COPTIC ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE

BOOK OF NEEDS

0.1 Edition

TBD

2018

# The Birth of a Child

## The Naming of the Child

## The Absolution of the Woman

### If she has given birth to a male child

At the end of forty days. The Prayer of Thanksgiving is said, and incense is offered.

PRESBYTER:

Let us give thanks to the beneficent and merciful God, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. For He has covered us, helped us, guarded us, accepted us to Him, 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: |  |
| Pray. | Prosevexasté. |
| PEOPLE: |  |
| Lord have mercy. | Kyrié eleison. |

PRESBYTER:

O Master, Lord, God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour, 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 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 forgive us our sins.

\*(in the presence of a bishop, add:) and keep the life and standing of our honoured father, the high priest, Papa Abba \_\_\_\_, and his partner in liturgy, our father the (metropolitan) bishop, 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, (he bows his head toward the East and signs himself, saying,) take them away from us, (he turns toward the west from his right and makes the sign of the Cross over the people, or if a bishop is present, he signs and says,) and from all Your people, and from this font, and from this holy place that is Yours.

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 evil, by the grace, compassion and love of mankind, of Thine 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 unto the age of all ages. Amen.

People:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| We worship You, O Christ, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You have {come} and saved us. (Have mercy on us.) | Ten oo‑osht Emmok: O Pi Khristos: nem Pek Yot en Aghathos: nem pi Pnevma Eth‑owab: je {Ak ee} ak soti emmon. (Nai nan.) |

### Titus 2:12-3:8

A chapter from the Epistle of our teacher Paul to the Hebrews. His blessing be upon us. Amen.

But of the Son he says:

*Your throne, O God, is unto ages of ages.*

*The scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your Kingdom.*

*You have loved righteousness, and hated iniquity;*

*therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions.*

And:

*You, Lord, in the beginning, laid the foundation of the earth.*

*The heavens are the works of your hands.*

*They will perish, but you continue.*

*They all will grow old as a garment,*

*As a mantle, you will roll them up,*

*and they will be changed;*

*but you are the same.*

*Your years will not fail.*

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

The Trisagion is chanted (see page ##), and the presbyter prays the Prayer of the Goepsl (see page ##).

## The Absolution of the Woman

## The Absolution of the Mother before Making the Child a Catechumen

### If she has given birth to a male child

## The Making of a Catechumen

### A Prayer Over the Oil of the Catechumens

The presbyter takes the vessel of the oil of the catcehumens and prays over it:

Deacon:

Pray.

Presbyter:

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. We ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, the One Only True God, with Your Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, to look upon Your creature, this oil, and make it to become for the casting out of demons and their magic and sorcery and all idolatry, and change it and manifest it as an oil for the anointing of catechumens, unto the making of the soul believing. In Christ Jesus our Lord. Through whom...

### Another Prayer over the Oil of the Catechumens

Deacon:

Pray.

Presbyter:

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ, Your Only-begotten Son and Logos, Who was crucified for as under Pontius Pilate, when he had made the good confession. We ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, send Your holy power upon this oil, make it to become oil of catechumens, availing against all workings of the adversary, and all witchcraft and all sorcery, and all idolatry, and for the overthrow of all evil things. Through Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ. For the glory and the might is Yours, with Him and the Holy Spirit for ever. Amen.

Here the priest examines the condition of the children, whether there be earrings in their ears, or ornaments on their feet, or rings on their fingers or armlets, and orders their removal. And he takes the vessel of oil, and begin in order, the male children first, and then the female, anoints his forehead, saying,

I anoint you \_\_\_\_\_, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God, (with) oil of catechumens in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of God. Amen.

He anoints his breast and his hands and his back, saying,

May this oil bring to naught all assaults of the adversary. Amen.

Deacon:

Pray.

Presbyter:

You are blessed O our Master, the Lord, the Pantocrator. Your Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ our Lord is blessed, through whom You have drawn all the nations out of darkness, to the true and wonderful light, and from error and vanity of idols to the knowledge of the truth.

Deacon:

Pray.

Presbyter:

You have called these, Your servants, by Your holy and blessed Name. Write their names in Your book; number them with Your people and those who fear before You. Graciously grant them that they may grow in the faith, and remission of sins, preparing them to be a temple of Your Holy Spirit, through Your Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through whom…

## Holy Baptism

### Preparation of the Candidates to be Baptism with the Oil of Gladness and the Laying on of Hands

Deacon:

Let us entreat the Lord.

Let the priest enquire the name of those who are to be baptized, and pray over them, saying,

Presbyter:

Again let us ask God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Christ, for Your servants who have given in their names, who have entered into the faith by Your grace, that You make them worthy to attain the grace for which they have presented themselves, and that they may be cleansed from the sin that is in the world, and that they may be delivered from the slavery of corruption. For the authority of mercy is with You, O Pantocrator, the Lord our God.

Deacon:

Pray for those who have given their names, that the Lord may make them worth of Holy Baptism unto the remission of their sins.

Presbyter:

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, We ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, have mercy on Your servants who have given in their names. Make them worthy of the grace for which they have presented themselves, that they may receive of Your Holy Spirit, and may be filled with Your divine power; that they be made like Your Only-begotten Son, being one with Him, who is our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant them a purified mind and devout thoughts. And grant to Your servants that they may be preserved through the grace of Your Holy Spirit, and lead them to the hope of Your eternal benefits, through YOur Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom...

Let them kneel and let the presbyter pray over them:

Deacon:

Let us entreat the Lord.

Presbyter:

Again let us ask with great fervour and entreat God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, for his servants who have given in their names, that he open the ears of their heart, and kindle within them a light of knowledge, and persuade them to know the certainty of the words with which they have been instructed. Whose is the authority of mercy, the Pantocrator, the Lord our God.

Deacon:

Pray.

Presbyter:

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, we ask and entreat Your goodness, O Lover of mankind, that through the invocation of Your Holy Name, all powers and all hostile and evil spirits may be cast out. Rebuke them and drive them out. For You have called these, Your servants, who come from darkness into light, from death to life, from error to the knowledge of the truth, from idolatry unto the knowledge of You, the True God. Search the chambers of their hearts, O You Who searched Jerusalem with a candle; let no evil sprit conceal himself within them. Grant them a saving purity, and bestow upon them eternal redemption. And beget them a second time by the washing of the new birth and remission of their sins; preparing them to be a temple of Your Holy Spirit. Through Your Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom...

Let the presbyter lay his hands upon them, saying,

In the Name of the Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, I purify and prepare beforehand this body. In the Name of the Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, may it be delivered from all demons and uncleanness. Let all darkness flee from this body, and let all unbelieving thoughts flee from this soul.

In the Name of the Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ our Lord, you shall be purified, and be delivered from all demons forever. Amen.

Let him who is to be baptised be stripped, and let him look towards the West, with his right hand outstretched, and let him say thus as follows. But if he is a child, let his father or his mother or his sponsor[[1]](#footnote-1) say on his behalf:

Candidate:

I renounce you Satan, and all your unclean works, and all your wicked angels and all your evil demons, and all your power, and all your abominable service, and all your evil cunning and error, and your entire host, and all your authority and all the rest of your impieties. I renounce you. I renounce you. I renounce you.

Then, let the presbyter breathe into the face of him that is to be baptised, and say three times,

Presbyter:

Come out unclean spirit.

After this they are turned to the East, with both their hands uplifted, and say,

Candidate:

I profess You, O Christ my God, and all Your saving laws, and all Your quickening service, and all Your life giving works. I believe in one God, God the Father the Pantocrator, and his Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the Holy, life-giving Spirit, and the resurrection of the flesh, and the One only Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

And he is asked and responds three times:

Presbyter:

Do you believe?

Candidate:

I belive!

Deacon:

Let us entreat the Lord.

Presbyter:

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ, Who has created all things, Lord of heaven and earth, Who brought the knowledge of Yourself to those who dwell on earth through Your Only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has prepared the heavens for them through His calling, and has confirmed them in His power.

Confirm the profession of these, Your servants, let power dwell in them, that they do not turn back again to those things that they have left. Confirm their faith, that nothing may separate them from You. And establish them on the foundation of Your apostolic faith, and call them into Your holy light, and make them worthy of this great grace of Yours.

Strip them of their old condition, and renew their life. Fill them with the power of Your Holy Spirit to oneness and union with Your Only-begotten Son; in order that they be no more natural sons, but sons of the truth, and become wise and faithful servants, through Christ Jesus our Lord, through Whom...

Deacon:

Bow your heads to the Lord.

Presbyter:

O Master, our Saviour, beneficent Lover of mankind, to You alone is this mystery perfected. All knees bow to You, those in heaven and those on earth, and those that are beneath the earth, and all tongues confess You, saying, “Jesus Christ is Lord,” to the glory of God the Father, with Your servants who have fled to You, bowing their knees to You.

Therefore we ask and entreat You, O Lover of mankind, search the chambers of their souls and enlighten the eyes of their understanding with the light of knowledge. Case all magic, all sorcery, all workings of Satan from them, cast all traces of idolatry and unbelief out of their heart. Prepare their souls for the reception of Your Holy Spirit. And let them be worthy of the washing of the new birth, and of remission of sins, preparing them to be a temple of Thine Your Spirit, according to the good will of Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, now, and forever…

After this take the Hagielaion and anoint him that is to be baptized on his breast and his arms and over his heart behind, and between his two hands in the sign of the cross, saying,

Presbyter:

I anoint you \_\_\_\_\_ with the oil of gladness, availing against all workings of the adversary, unto your grafting into the sweet olive tree of the Holy Catholic Church of God. Amen.

Deacon:

Amen.

After the candidate has been anointed with the Oil of Gladness, the presbyter lays his hands on him:

Deacon:

Let us entreat the Lord.

Presbyter:

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, we call upon Your holy and blessed Name, that You search out and chase away all apostate and hostile powers. We pray to You, O our Master, through all Your saints, search out the hearts of Your servants who have presented themselves for the washing of Your grace. If there is any guile of the devil hidden within them, disclose it and let it reveal itself, and chase it away from the souls and bodies of Your servants who believe on Your Holy Name, and give them newness of life. And make them worthy in stainlessness and purity to receive the light and the seal of Your Christ, and the gift of Your Holy and Coessential Spirit, and that they may receive a robe of light, and be clothed with the garment of salvation, and the armour of faith which is invincible and un-conquerable of those who fight against us. May they be sheep of Your flock, and sons of Your heavenly bride-chamberr and heirs of Your imperishable and eternal kingdom. In Christ Jesus our Lord, through whom…

Deacon:

Pray.

Presbyter:

O You Who ARE, Master, Lord, God, who formed man after Your image and Your likeness, who has given to us the privilege of everlasting life. And then, when he fell through sin, You have not abandoned him, but have ordained the salvation of the world through the Incarnation of Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Have mercy on these, O Lord, who are also Your creation, deliver them from the slavery of the enemy, receive them into Your kingdom. Open the eyes of their heart, that they may be enlightened with the light of the gospel of Your kingdom.

Let the angels of light accompany their life, to save them from the attacks of the adversary and from all evil assaults, and from the demon of the noonday, and from the arrow that flies by day, and from that which walks in darkness, and from phantoms of the night. Cast out of their heart every unclean spirit, the wicked spirit, even him that troubles their heart; the spirit of error and all evils; the spirit of avarice and of idolatry; the spirit of falsehood and all uncleanness which work after the teaching of the devil.

And make them sheep of the holy flock of Thy Christ, purified members of the catholic Church, purified vessels, sons of the light, heirs of Your Kingdom; that they may strive according to the commandments of Christ, and preserve the seal inviolate, and keep the garment unspotted, and may attain the blessedness of Your elect, in Christ Jesus our Lord, through whom…

### The Hallowing of the Waters of Baptism or the Liturgy of the Word

### The Laying on of Hands or the Anaphora

### The Sealing with Holy Myron (Chrism)

### The Releasing of the Water

## The Loosing of the Girdle of Those Who Have Been Baptised

1. In the absence of parents, a Godfather or Godmother is allowed to say the renunciation and the profession. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)