ASPASMOS

|  |
| --- |
| The Cross is our weapon,  the Cross is our hope,  the Cross is our confirmation,  in our distresses and afflictions. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  My Lord Jesus Christ,  Who was crucified upon the Cross,  trample Satan under our feet,  Save us and have mercy upon us. |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

### PSALM 150 REFRAIN

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was crucified upon the Cross.

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say,  “O our Lord Jesus Christ,  Who was crucified upon the Cross,  trample Satan under our feet.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## MONTH BEFORE NATIVITY[[45]](#footnote-45)

“For You [have risen] and saved us,” is replaced by, “for You have come and saved us.”

### THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

|  |
| --- |
| Through the intercessions Mary, of Holy Theotokos,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the intercessions of the holy archangel, Gabriel the herald of glad tidings,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the intercessions of the Seven Archangels, and the heavenly orders,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the intercessions of the kinsman of Immanuel, John the son of Zacharias,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of the priest Zacharias, and his wife Elisabeth,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of the blessed elders, Joachim and Anna,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| Through the prayers of my lords and fathers, the Apostles, and the rest of the Disciples,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| … |
| We worship You, O Christ,  with Your Good Father  and the Holy Spirit,  for You have **come** and saved us.  (Have mercy on us.) |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

On the first and third Sundays,

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to you, O Mary, ... |
| Hail to Gabriel,  the great archangel.  Hail to him who announced glad tidings  to Mary the Virgin. |

On the second Sunday,

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to you, O Mary, ... |
| Hail to Gabriel, the herald of glad tidings,  the great among the angels  and the exalted holy orders,  who carry fiery flaming swords. |

On the fourth Sunday,

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to you, O Mary,  with a holy hail.  Hail to you, O Mary,  the mother of the Holy One. |
| Hail to Gabriel, the herald of glad tidings,  the great among the angels  and the exalted holy orders,  who carry fiery flaming swords. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

On the first two of the four Sundays, this verse is sung:

|  |
| --- |
| We send you greetings,  With Gabriel the angel,  “Hail, O full of grace,  The Lord is with you.” |

On the last two Sundays, this verse is sung instead:

|  |
| --- |
| We exalt you worthily,  With Elisabeth your kinswoman, saying,  “Blessed are you among women,  and blessed is the Fruit of your womb.” |

Then the ending is said:

|  |
| --- |
| Therefore, as at all times,  we glorify you as Theotokos.  Ask the Lord on our behalf,  That He may forgive us our sins. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE ADAM ASPASMOS

On the first Sunday:

|  |
| --- |
| Zachariah the priest, son of Barachiah, was in the temple,  offering incense |
| when he saw the light,  which was in his face;  he was terrified and fell  down to his feet. |

On the second Sunday:

|  |
| --- |
| You also flew to Saint Mary,  and announced to her glad tidings  of the joy of the world. |
| And You cried out to her, with a voice of joy, saying,  “Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you.” |

On the third Sunday:

|  |
| --- |
| Rejoice, O Mary… |

On the fourth Sunday:

|  |
| --- |
| God is Light  Dwelling in the Light with the angels of light praising Him. |
| The Light has shone forth from Mary;  Elizabeth has borne the forerunner. |

### THE BATOS ASPASMOS

|  |
| --- |
| Gabriel the angel announced glad tidings to the Virgin,  saying, “Hail, O full of grace,  the Lord is with you.” |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. O begotten of the Father before all ages,  save us and have mercy upon us. |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

Or,

|  |
| --- |
| The holy angel Gabriel  announced glad tidings to the Virgin.  Upon greeting her, he strengthened her by his word. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia… |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

Or,

|  |
| --- |
| You announced glad tidings  to Zachariah the priest  of the birth of the forerunner,  John the Baptist. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia… |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… | Amen: Alleluia: … |
| We proclaim and say, "O our Lord Jesus Christ, begotten of the Father before all ages, | Ten osh evol engo emmos: je "O pen Chois Isos Pi Khristos: pi misi evol khen ef Yot: khago-oo en ni é-on tiro: |
| "Save us and have mercy on us." … | "Soti emmon owoh nai nan." … |

## PREPARATION DAY OF NATIVITY

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Mary the Virgin,  and Joseph and Salome,  wondered greatly  at what they saw. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| …We proclaim and say, “O our Lord Jesus Christ,  Begotten of the Father before all ages, |
| Save us and have mercy on us.” … |

## NATIVITY

“For You have come and saved us,” is replaced by, “for You have been born and saved us.”

### THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

Before the verse for the Apostles, add:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the prayers of the blessed elders, Joseph the carpenter, and Saint Salome,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to Bethlehem,  the city of the prophets,  in which was born Christ,  the Second Adam. |
| Blessed art You in truth,  with Your Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  for You have **been born** and saved us. |

### THE HYMN OF THE TRISAGION

|  |
| --- |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who was born of the Virgin,  have mercy upon us. |
| O our Lord, Jesus Christ,  Who was born of the Virgin,  in Bethlehem of Judea,  according to the prophetic voices[[46]](#footnote-46). |
| The Cherubim and the Seraphim;  the angels and archangels;  the armies[[47]](#footnote-47) and authorities;  the thrones, the dominions and the powers, |
| Cry out, saying  “Glory to God in the highest,  peace on earth  and good will toward men.” |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who was born of the Virgin,  have mercy upon us. (twice) |
| Glory be to the Father… |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  Was born of the Virgin, in Bethlehem of Judea,  according to the prophetic voices.  Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

During the Raising of Incense,

The One without flesh became flesh,

and the Logos became incarnate;

the One without beginning was born,

the One outside of time became subject to time.

During the Liturgy,

A star shone in the East,

and the wise men followed it

until it brought them to Bethlehem,

where they worshipped the King of the ages.

Then conclude,

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was born in Bethlehem. |
| This is the One to Whom the glory is due,  with His Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  henceforth and forever. |
| Blessed be.... |

### THE ASPASMOS ADAM

|  |
| --- |
| O true Lamb  of God,  have mercy upon us  in Your Kingdom. |
| For the mouth of Your Father testifies about You, saying, “You are my Son, today have I begotten You.”  Or, |
| For unto us a Child is born,  unto us a Son is given,  Whose Rule  is upon His shoulder: |
| God, the mighty  authority  and the Messenger of great counsel.  Or, |
| Hail to the new heaven,  from which the Sun of Righteousness,  the Lord of all creation,  has shined upon us.  Or, |
| Hail to Bethlehem,  the city of the prophets,  in which Christ was born,  the second Adam. |

### THE ASPASMOS BATOS HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| The begotten of the Father  before all ages,  was born of the Queen,  and her virginity was sealed. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was born of the Virgin,  in Bethlehem of Judea,  according to the prophetic voices. |
| Holy, Holy, Holy… |
| Or,  They presented Him gifts of  gold, frankincense and myrrh,  praising with the rest,  and bowed down and worshipping Him. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia… |
| Holy, Holy, Holy… |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born in Bethlehem.

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ,  the Son of God, was born of the Virgin, in Bethlehem of Judea,  according to the prophetic sayings.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## THE FEAST OF CIRCUMCISION

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, accepted unto Himself the circumcision,  according to what is fitting in the Law. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  accepted unto Himself the circumcision. |
| This is He to Whom the glory is due, with His Good Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| …We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, received unto Himself the circumcision.” |
| Save us… |

## THEOPHANY

“For You [have come] and saved us,” is replaced by, “For You have been baptized and saved us.”

### THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

After the verse for the angels:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the intercessions of the cousin of Emmanuel,  John the son of Zacharias,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| “This is My Beloved Son  in Whom I am is pleased.  He has performed My will.  Obey Him, for He is the Life-giver. |
| Blessed art You in truth… |

### THE HYMN OF THE TRISAGION

|  |
| --- |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who was baptized in the Jordan,  have mercy upon us. (3) |
| Glory be to the Father… |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was baptized in the Jordan. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| This is the Lamb of God  Who takes away the sin of the world,  Who brought a trumpet of salvation  in order to save His people. |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was baptized in the Jordan. |
| This is the One to Whom the glory is due,  with His Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  now and forever. |
| Blessed be… |

### ASPASMOS ADAM HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Behold, John the Baptist testified,  “I baptized the Lord in the waters of the Jordan.” |
| And I heard the Father’s voice crying out saying,  ‘This is My Son, My beloved, in whom I am pleased.’” |

### ASPASMOS BATOS HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Rejoice like lambs,  O Jordan and your wilderness,  for the Lamb, Who carries the sin of the world,  has come unto you. |
| Alleluia (3): Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was baptized in the Jordan.  Have mercy on us according to Thy mercy. |
| Holy, Holy, Holy… |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was baptized in the Jordan.

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was baptized in the Jordan.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## THE WEDDING AT CANA GALILEE

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Six jars of water  You made them select wine,  through Your great glory:  we praise You three times. |
| Blessed are You in truth… |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  blessed the waters and made them wine. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| O [You] Who at the Wedding at Cana of Galilee  turned water into select wine,  turn our hearts, O Immanuel  from evil to what pleases You, O Holy One. |
| Alleluia (4): Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  blessed the waters and made them wine. |
| This is He… |
| Blessed be… |

### END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who blessed the waters and made them wine.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## THE ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO THE TEMPLE

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  entered into the Temple. Al­leluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Al­leluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  entered into the Temple. |
| This is He… |
| Blessed be… |

### THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ,  the Son of God, entered into the Temple.” |
| Save us… |

## HOLY LENT

### THE LITANY OF LENT

(Said after reading the prophecies on weekdays)

|  |
| --- |
| PRESBYTER: |
| Let us bend our knees. |
| PEOPLE: |
| Have mercy upon us, O God the Father, the Pantocrator. |
| PRESBYTER: |
| Let us stand, then bend our knees. |
| PEOPLE: |
| Have mercy upon us, O God, our Savior. |
| PRESBYTER: |
| Again, let us stand, then bend our knees. |
| PEOPLE: |
| Have mercy upon us, O God, and [again] have mercy. |

PRESBYTER:

The presbyter says the Litany. The congregation responds with “Kirié Eleison” following each verse (as shown):

Pray for the living. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the sick. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the travelers. Kirié Eleison.

Let us bend our knees…

Pray for the good air and the fruits of the earth. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the rising of the waters of the rivers according to their measure. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the good rain and the plants of the earth. Kirié Eleison.

Let us bend our knees…

Pray for the safety of men and the animals. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the salvation of the world and of this city. Kirié Eleison. Pray for our Christ loving Kings [leaders]. Kirié Eleison.

Let us bend our knees…

Pray for the captives. Kirié Eleison. Pray for those who have fallen asleep. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the sacrifices and the oblations. Kirié Eleison.

Let us bend our knees…

Pray for those who are in distress. Kirié Eleison. Pray for the catechumens. Kirié Eleison. Pray Lord have mercy. Kirié Eleison.

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

On Sundays and Saturdays,

|  |
| --- |
| Remember me, O my Lord,  remember me, O my God,  remember me, O my King,  when You come in Your Kingdom. |
| Blessed are You… |

On weekdays,

|  |
| --- |
| God lifts away  the sins of the people  Through the burnt offering  And the aroma of incense. |
| Blessed are You… |

### THE TRISAGION PARALLAX

|  |
| --- |
| Our Lord Jesus Christ,  fasted on our behalf,  forty days and forty nights,  until He save us from our sins. |
| And, we too, let us fast  with purity and righteousness,  and let us pray,  proclaiming and saying: |
| “I have sinned, I have sinned,  O my Lord Jesus: for­give me.  For there is no slave without sin,  nor master without forgiveness.” |
| Our Father, Who art in heaven,  hallowed be Thy Name.  Thy Kingdom come.  For Thine is the glory forever. |
| Holy God … |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE FOR SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

|  |
| --- |
| Our Father, Who art in heaven,  hallowed be Thy Name.  Thy Kingdom come.  For Thine is the glory forever. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE FOR WEEKDAYS

|  |
| --- |
| The peace of God, which  surpasses all understanding,  will guard your hearts  in Christ Jesus, our lord. |
| I have sinned ... |
| Our Father… |
| Blessed be… |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Jesus Christ fasted on our behalf, forty days and forty nights.

### THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, He Who fasted on our behalf, forty days and forty nights, until He saved us from our sins.” |
| Save us and have mercy on… |

## ANNUNCIATION

### THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

Before the verse for the heavenly:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the intercessions of the holy archangel,  Gabriel the Angel‑Evangel,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to her who has found grace:  the Lord is with you.  Hail to her who received from the angel  the joy of the world. |
| Blessed are You… |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was incarnate of the Virgin. Al­leluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was incarnate of the Virgin. |
| This is He to Whom the glory is due,  with His Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  now and forever. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  Who was incarnate of the Virgin.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## PALM SUNDAY

### RESPONSES TO THE PROCESSION GOSPELS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Refrain for Palm Sunday:* | *Refrain for the Feasts of the Cross:* |
| Hosanna in the highest:/ This is the King of Israel./ Blessed is He Who comes/ In the Name of the Lord of Powers. | Through His Cross,/ And His Holy Resurrection,/ He restored mankind,/ Once again, to Paradise. |
| *1 Before the Sanctuary:* | *2 Before the Virgin's icon:* |
| The Four Incorporeal Creatures,/ who carry the throne of God:/ A lion's face and a calf's face,/ A man's face and an eagle's face. | We exalt you befittingly,/ With your cousin Elizabeth:/ “Blessed are you among women,/ And blessed is the Fruit of your womb.” |
| *3 Before the Annunciation* | *4 Before Archangel Michael's icon:* |
| Gabriel the Angel/ Was seen by Daniel,/ Standing on his feet,/ By the bank of the river. | Michael, chief of the heavenly,/ Is the foremost/ Among the angelic orders/ Serving the Lord. |
| *5 Before St. Mark's icon:* | *6 Before the Apostles' icon:* |
| Mark the Apostle/ And the Evangelist:/ The witness to the Passion/ Of the Only Begotten God. | Jesus Christ has sent you,/ O Twelve Apostles,/ To preach the nations/ And make them Christians. |
| 7 Before St. George's icon  (or that of any martyr): | *8 Before St. Antony's icon*  *(or that of any saint):* |
| Hail to you, O martyr(s),/ Hail to the noble athlete(s),/ Hail to the struggle-bearer,/ \_\_\_\_. | Chase away from your hearts/ The thoughts of darkness,/ And the memories that deceive/ And darken the mind. |
| *9 Before the north door:* | *10 Before the “Lakkane”:* |
| When Thou comest again,/ In Thy fearful Parousia,/ May we not hear with trembling:/ "I know ye not." | John has witnessed/ In the four Gospels:/ “I have baptized my Savior/ In the waters of the Jordan.” |
| 11 Before the south door: | 12 Before the Baptism icon: |
| He Who sits on the Cherubim,/ On the throne of His glory,/ Has entered Jerusalem:/ Oh what great humility. | Among those born of women,/ No one is like you:/ You are great among all the saints,/ O John the Baptist. |

### RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL OF PRIME

|  |
| --- |
| “The half of my goods,”  Zaccheus said to his Lord,  “I give, O Master,  to the poor with care.” |
| “Behold salvation has come to you today,”  Said the Lord God of Powers,  “For you are also,  a son of Abraham.” |
| Blessed be… |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hosanna in the highest,  this is the King of Israel.  Blessed is He Who comes  In the Name of the Lord of powers. |
| Blessed are You… |

### EVLOGIMENOS

|  |
| --- |
| Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord;  again, in the Name of the Lord. |
| Hosanna to the Son of David;  again, to the Son of David. |
| Hosanna in the highest;  again, in the highest. |
| Hosanna to the King of Israel; again,  to the King of Israel. |
| Let us chant, saying,  “Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. |
| Glory be to our God;  again, glory be to our God.” |
| Hosanna in the highest… |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  entered into Jerusalem, riding a Colt. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### RESPONSES TO THE FOUR GOSPELS

First Gospel (from Matthew):

|  |
| --- |
| Hosanna in the highest:  This is the King of Israel.  Blessed is He Who comes  In the Name of the Lord of Hosts. |

Second Gospel (from Mark):

|  |
| --- |
| He Who sits upon the Cherubim  Today appeared in Jerusalem,  Riding on a colt with great glory,  Surrounded by ranks of angels. |

Third Gospel (from Luke):

|  |
| --- |
| They spread their garments in the way,  And cut off branches from the trees.  And as they followed they cried and said,  “Hosanna to the Son of David.” |

Fourth Gospel (from John):

|  |
| --- |
| Today were fulfilled the sayings  Of the prophets and the psalmists.  Zechariah too prophesied,  Concerning Jesus Christ. |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, entered into Jerusalem.

### THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia. |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  Who entered Jerusalem on a colt with great glory.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

### THE RUBRIC FOR THE MORNING INCENSE ON THE THREE PRIMARY FEASTS

The priest begins with the Prayer of Thanksgiving, as usual. The congregation then sings the first part of the Doxology of Prime, and/or the Verses of the Cymbals (compulsory on Easter).

The priest continues with the Prayer for the Sick, then the congregation sings the rest of the Doxology of Prime (starting at “O Thou True Light”), followed by the Ending of the Adam Theotokias.

The priest says the Prayer for the Oblations, after which he circles the altar and offers incense in the nave, while the congregation recites the Gloria. Then, the rest of the service is carried out as usual.

## EASTER AND THE HOLY FORTY

“For You [have come] and saved us,” is replaced by, “For You have Risen and saved us.”

### THE HYMN OF THE INTERCESSIONS

Before the verse for the angels:

|  |
| --- |
| Through the intercessions of Michael,  the trumpeter of the Resurrec­tion, ruler of the heavenlies,  O Lord, grant us the forgiveness of our sins. |
| After the verse for Saint Mark:   |  | | --- | | Through the prayers of the righteous and perfect men,  Joseph and Nicodemus, and Saint Mary Magdalene,  O Lord, grant us the forgive­ness of our sins. | |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to His Resurrection,  when He rose from the dead  in order to save us from our sins. |
| Blessed are You in truth,  with Your Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  for You have **risen** and saved us.  (Have mercy on us.) |

### THE RESURRECTION DRAMA

Two deacons stand outside the sanctuary. The presbyter remains inside. Repeat three times:

DEACON: Christ is risen.

PRESBYTER: Truly, He is risen.

Then repeat three times:

DEACON: Lift up your gates, O rulers,

And be raised, O eternal gates,

Then continue:

That the King of Glory may enter.

PRESBYTER: Who is this King of Glory?

DEACON: The Lord, the powerful, the strong;

The mighty, victorious in battles:

He is the King of Glory!

### THE RESURRECTION PARALLAX

|  |
| --- |
| All ye heavenly orders,  Sing to our God melodies with of praise;  Rejoice with us today with gladness,  In the Resur­rection of the Lord Christ. |
| Today the prophecies are fulfilled,  And the sayings of the forefathers are realized:  By the resurrection of the Lord from among the dead;  He is the Firstfruit of those who have fallen asleep. |
| The Lord arose as one who sleeps,  And as on who is sated by wine;  He has granted us everlasting joy,  And freed us from bitter bondage. |
| He led Hades captive  And crushed the doors of brass.  He utterly broke the bars of iron and,  For us, exchanged salvation for punishment. |

### THE HYMN OF THE PROCESSION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Christ is risen from the dead,  Trampling down death by death;  and unto those in the tombs  bestowing eternal life. | Khristos anesti ek nekron:  thanato thanaton patisas:  ke tis en tis emni masi zo‑in:  kharisamenos. |
| Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. | Doxa Patri ke Eio ke Agio Pnevmati. |
| Now, and forever, and to the age of ages. Amen. | Ke nyn ke a‑ee ke ees toos é‑onas ton é‑onon: Amen. |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ,  the King of Glory,  rose from the dead,  on the third day. Alleluia, Al­leluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  is risen from the dead. |
| This is the One to Whom glory is due,  with His Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  henceforth and forever. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE ASPASMOS ADAM HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Christ our God  is risen from the dead.  He is the firstfruits of those  who have fallen asleep. |
| Therefore, we glorify him,  crying out, saying,  “You are blessed, O my Lord Jesus,  for You have risen and saved us” |

### THE ASPASMOS BATOS HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Moreover, He was placed in the tomb;  according to the prophetic voices,  on the third day,  Christ rose from the dead. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,  is risen from the dead.  Save us and have mercy on us. |
| Holy, Holy, Holy… |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, is risen from the dead.

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, rose from the dead, on the third day.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## ASCENSION

## 

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to His Resurrection,  when He rose from the dead  and ascended into the heavens  and was seated at the right hand of His Father. |
| Blessed are You… |

### HE BOWED HEAVEN DOWN

Said after the Praxis:

|  |
| --- |
| He bowed heaven down and descended,  and a cloud was under His feed.  He rode on the cherubim.  He flew, He flew on the wings of the winds. |
| May the heavens rejoice,  may the earth be glad;  may all peoples of the Orthodox faith rejoice. |
| For Christ, the Only Begotten God,  has ascended into the heavens. |

### CHRIST HAS ASCENDED

After Christ is Risen,

|  |
| --- |
| Christ is risen from the dead,  Trampling down death by death;  and unto those in the tombs  bestowing eternal life. |
| Christ has ascended into heaven,  And sent the Paraclete,  The Holy Spirit,  Bestowing life to our souls. |
| Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. |
| Now, and forever, and to the age of ages. Amen. |

### THE HYMN OF THE PROCESSION

|  |
| --- |
| Christ is risen from the dead,  and has ascended into the heavens,  and is seated at the right hand of His Father in the highest,  bestowing upon us eternal life. |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Christ is risen from the dead,  and has as­cended into the heavens,  and is seated at the right hand of His Father. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Christ is risen from the dead,  and has ascended into the heavens. |
| This is He… |
| Blessed be… |

### THE ASPASMOS BATOS

|  |
| --- |
| He ascended into the heavens,  angels and powers and authorities  having submitted to Him,  according to the word of the Apostles. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  Christ is risen from the dead  and has ascended into the heavens.  Save us and have mercy upon us. |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Christ is risen from the dead and has ascended into the heavens.

### THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ,  He is risen from the dead, and has ascended into the heavens,  and is seated at the right hand of His Father.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## PENTECOST

### THE HYMN OF THE PROCESSION

|  |
| --- |
| Christ is risen from the dead,  Trampling down death by death;  and unto those in the tombs  bestowing eternal life. |
| Christ has ascended into heaven,  sent us the Paraclete,  the Holy Spirit,  and granted us eternal life. |
| Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. |
| Now, and forever, and to the age of ages. Amen. |

### CHRIST IS RISEN

After Christ is Risen,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Christ is risen from the dead  and has ascended into the heavens  and is seated at the right hand of His Father in the highest;  He sent us the Paraclete,  the Spirit of truth,  bestowing upon our souls everlasting life. | |
| Glory be… |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to His Ascension,  in which He has ascended into the heavens,  and has sent us the Paraclete,  the Spirit of Truth. |
| Blessed are You… |

### THE HYMN OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

|  |
| --- |
| The Spirit of comfort  came down upon the Apostles  on the feast of Pentecost,  and they spoke in many tongues. |
| It came to pass,  when the days of Pentecost were completed,  that all Twelve Apostles  were gathered together. |
| When the Spirit of comfort,  came down from heaven,  distributing upon each one,  and they spoke in many tongues. |
| And there came a great fear,  and a sound came from heaven,  and it filled the place  where the Disciples of Christ were. |
| And there appeared to them  the likeness of tongues of fire,  divided upon each one  of the honored Disciples. |
| The Holy Spirit filled the Twelve Disciples,  and they spoke in many tongues,  according to the command  of the Holy Spirit. |

### THE HYMN OF THE TRISAGION

|  |
| --- |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who rose from the dead, and has ascended into the heavens,  have mercy upon us. |
| My Lord, Jesus Christ,  Who is coming in His second advent,  Grant us loving mercy,  Before Your fearsome judgment seat. |
| The Cherubim and the Seraphim;  the angels and archangels;  the armies[[48]](#footnote-48) and authorities;  the thrones, the dominions and the powers, |
| Cry out, saying  “Holy, holy, holy,  Lord of the ages,  Christ is risen from the dead.” |
| Holy God,  Holy Mighty,  Holy Immortal,  Who rose from the dead, and has ascended into the heavens,  have mercy upon us. (twice) |
| Glory be to the Father… |

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia:  Christ is risen and has ascended;  He sent to us the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth.  Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Christ is risen and has ascended;  He sent to us the Paraclete. |
| This is He… |
| Blessed be… |

### THE ASPASMOS BATOS

|  |
| --- |
| He ascended into the heaven of heavens,  towards the East  to send us the Paraclete,  the Spirit of truth. |
| Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  Christ is risen and has ascended;  He sent to us the Paraclete.  Save us and have mercy upon us. |
| Holy, holy, holy… |

### REFRAIN FOR PSALM 150

Christ is risen and has ascended; He sent to us the Paraclete.

### LET US PRAISE

|  |
| --- |
| Let us praise the Lord,  for with glory He was glorified.  He ascended into the heavens  and sent to us the Paraclete,  Spirit of truth, [the comforter]. Amen. Alleluia. |
| He made the two into one,  that is, heaven and earth.  He ascended… |
| O come, all you people,  let us bow down and worship Jesus Christ.  He ascended… |
| This is God our Savior,  and the Lord of all flesh.  He ascended… |
| Three in unity and unity of three:  the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  Spirit of truth, [the Comforter.] Amen. Alleluia. |

### THE END OF SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ,  He is risen and has ascended;  He sent to us the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## THE FLIGHT TO EGYPT

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  entered into the land of Egypt. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  entered into the land of Egypt. |
| This is the One to Whom the glory is due,  with His Good Father,  and the Holy Spirit,  now and forever. |
| Blessed be… |

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  Who entered into the land of Egypt.” |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## THE APOSTLES' FAST AND FEAST

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE FOR THE FAST

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to you, O Mary… |
| Hail to my lords and fathers, the Apostles.  Hail to the Dis­ciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. |
| Blessed are You… |

### THE PRAXIS RESPONSE FOR THE FEAST

|  |
| --- |
| Hail to our father Peter,  and our teacher Paul,  the great pillars,  which strengthen the faithful. |
| Blessed are You… |

## THE TRANSFIGURATION

### THE PSALM RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia: Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was transfigured on Mount Tabor. Alleluia, Alleluia. |

### THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

|  |
| --- |
| Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia:  Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was transfigured on Mount Tabor. |
| This is He… |
| Blessed be… |

### THE END-OF-SERVICE HYMN

|  |
| --- |
| Amen. Alleluia… |
| We proclaim and say, “Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  was transfigured on Mount Tabor.” | |
| Save us and have mercy on us… |

## THE FAST AND FEASTS OF THE VIRGIN

### THE GOSPEL

During Vespers, start,

|  |
| --- |
| Many women have received honor;  You are exalted more than all of them,  for you are the pride of the virgins,  O Mary, the Mother of God. |

During Matins, start,

|  |
| --- |
| All the kings of the earth  walk in your light,  and all nations in your illumination,  O Mary, Mother of God. |

During the Liturgy, start,

|  |
| --- |
| We exalt you worthily,  with Elizabeth your kinswoman, saying,  “blessed are you among women;  Blessed is the fruit of your womb.” |

Then continue,

|  |
| --- |
| Intercede on our behalf  O our lady, the lady of us all, the Theotokos,  Mary, the Mother of our Savior,  that He may forgive us our sins. |
| Blessed be… |

1. According to the Coptic and the Greek, “Our Bread of tomorrow, give us today.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Literally “The very and true Queen”. This Coptic expression literally means “the really true Queen.” The former is meaningless in English, and the latter sounds juvenile, so “the true Queen” is sufficient. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Literally “The very and true Queen”. This Coptic expression literally means “the really true Queen.” The former is meaningless in English, and the latter sounds juvenile, so “the true Queen” is sufficient. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Literally “The very and true Queen”. This Coptic expression literally means “the really true Queen.” The former is meaningless in English, and the latter sounds juvenile, so “the true Queen” is sufficient. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Literally “The very and true Queen”. This Coptic expression literally means “the really true Queen.” The former is meaningless in English, and the latter sounds juvenile, so “the true Queen” is sufficient. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. This section is simply an embellishment of the 41 (or 50) Kyriés [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Some translations replace “Barbarians” with “those who desire war” [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Or “assemblies,” i.e. not a group of people, but an action. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Literally, “raise the horn” [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. More accurately, “Mercy, peace, a sacrifice of praise.”. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. By the thrice-blessed John [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. While every effort has been made to avoid Coptic-language terms, “Bush Greeting Hymn” would not be very clear. So far, we have not found a clear translation. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Added to the 2nd edition, absent from the 1st. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. At the time of printing, this falls on June 19th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian June 6th is equivalent to the Coptic Paoni 12th. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. At the time of printing, this falls on October 19th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian October 6th is equivalent to the Coptic Paopi 9th. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. At the time of printing, this falls on January 18th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian 5th of January is equivalent to Coptic Tobi 10. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. At the time of printing, this falls on 18th of June on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian 5th of June is equivalent to Coptic Paoni 11 [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. This response is now usually attached to the Deacon’s response to the Profession of Faith. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Or, more accurately, “Mercy, peace, a sacrifice of praise.” [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. By Saint Severus of Antioch [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Or, more accurately, “Mercy, peace, a sacrifice of praise.” [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Parousia [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Should be, “And this bread, make into Your holy Body.” Seems like a translation error where St. Basil’s Liturgy addressed to the Father was copied over and not fully edited? [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. At the time of printing, this falls on June 19th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian June 6th is equivalent to the Coptic Paoni 12th. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. At the time of printing, this falls on October 19th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian October 6th is equivalent to the Coptic Paopi 9th. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. At the time of printing, this falls on January 18th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian 5th of January is equivalent to Coptic Tobi 10. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. At the time of printing, this falls on 18th of June on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian 5th of June is equivalent to Coptic Paoni 11 [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. The English word, “confessor” means one who hears confessions. Clearly this should be, “the repentant.” [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. John, Bishop of Bostra, in Syria (6th century), a contemporary of Saint Severus, Archbishop of Antioch [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. Today, usually attached to the preceding response [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. Or, more accurately, “Mercy, peace, a sacrifice of praise.” [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. Said by a hierarch if present [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. At the time of printing, this falls on June 19th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian June 6th is equivalent to the Coptic Paoni 12th. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. At the time of printing, this falls on October 19th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian October 6th is equivalent to the Coptic Paopi 9th. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. At the time of printing, this falls on January 18th on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian 5th of January is equivalent to Coptic Tobi 10. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. At the time of printing, this falls on 18th of June on the Gregorian Calendar. Julian 5th of June is equivalent to Coptic Paoni 11 [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. Said by a hierarch, if present [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. “for the celebrant”, would be clearer [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. Today, said instead connected to the previous. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. Surely should be, “principalities,” if it is in the heavenly realms. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. “a royal priesthood,” rather than “a kingdom, a priesthood” [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. “a royal priesthood” rather than, “a kingdom, a priesthood.” [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
43. For the Feasts of the Cross, especially. [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
44. Or “the chosen people with the Gentile nations” [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
45. The Coptic monk of Koiahk. Which is almost identical to the month of December. Except, on the old calendar. And starting a couple days earlier because Coptic months are all 30 days. Basically, the four weeks before Christmas, making sure there are at least 4 Sundays. [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
46. “sayings” [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
47. “principalities” [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
48. “principalities” [↑](#footnote-ref-48)