

The Divine Liturgy

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The Entrance Prayers

D: Bless, Master.

P: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

D: Amen.

P: O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth Who art everywhere and fillest all things, Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most holy Trinity: have mercy on us. O Lord: cleanse us from our sins. O Master: pardon our transgressions. O Holy One: visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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 day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

P: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

D: Amen.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for laying aside all excuse, we sinners offer to Thee, as to our Master, this supplication: Have mercy on us.

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

O Lord, have mercy on us, for in Thee have we put our trust. Do not be angry with us, nor remember our iniquities, but look down on us even now, since Thou are compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies; for Thou art our God, and we are Thy people; we are all the work of Thy hands, and we call on Thy name.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O blessed Theotokos, open the doors of compassion to us whose hope is in you, that we may not perish but be delivered from adversity through you, who are the salvation of the Christian people.

They kiss the icon of Christ, saying:

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: Thou has filled all with joy, O our Savior, for Thou didst come to save the world.

They also kiss the icon of the Theotokos, saying:

Make us worthy of mercy, O Theotokos, Fountain of Tenderness. Look on us sinful men and reveal your power as always, for we have put our hope in you. Rejoice! we cry to you, as once did Gabriel, the leader of the bodiless hosts.

The priest bows his head and recites the prayer:

O Lord, stretch forth Thy hand from Thy holy dwelling place on high, and strengthen me for this, Thine appointed service, that standing without condemnation before Thy throne, I may offer the bloodless sacrifice. For Thine is the power and the glory unto ages of ages. Amen.

They turn and bow to the people, then enter the sanctuary saying:

I will enter Thy house, I will worship toward Thy holy temple in the fear of Thee. Lead me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness because of my enemies; make my way straight before Thee. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is destruction, their throat is an open sepulcher, they flatter with their tongue. Judge them, O God, let them fall by their own counsels; because of their many transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against Thee. But let all who take refuge in Thee rejoice, let them always sing for joy; and do Thou dwell in them, that those who love Thy name may exult in Thee. For Thou blessest the righteous, O Lord, Thou coverst us with good will as with a shield.

They bow three times before the Altar, kiss the Holy Gospel, the Altar, and the Cross. Then each takes his robe (stikhurion) and, bowing three times towards the East, says silently:

O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.

Entrance Prayers at Paschatide

D: Bless, Master.

P: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

D: Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead. By death He trampled down death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Before the dawn, Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the dead as a man the One Who is everlasting light? Behold the clothes in the grave! Go and proclaim to the world: 'The Lord is risen!' He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen!

Kontakion

Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death! In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thy apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul, in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, wast Thou, O boundless Christ, filling all things.

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

Bearing life and more fruitful than paradise, brighter than any royal chamber: Thy tomb, O Christ, is the fountain of our resurrection.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Rejoice, O sanctified divine abode of the Most High! For through you joy is given, O Theotokos, to those who cry to you: “Blessed are you among women, O immaculate lady.”

They kiss the icon of Christ, saying:

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: Thou has filled all with joy, O our Savior, for Thou didst come to save the world.

They also kiss the icon of the Theotokos, saying:

Make us worthy of mercy, O Theotokos, Fountain of Tenderness. Look on us sinful men and reveal your power as always, for we have put our hope in you. Rejoice! we cry to you, as once did Gabriel, the leader of the bodiless hosts.

The priest bows his head and recites the prayer:

O Lord, stretch forth Thy hand from Thy holy dwelling place on high, and strengthen me for this, Thine appointed service, that standing without condemnation before Thy throne, I may offer the bloodless sacrifice. For Thine is the power and the glory unto ages of ages. Amen.

They turn and bow to the people, then enter the sanctuary saying:

I will enter Thy house, I will worship toward Thy holy temple in the fear of Thee. Lead me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness because of my enemies; make my way straight before Thee. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is destruction, their throat is an open sepulcher, they flatter with their tongue. Judge them, O God, let them fall by their own counsels; because of their many transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against Thee. But let all who take refuge in Thee rejoice, let them always sing for joy; and do Thou dwell in them, that those who love Thy name may exult in Thee. For Thou blessest the righteous, O Lord, Thou coverst us with good will as with a shield.

They bow three times before the Altar, kiss the Holy Gospel, the Altar, and the Cross. Then each takes his robe (stikharion) and, bowing three times towards the East, says silently:

O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.

Vesting of Deacon

The deacon, with his robe and stole (orarion) in hand, goes to the priest and bows his head, saying:

D: Bless, Master, the robe and the stole.

The priest blesses:

P: Blessed is our God always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

D: Amen.

The deacon goes to the side of the sanctuary. Vesting himself with the robe, he recites this prayer:

D: My soul shall rejoice in the Lord, for He has clothed me with the garment of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of gladness; as a bridegroom He has set a crown on me; and as a bride adorns herself with jewels, so He has adorned me.

After kissing the stole, the deacon places it on his shoulder. As he puts on the cuffs, he recites the following:

D: *Right:* Thy right hand, O Lord, has been glorified in power. Thy right hand, O Lord, has shattered the enemies. In the greatness of Thy majesty Thou hast overthrown Thy adversaries.

Left: Thy hands have made and fashioned me. Give me understanding that I may learn Thy commandments.

Then the deacon goes to the Table of Preparation, and sets the Holy Vessels in place for the priest.

Vesting of Priest

The priest blesses his own robe:

Blessed is our God always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

He vests himself with the robe, saying:

My soul shall rejoice in the Lord, for He has clothed me with the garment of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of gladness; as a bridegroom He has set a crown on me; and as a bride adorns herself with jewels, so He has adorned me.

He blesses the stole, and says as he vests:

Blessed is God, Who pours our His grace upon His priests, as myrrh upon the head, that runs down the beard, the beard of Aaron, that runs down the border of his robe.

He blesses the belt, and says as he vests:

Blessed is God, Who girds me with strength and makes my way blameless. He made my feet like hinds' feet, and set me secure on the height.

As he puts on the cuffs, he recites the following:

Right: Thy right hand, O Lord, has been glorified in power. Thy right hand, O Lord, has shattered the enemies. In the greatness of Thy majesty Thou hast overthrown Thy adversaries.

Left: Thy hands have made and fashioned me. Give me understanding that I may learn Thy commandments.

If he has been awarded the shield, he puts it on, saying:

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O Mighty One, in Thy comeliness and in Thy beauty. Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness. Thy right hand shall guide Thee wondrously always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

He blesses the chasuble (phelonion), and says as he vests:

Thy priests, O Lord, shall clothe themselves with righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice with joy always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The priest then washes his hands, saying:

I wash my hands in innocence, and go about Thy altar, O Lord, singing aloud a song of praise, and telling all Thy miracles. O Lord, I love the beauty of Thy house, and the place where Thy glory dwells. Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with blood-thirsty men, men in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes. But as for me, I walk in my integrity; deliver me, and have mercy on me. My foot stand on level ground; in the churches I will bless the Lord.

Liturgy of Preparation

Bowing three times before the Table of Preparation, the priest and deacon recite silently each time:

O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.

Also

By Thy precious Blood Thy has redeemed us from the curse of the law. By being nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear, Thou hast poured immortality upon men, O our Savior, glory to Thee.

D: Bless, Master.

P: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

D: Amen.

The priest takes the prosphora in his left hand and the spear in his right, and makes the Sign of the Cross over the seal three times, saying each time:

P: In remembrance of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The priest pierces the prosphora with the spear to the right of the seal, and cutting along the right side, says:

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

P: As a sheep led to the slaughter

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Cutting the left side, the priest says:

P: or a blameless lamb before its shearers is dumb, so He opens not His mouth.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Cutting the upper side:

P: In His humiliation His judgment was taken away.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Cutting the lower side:

P: Who shall declare His generation?

The deacon then points to the Holy Bread with his hand and stole, and says:

D: Take up, Master.

The priest, piercing the prosphora on the bottom right side and cutting, then lifts out the Holy Bread, saying:

P: For His life is taken up from the earth.

The priest inverts the Holy Bread, placing the seal upon the paten, while the deacon says:

D: Sacrifice, Master.

The priest cuts the Holy Bread cross-wise, taking care not to cut through the seal, and says:

P: Sacrificed is the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, for the life of the world and its salvation.

The priest inverts the Holy Bread again so that the seal is on top while the deacon says:

D: Pierce, Master.

The priest pierces the right side of the Holy Bread under the letters IC and says:

P: One of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness, and his witness is true.

The deacon takes the wine and water and says to the priest:

D: Bless, Master, the holy union.

The deacon, after the priest's blessing, pours the blessed wine and water into the cup.

The priest takes the second prosthophora into his hand and says:

P: In honor and memory of our most blessed Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary. Through her prayers, O Lord, accept this sacrifice upon Thy heavenly altar.

The priest removes a triangular particle of the prosthophora and places it on the right side of the Holy Bread, saying:

P: The Queen stood on Thy right side, arrayed in golden robes, all glorious.

The priest takes the third prosthophora and says:

P: Of the honorable and glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist, John.

The priest removes a particle and places it on the left side of the Holy Bread making it the first particle of the first row. Removing a second particle from the same prosthophora and placing it below the first, he says:

P: Of the holy and glorious prophets: Moses and Aaron, Elijah and Elisha, David and Jesse, the three holy children, Daniel the prophet, and all the holy prophets.

Removing a third particle from this same prosthophora and placing it below the second, he says:

P: Of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles Peter and Paul, (of the Twelve and of the Seventy), and all the holy apostles.

Removing a fourth particle from the same prosthophora and placing it next to the first particle (thus making the top of a new row), he says:

P: Of our fathers among the saints and hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; Athanasius and Cyril; Nicholas of Myra in Lycia; (Peter, Alexis, Jonah, and Philip of Moscow; Nicetas, Bishop of Novgorod; and Leontius, Bishop of Rostov;) and of all the holy hierarchs.

Removing a fifth particle from this same prosthophora and placing it below the fourth (second row), he says:

P: Of the holy apostle and archdeacon, the First Martyr Stephen; of the holy Great Martyrs, Demetrius, George, Theodore of Tyre, and Theodore Stratelates. And of the Women Martyrs: Thecla, Barbara, Kyriake, Euphemia, Paraskeve, and Catherine. And of all the holy martyrs.

Removing a sixth particle from this same prosthophora and placing it below the fourth (second row), he says:

P: Of the venerable and God-bearing Fathers: Anthony, Euthymius, Sabbas, Onophrius; Athanasius of Athos, (Anthony and Theodosius of the Caves in Kiev; Sergius of Radonezh and Seraphim of Sarov, and Barlaam of Khutinsk). Of the venerable Mothers: Pelagia, Theodosia, Anastasia, Euphraxia, Fevronia, Theodulia, Euphrosyne, and Mary of Egypt. And of all the holy and venerable Fathers and Mothers.

Removing a seventh particle from this same prosthophora and placing it next to the fourth (thus making another row), he says:

P: Of the holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries: Cosmas and Damian, Cyrus and John, Panteleimon and Hermolaus, and of all the holy unmercenary saints.

Removing an eighth particle from this same prosthophora and placing it below the Seventh (third row), he says:

P: Of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of Saint _____ (of the church); and of Saint _____, whom we commemorate today; (of the holy Methodius and Cyril, Equals to the Apostles and Teachers of the Slavs; of the holy Great Prince Vladimir, Equal to the Apostles). And of all the saints; by their prayers visit us, O God.

Removing a ninth particle from the same prosphora and placing it below the eighth (third row), he says:

P: Of our father among the saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople.

The priest takes a particle from the fourth prosphora, and placing it at the foot of the Holy Bread (at the letters NIKA), he says:

P: Remember, O Master, Who lovest mankind the whole Episcopate of the Orthodox Church, our Metropolitan ____, our Bishop ____, the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, the whole priestly and monastic order; all of our brotherhood, which Thou hast called into Thy communion through Thy compassion, o gracious Master.

The priest then remembers any other living faithful, removing a particular from this fourth prosphora for each and placing it next to the first, saying with each name:

P: Remember, O Lord, Thy servant (handmaiden) ____.

The priest takes a particle from the fifth prosphora, and placing it below the above row, remembers the departed, saying:

P: In blessed memory and for the remission of sins of the most holy patriarchs, bishops, priests, deacons, and all monastics; and of all Orthodox and God-fearing rulers; and of all blessed founders of this holy church (or holy monastery).

The priest then remembers any other departed faithful, removing a particle from this fifth prosphora for each and placing it next to the first, saying with each name:

P: Remember, O Lord, Thy servant (handmaiden) ____.

When he finishes remembering the departed, the priest says this prayer:

P: Remember all of our Orthodox fathers and brethren who have departed in the hope of resurrection to eternal life in Thy communion, O Lord Who lovest mankind.

The priest then remembers the bishop who ordained him, and concludes the remembrance:

P: Remember, O Lord, my unworthiness also, and forgive me all my sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

The deacon presents the censer to the priest, saying:

D: Bless, Master, the censer. Let us pray to the Lord.

The priest recites the Prayer of Incense:

P: We offer Thee incense, O Christ our God, for an odor of spiritual fragrance. Receive it upon Thy heavenly altar, and send down upon us in return the grace of Thine all-holy Spirit.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

The priest censes the star and places it over the Holy Bread, saying:

P: And the star came and stood over the place where the young child was.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

The priest censes the first veil and places it over the paten, saying:

P: The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, He is girded with strength. The world is established; it shall never be moved. Thy throne is established from of old; Thou art from everlasting. The floods have lifted up, O God, the floods have lifted up their voice, the floods have lifted up their roaring. Mightier than the thunder of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty. Thy decrees are very sure; holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, for evermore.

D: Let us pray to the Lord. Cover Master.

The priest censes the second veil and places it over the chalice, saying:

P: Thy virtue has covered the heavens, O Christ, and the earth is full of Thy praise.

D: Let us pray to the Lord. Cover, Master.

The priest censes the large veil and places it over both the paten and the chalice, saying:

P: Cover us with the shelter of Thy wings, and drive away from us every foe and adversary. Give peace to our lives, O Lord, have mercy on us and on Thy world, and save our souls, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

The priest then takes the censer and censes the Offerings, saying three times:

P: Blessed is our God, Who is thus well-pleased: Glory to Thee.

After each of the above, the deacon concludes:

D: Always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Both bow before the Offerings three times. The deacon then takes the censer from the priest and says:

D: For the precious gifts now offered, let us pray to the Lord.

P: O God, our God, Who didst send the Heavenly Bread, the food of the whole world, our Lord and God Jesus Christ, to be our Savior, Redeemer, and Benefactor, blessing and sanctifying us: Bless this Offering, and accept it upon Thy heavenly altar. Remember those who offered it and those for whom it was offered, for Thou art good and lovest mankind. Preserve us blameless in the celebration of Thy divine mysteries. For sanctified and glorified is Thy most honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The priest then concludes the Liturgy of Preparation with the Dismissal:

P: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

D: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless.

P: (Sundays: May He Who rose from the dead) Christ our true God, through the prayers of His pure Mother; of our father among the saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople; and of all the saints; have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

The deacon censes the Offering; then he goes to the altar and censes around it cross-wise, saying:

D: In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul, in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, wast Thou, O boundless Christ, filling all things.

Then the deacon recites Psalm 51 (50) as he censes the iconostas:

Psalm 50(51)

¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to thy steadfast love;
according to thy abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against thee, thee only, have I sinned,
and done that which is evil in thy sight,
so that thou art justified in thy sentence
and blameless in thy judgment.

⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

⁶Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸Fill me with joy and gladness;
let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice.

⁹Hide thy face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹Cast me not away from thy presence,
and take not thy holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of thy salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

¹³Then I will teach transgressors thy ways,
and sinners will return to thee.

¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
thou God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance.

¹⁵O Lord, open thou my lips,
and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

¹⁶For thou hast no delight in sacrifice;
were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased.

¹⁷The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

¹⁸Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,

¹⁹then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on thy altar.

Vesting of a Bishop

The priest who has performed the Liturgy of Preparation (the Proskomede) and other priests (in their cassocks), bearing a cross upon a salver, accompanied by the Proto-Deacon or Deacon with the censer and taper, the crozier-bearer with the Bishop's crozier, and the Sub-deacons with the mantle and the eagle rugs, go forth to meet the Bishop at the western door (entrance to the church).

As the Bishop enters the church, the Deacon exclaims:

D: Wisdom!

The Bishop says secretly:

I will enter Thy house, I will worship toward Thy holy temple in the fear of Thee. Lead me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness because of my enemies; make my way straight before Thee. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is destruction, their throat is an open sepulcher, they flatter with their tongue. Judge them, O God, let them fall by their own counsels; because of their many transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against Thee. But let all who take refuge in Thee rejoice, let them always sing for joy; and do Thou dwell in them, that those who love Thy name my exult in Thee. For Thou blessest the righteous, O Lord, Thou coverst us with good will as with a shield.

The Bishop is then vested in his mantle, and kisses the cross, and gives it to be kissed by all the priests who are preparing to celebrate the Liturgy. Meanwhile, the people sing:

Pp: It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and the most pure, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word: true Theotokos, we magnify you.

The Bishop goes before the icon of Christ, and kissing it:

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: Thou has filled all with joy, O our Savior, for Thou didst come to save the world.

He then kisses the icon of the Theotokos:

Make us worthy of mercy, O Theotokos, Fountain of Tenderness. Look on us sinful men and reveal your power as always, for we have put our hope in you. Rejoice! we cry to you, as once did Gabriel, the leader of the bodiless hosts.

O Lord, stretch forth Thy hand from Thy holy dwelling place on high, and strengthen me for this, Thine appointed service, that standing without condemnation before Thy throne, I may offer the bloodless sacrifice. For Thine is the power and the glory unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Bishop turns towards the people and blesses them while the people sing:

Pp: Τὸν Δεσπότην καὶ Ἀρκιερά ἡμῶν Κύριε φύλαττε εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποιτα, εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποιτα, εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποιτα.

Then the Bishop ascends the platform in the middle of the Church and is vested by the Sub-deacons. While the Deacon recites the appropriate verses, the people sing:

Pp: Let your soul now rejoice in God, the mighty Lord of Hosts. He has put on you garments of saving grace, and has vested you with robes of joy and blessedness. For as a bridegroom He has crowned you with wreaths, and charm has He granted unto you as to a young bride.

Robe:

D: Your soul shall rejoice in the Lord, for He has clothed you with the garment of salvation; He has covered you with the robe of gladness; as a bridegroom He has set a crown on you; and as a bride adorns herself with jewels, so He has adorned you.

Stole:

D: Blessed is God, Who pours out His grace upon His bishops, as myrrh upon the head, that runs down the beard, the beard of Aaron, that runs down the border of his robe.

Belt:

D: Blessed is God, Who girds you with strength and makes your way blameless. He made your feet like hinds' feet, and set you secure on the heights.

Right Cuff:

D: Thy right hand, O Lord, has been glorified in power. Thy right hand, O Lord, has shattered the enemies. In the greatness of Thy majesty Thou hast overthrown Thy adversaries.

Left Cuff:

D: The hands of the Lord have made and fashioned you. May He give you understanding that you may learn His commandments.

Shield:

D: Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O Mighty One, in Thy comeliness and in Thy beauty. Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness. Thy right hand shall guide Thee wondrously always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Phelonion (chasuble):

D: Thy bishops, O Lord, shall clothe themselves with righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice with joy always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Omofor:

D: When Thou had taken upon Thy shoulders human nature which had gone astray, O Christ, Thou didst bear it to heaven, unto Thy God and Father, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

First pectoral holy image:

D: May God create in you a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within you, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Second pectoral holy image:

D: Your heart is inditing of a good matter; you shall speak of your deeds unto the King, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Cross:

D: If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, said the Lord, and take up his cross and follow me, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Mitre:

D: The Lord has set upon your head a crown of precious stones. You asked life of him, and He shall give you length of days, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Sub-deacons enter the Sanctuary, and taking from the clergy the dikiri and the trikiri, they bring them to the Bishop. The Proto-Deacon says:

D: May your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify our Father, Who is in heaven, always, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Bishop blesses in cross-form, with the dikiri and the Trikiri, to the east, and the west, and the south, and the north, while the people (choir) sing slowly:

Pr: Τὸν Δεσπότην καὶ Ἄρχειρά ἡμῶν Κύριε φύλαττε εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποια, εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποια, εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποια.

Readers and Chanters are set aside and/or Sub-deacons are ordained at this point.

The Bishop washes his hands:

B: *O Lord our God, Who didst sanctify the streams of Jordan by Thy saving manifestation: Do Thou now, also, send down the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, and bless this water, to the sanctification of all Thy people for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages.*

The Third Hour

P: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R: Amen. Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth; who art everywhere and fillest all things; Treasury of blessings, and Giver of life; come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! 3x

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. 3x

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

P: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. 12x

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

Psalm 17

¹Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry!

Give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit!

²From thee let my vindication come!

Let thy eyes see the right!

³If thou triest my heart, if thou visitest me by night,

if thou testest me, thou wilt find no wickedness in me;

my mouth does not transgress.

⁴With regard to the works of men, by the word of thy lips

I have avoided the ways of the violent.

⁵My steps have held fast to thy paths,

my feet have not slipped.

⁶I call upon thee, for thou wilt answer me, O God;

incline thy ear to me, hear my words.

⁷Wondrously show thy steadfast love,

O savior of those who seek refuge

from their adversaries at thy right hand.
⁸Keep me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of thy wings,
⁹from the wicked who despoil me,
my deadly enemies who surround me.
¹⁰They close their hearts to pity;
with their mouths they speak arrogantly.
¹¹They track me down; now they surround me;
they set their eyes to cast me to the ground.
¹²They are like a lion eager to tear,
as a young lion lurking in ambush.
¹³Arise, O LORD! confront them, overthrow them!
Deliver my life from the wicked by thy sword,
¹⁴from men by thy hand, O LORD,
from men whose portion in life is of the world.
May their belly be filled with what thou hast stored up for them;
may their children have more than enough;
may they leave something over to their babes.
¹⁵As for me, I shall behold thy face in righteousness;
when I awake, I shall be satisfied with beholding thy form.

Psalm 25

¹To thee, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
²O my God, in thee I trust,
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.
³Yea, let none that wait for thee be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
⁴Make me to know thy ways, O LORD;
teach me thy paths.
⁵Lead me in thy truth, and teach me,
for thou art the God of my salvation;
for thee I wait all the day long.
⁶Be mindful of thy mercy, O LORD, and of thy steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
⁷Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions;
according to thy steadfast love remember me,
for thy goodness' sake, O LORD!
⁸Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
⁹He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.
¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.
¹¹For thy name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.
¹²Who is the man that fears the LORD?
Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.
¹³He himself shall abide in prosperity,

and his children shall possess the land.
¹⁴The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him,
and he makes known to them his covenant.
¹⁵My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
¹⁶Turn thou to me, and be gracious to me;
for I am lonely and afflicted.
¹⁷Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me out of my distresses.
¹⁸Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.
¹⁹Consider how many are my foes,
and with what violent hatred they hate me.
²⁰Oh guard my life, and deliver me;
let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in thee.
²¹May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for thee.
²²Redeem Israel, O God,
out of all his troubles.

Psalm 51

¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to thy steadfast love;
according to thy abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
⁴Against thee, thee only, have I sinned,
and done that which is evil in thy sight,
so that thou art justified in thy sentence
and blameless in thy judgment.
⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
⁶Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
⁸Fill me with joy and gladness;
let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice.
⁹Hide thy face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
¹¹Cast me not away from thy presence,
and take not thy holy Spirit from me.
¹²Restore to me the joy of thy salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
¹³Then I will teach transgressors thy ways,

and sinners will return to thee.

¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
thou God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance.

¹⁵O Lord, open thou my lips,
and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

¹⁶For thou hast no delight in sacrifice;
were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased.

¹⁷The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

¹⁸Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,

¹⁹then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on thy altar.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Troparion

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

The reader now reads the Troparion of the day. If more than one is appointed, he reads one at this hour.

R: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Theotokos, you are the true vine laden with the fruit of life. We pray to you, O Lady: intercede together with the Apostles and all the saints, that mercy may be granted to our souls.

R: Blessed be the Lord God, blessed be the Lord from day to day, and may the God of our salvation prosper us, for He is our God, the God of salvation.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! 3x

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. 3x

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

P: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Kontakion

The reader reads the Kontakion of the day. If more than one is appointed, he reads just one now.

R: Lord, have mercy. *12x*

Thou, who at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshiped and glorified, O Christ our God, long-suffering, merciful, and compassionate; who lovest the just and showest mercy upon the sinner; who callest all men to salvation through the promise of blessings to come; O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications and direct our lives according to Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds; deliver us from all tribulations, evil, and distress. Surround us with Thy holy angels, that guided and guarded by their host we may attain to the unity of the faith, and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *3x*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim; without defilement you gave birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless.

P: God be bountiful unto us, and bless us and show us the light of His countenance, and be merciful unto us.

R: Amen.

O God the Master, Father Almighty, O Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son, and Thou, O Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power, have mercy upon me, a sinner, and according to Thy divine judgments save us, Thine unworthy servant, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

The server rings the bell. The Royal Doors are opened and all lights are turned on. The priest and deacon stand before the altar and bow three times while saying:

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth Who art everywhere and fillest all things. Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

From Pascha to Pentecost the proper Troparion is recited instead of the above Troparion to the Holy Spirit.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men. (2x)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

The priest kisses the Holy Gospel, the deacon kisses the altar. The deacon then bows his head to the priest and says:

D: *It is time to begin the service to the Lord. Bless, Master.*

The priest blesses him, saying:

P: *Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Pray for me, Master.*

P: *May the Lord direct your steps.*

D: *Remember me, holy Master.*

P: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Amen.*

The deacon leaves the sanctuary through the North Door. He goes before the Holy Doors and bowing three times, says silently:

D: *O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.*

D: Bless, Master.

The priest kisses the Holy Gospel, lifts it up with both hands, and lowering it, blesses the altar cross-wise, saying:

P: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

From Pascha to the Leave-taking of Pascha (Ascension) the following is sung. On the Feast of the Resurrection (Pascha) and during Bright Week, the following Resurrectional Troparion is sung along with *Let God arise*.

P: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (2x)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,

Pp: And upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

The Litany of Peace

or

Great Litany

If a bishop is the celebrant, he says here secretly the Prayer of Oblation which the priest says during the Liturgy of Preparation at all Liturgies.

D: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [for our Metropolitan ____], for our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For seasonable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Lord our God, Thy power is incomparable. Thy glory is incomprehensible. Thy mercy is immeasurable. Thy love for man is inexpressible. Look down on us and on this holy house with pity, O Master, and impart the riches of Thy mercy and Thy compassion to us and to those who pray with us.

P: For to Thee belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The First Antiphon

If two Deacons are serving, the first Deacon enters through the South Door and the second Deacon exits through the North Door.

The text given below is sung on Sundays, feast of the Theotokos, in the time of the Forefeast or Afterfeast of a Great Feast, for the entire time of the Pentecostarion and for those Saints for whom special verses on the Beautitudes are prescribed to be sung. Traditionally the entire Psalm 102 is sung, but in modern practice only certain verses are usually sung:

Pp: Bless the Lord, O my soul! Blessed are Thou, O Lord! Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases. The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long suffering and of great goodness. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Blessed art Thou, O Lord!

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,

³who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

⁴who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

⁵who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶The LORD works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.

⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor requite us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

¹³As a father pities his children,
so the LORD pities those who fear him.

¹⁴For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.

¹⁵As for man, his days are like grass;
 he flourishes like a flower of the field;
¹⁶for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
 and its place knows it no more.
¹⁷But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
 upon those who fear him,
 and his righteousness to children's children,
¹⁸to those who keep his covenant
 and remember to do his commandments.
¹⁹The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
 and his kingdom rules over all.
²⁰Bless the LORD, O you his angels,
 you mighty ones who do his word,
 hearkening to the voice of his word!
²¹Bless the LORD, all his hosts,
 his ministers that do his will!
²²Bless the LORD, all his works,
 in all places of his dominion.
 Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Little Litany

D: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.
 Pp: Lord, have mercy.
 D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.
 Pp: Lord, have mercy.
 D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.
 Pp: To Thee, O Lord.
 P: O Lord, our God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Preserve the fullness of Thy Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Thy house; glorify them in return by Thy divine power, and forsake us not who put our hope in Thee.
 P: For Thine is the majesty, and Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
 Pp: Amen.

The Second Antiphon

Pp: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being. Put not your trust in princes, in sons of men in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs he returns to his earth, on that very day his plans perish. The Lord will reign forever; Your God, O Zion, to all generation.

Some communities use the complete Psalm:

Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being. Put not your trusts in princes, in sons of men in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs he returns to his earth, on that very day his plans perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, Who keeps truth forever; Who administers judgment for those who are wronged, Who gives food to the hungry. The Lord releases those who are bound. The Lord makes wise the blind; The Lord straightens those who are bent down; The Lord loves the righteous. The Lord protects strangers; He supports the orphan and the widow, and wipes out the way of sinners. The Lord will reign forever; Your God, O Zion, to all generation.

Hymn of Justinian the Great

Pp: Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change didst become man and wast crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, save us!

Little Litany

D: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

Light and distribute the Candles to the Servers.

D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Thou Who hast given us grace with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee, and promised that when two or three are gathered together in Thy name Thou would grant their request: Fulfill now, O Lord, the petitions of Thy servants as may be expedient for them: grant us in this world the knowledge of Thy truth, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

P: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Deacon enters the Sanctuary.

If there are two Deacons serving, give the censer to the second Deacon.

Go to the High Place with the Candles and the Fans. Cross self, bow, turn to the Altar, and bow. When the Priest gives the signal, start the procession.

The Third Antiphon

Pp: In Thy Kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

If verses are recited from the Octo-Echoes, they begin at this point.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

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

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Little Entrance

The priest and deacon bow three times before the altar. The priest picks up the Holy Gospel and gives it to the deacon. Preceded by the servants, they go around the altar and leave the sanctuary through the north doors and come before the Royal Doors.

D: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

P: *O Master, Lord our God, Who has appointed in heaven orders and hosts of angels and archangels for the service of Thy glory: Grant that with our entrance there may be an entrance of holy angels, serving with us and glorifying Thy goodness. For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

At Pontifical Liturgies, the head priest gives the book of the Holy Gospels to the proto-deacon, who carries it, preceded by the subdeacons with the dikiri and trikiri and the sacramental fans (ripidi). The priests follow, in the order of their rank; and the whole procession, while the Beautitudes are being sung, makes the circuit of the Altar, and coming through the North Door, goes to the Bishop's dais.

The order of Procession is Server with the Bishop's Staff, Servers with Candles, Subdeacon with Dikiri, Server with Fan, Deacon with Censer, Deacon with Gospel, Server with Fan, Subdeacon with Trikiri, Servers with Candles, and Serving Clergy.

Half of the Servers go behind the Bishop and to the south side of him, and the others to the north side. The Subdeacon with the Dikiri stops at the Bishop's left side. The Subdeacon with the Trikiri goes around and to his right. Servers with Fans extend them over the Gospel, on either side of the Bishop.

"Ordination" of proto-deacons and archpriests would take place at this point. The proto-deacon stands in front of the bishop (instead of the Royal Doors).

Standing before the Royal Doors and holding the Holy Gospel in his left hand, the deacon points with his right hand towards the altar, and says:

D: *Bless, Master, the Holy Entrance.*

The priest blesses, saying:

P: *Blessed is the entrance of Thy saints always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.*

The deacon presents the Holy Gospel to the priest; the priest kisses it. Then the deacon faces the altar again and exclaims as he elevates the Book:

D: Wisdom! Let us attend.

If there is an Introit (on same major feasts), the deacon intones it now.

Palm Sunday and Theophany:

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

Pascha:

Bless God in the churches, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain.

Ascension:

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Feast of the Holy Cross (14 September):

Extol the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for it is holy!

Nativity of Our Lord (25 December):

Out of the womb, before the morning star, have I begotten Thee! The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind. Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Meeting of the Lord (2 February):

The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness before the nations.

Transfiguration (6 August):

O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me, let them bring me to Thy holy mountain.

At Pontifical Divine Liturgies, the following is sung by the clergy and the people join in at the end according to local customs. At other Liturgies, the following is sung by the people (or choir):

On Sundays:

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, Who rose from the dead, O Son of God, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

On Weekdays:

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, Who is wonderful in His saints, O Son of God, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

On Feasts of the Theotokos:

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Son of God, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

The Subdeacons give the Dikiri and Trikiri to the Bishop. As the Bishop ascends the Soleo, the Subdeacons go to the foot of the steps. They go up the steps and in the Deacon doors and wait just inside the Deacon Doors. The Deacon will get the Trikiri while the Bishop keeps the Dikiri.

The celebrants enter the sanctuary and the deacon returns the Holy Gospel to the altar. After the Clergy enter the Altar, the Servers split and go in opposite Deacon doors.

Go to the back of the Altar, cross self, bow, turn, and bow to the Priest and then go to the side. Put away Candles.

At Pontifical Liturgy, after the clergy enter the sanctuary, the bishop, bearing the dikiri and censer, accompanied by the proto-deacon bearing the trikiri, censes the church while the people sing:

Pp: Εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποτα.

The Subdeacons get the Censer and Dikiri from the Bishop and the Trikiri from the Deacon. With the Deacon, the Subdeacons proceed to the High Place, cross, bow, turn, bow and put the Trikiri and Dikiri on the Cross stand.

The Troparion and the Kontakion are now sung by the people.

The clergy in the sanctuary:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We, your servants, in that we have been delivered from calamity, do offer unto you, O Theotokos, who as a victorious chieftain warrest for us, songs of triumph and thanksgiving. Do you also, in that you have invincible might, from us form all assaults, that we may cry unto you: Hail, O Bride Unwedded!

P: O holy God: Who dost rest in the saints; Who are hymned by the Seraphim with the thrice-holy cry, and glorified by the Cherubim, and worshipped by every heavenly power; Who out of nothing has brought all things into being; Who has created man after Thine own image and likeness, and hast adorned him with Thine every gift; Who givest to him who asks wisdom and understanding; Who dost not dispise the sinner, but instead has appointed repentance unto salvation; Who hast vouchsafed to us, Thy humble and unworthy servants, even in this hour to offer worship and praise which are due unto Thee. Thyself, O Master, accept even from the mouths of us sinners the thrice-holy hymn, and visit us in Thy goodness. Forgive us every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary. Sanctify our souls and bodies, and enable us to serve Thee in holiness all the days of our life. Through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints who from the beginning of the world have been well-pleasing to Thee.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Bless, Master, the time of the thrice holy.

P: For holy are Thou, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever...

D: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

Pp: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

D: ...and hear us.

Pp: ...and hear us.

D: ...And unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Instead of the Trisaigon (Thrice-Holy) hymn on the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Theophany, Saturday of Lazarus (the day before Palm Sunday), Holy Saturday, Resurrection Sunday (Pascha) and the days of its Octave, and Pentecost, the following is sung:

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Instead of the Trisaigon on the Feast of the Holy Cross and on Holy Cross Sunday (Third Sunday of Great Lent), the following is sung:

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy Holy Resurrection, we glorify. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And Thy Holy Resurrection, we glorify.

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy Holy Resurrection, we glorify.

At Pontifical Liturgy:

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Bless, Master, the time of the thrice holy.

P: For holy are Thou, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever...

In some traditions, the proto-deacon, coming from the Sanctuary, says:

D: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

Pp: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

D: And hear us.

Pp: And hear us.

Then in Russian Churches the proto-deacon says the Great Eulogy or Diptychs and the people repeat the same:

One version:

To His Holiness, ____, the Patriarch of ____, many years!

To our Most God-fearing Ruler, ____, and to all the Authorities, many years.

To our Lord, the Right (or Most) Reverend, ____, of ____, many years!

To the Right Reverend Patriarchs, Metropolitans, Archbishops, and Bishops, many years.

(Continued):

To the Orthodox Governing Council, and Commanders of the Army and the Navy; to Governors of Towns, and the Christ-loving Army; and to all Orthodox Christians, many years!

Another version:

Diptychs

To His Holiness, BARTHOLOMEW, Archbishop of **Constantinople**, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, PETROS, Locum Tenens of the Church of **Alexandria** and All Africa, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, IGNATIUS, Patriarch of **Antioch** and All the East, Many Years.

To His Beatitude, IRENAEOS, Patriarch of the holy city of **Jerusalem** and All Palestine, Many Years!

To His Holiness, ALEKSY, Patriarch of **Moscow** and All Russia, Many Years.

To His Holiness, ELIA, Catholicos and Patriarch of All **Georgia**, Many Years!

To His Holiness, PAVLE, Patriarch of **Serbia**, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, THEOKTIST, Patriarch of **Romania**, Many Years!

To His Holiness, MAXIM, Patriarch of **Bulgaria**, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, CHRYSOSTOMOS, Archbishop of **New Justiniana** and All Cyprus, Many Years.

To His Beatitude, CHRISTODOULOS, Archbishop of **Athens** and All Greece, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, ANASTASIOS, Archbishop of **Tirana** and All Albania, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, SAVA, Metropolitan of **Warsaw** and All Poland, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, NICOLAI, Locum Tenens of the Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, HERMAN, Archbishop of **Washington**, Metropolitan of All America and Canada, Many Years!

To all Orthodox Metropolitans, Archbishops, and Bishops, Many Years!

To all Orthodox Christians, Many Years.

D: And unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

At the start of "Holy God," the Subdeacons switch the placement of the Dikiri and Trikiri. The Bishop gets the Dikiri from the Deacon. The clergy repeat the same once.

The people again repeat the same.

After the third repetition, the bishop, holding the cross and the dikiri, says, with his face towards the people:

B: Look down from heaven, O God, and behold and visit this vine which Thou hast planted with Thy right hand, and establish it.

While the people sing the Thrice-Holy for the fourth time, the bishop bestows the blessing with the cross the dikiri. Then the clergy and the people each repeat the Thrice-Holy once more.

Here bishops are ordained.

D: *Bless, Right Reverend Master, the seat on high.*

B: *Blessed art Thou on the throne of glory of Thy kingdom, who sit on the Cherubim all-hymned and exalted forever.*

The bishop then ascends the High Place with Subdeacons on either side of him, and stands there. After blessing the High Place with the Dikiri, he gives the Dikiri to the Deacon. And, the proto-deacon gives the trikiri to the bishop, reciting the hymn.

B: *In Jordan was the Trinity made manifest; for the Most-Divine Person of the Father Himself proclaimed: He that is baptized, the same is my beloved Son. And the Spirit descended upon Him that was like unto Himself. For which cause men shall bless Him and exalt Him forever.*

The bishop takes the trikiri, and blessed three times with the trikiri, as usual. Then the bishop gives the trikiri to the deacon. After the Bishop gives the Deacon the Trikiri, the Subdeacon gets it and both the Trikiri and Dikiri are returned to the Cross stand.

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The celebrants bow three times before the altar. The deacon says:

D: *Command, Master.*

As they go to the High Place, the priest says:

P: *Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.*

D: *Bless, Master, the High Place.*

P: *Blessed art Thou on the throne of the glory of Thy Kingdom, Who sittest upon the Cherubim; always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

The priest then stands on the right side of the High Place, the center being reserved for the Bishop.

The Epistle

D: Let us attend!

P: Peace be unto all!

R: And to your spirit!

D: Wisdom!

R: The Prokeimenon in the ___ tone.

The reader reads the Prokeimenon and the people repeat it. Then the reader reads one or more verses and the people repeat the original Prokeimenon verse. After the last of the verses, the reader reads the first part of the Prokeimenon and the people finish it with the second part.

If a bishop is the celebrant, the proto-deacon takes the censer, and a deacon the incense, and they approach the bishop. And the bishop, putting incense into the censer, recites the Prayer of the Censer:

B: *We offer Thee incense, O Christ our God, for an odor of spiritual fragrance. Receive it upon Thy heavenly altar, and send down upon us in return the grace of Thine all-holy Spirit.*

The Subdeacons take the Omofor off the Bishop. The Book Bearer holds out his arms: the Bishop's Omofor is placed there and he stands right up to the Altar Table on the north side.

D: Wisdom!

R: The reading of the Holy Epistle of Saint Paul the Apostles to ___.

or

The reading of the Epistle of ___.

or

The reading of the Acts of the holy Apostles.

D: Let us attend!

The reader reads the Epistle. During the reading of the Epistle the deacon censens the church. At the end:

P: Peace be to you, reader.

R: And to your spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, in the ___ Tone.

Pp: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The reader reads the verses and after each one the people answers:

Pp: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Server gets the Censer back from the Deacon and gets Candles for Gospel reading. They then go to the High Place, cross, bow, and turn.

The Gospel

P: Illumine our hearts, O Master, Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teaching. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well pleasing to Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

D: Bless, Master, him who proclaims the good tidings of the holy Apostle and Evangelist ____ (Matthew, Mark, Luke, *or* John the Theologian).

P: May God, through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and all laudable Apostle and Evangelist ____, enable you to proclaim the glad tidings with great power, to the fulfillment of the gospel of His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

D: Amen.

Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be unto all.

Pp: And to your spirit.

D: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. ____.

Pp: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

P: Let us attend!

The deacon now reads the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be unto you who have proclaimed the Gospel.

Pp: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

After the reading of the Gospel, the Servers return to the Altar.

Sermon

The sermon should be preached at this point. Some priests preach at Communion and others at the end of the Liturgy, but this is the proper time for the sermon.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication

This is an excellent time to put fresh charcoal in the censer. The Deacon goes out the North Door for the Litany:

D: Let us all say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: O Lord almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

The antimimension is partly unfolded by the priest; the upper portion is left unfolded.

D: Again we pray our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [for our Metropolitan ____,] for our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy; and for all our brethren in Christ.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Again we pray for the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox patriarchs; and for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; and for all our fathers and brethren, [mothers and sisters], the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God ____, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house, for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

P: O Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication of Thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Thy mercy. Send down Thy bounties upon us and upon all Thy people, who await the rich mercy that comes from Thee.

P: For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Litany for the Departed may be recited here, except on Sundays and Feast Days.

The Litany for the Departed

D: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again, we pray for the repose of the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God ____, departed this life; and that he (she, they) may be pardoned all his (her, their) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: That the Lord God will establish his (her, their) soul(s) where the just repose.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (her, their) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: O God of spirits, and of all flesh, Who hast trampled down death and overthrown the Devil, and given life to Thy world; Do Thou, the same Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Thy departed servant(s) ____, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all sickness, sighing, and sorrow have fled away. Pardon every transgression which he (she) has (they have) committed, whether by word

or deed or thought. For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind; because there is no man who lives yet does not sin; for Thou only art without sin; Thy righteousness is to all eternity; and Thy word is truth.

Pp: For Thou art the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servant(s) ___ who is (are) fallen asleep, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Litany for the Catechumens

D: Pray to the Lord, you catechumens.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Let us, the faithful, pray for the catechumens, that the Lord may have mercy on them.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That He may teach them the word of truth.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That He may reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That He may unite them to His Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help them, save them, have mercy on them, and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Bow your heads unto the Lord, you catechumens.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Lord our God, Who dwellest on high and regardest the humble of heart; Who hast sent forth as the salvation of the race of men Thine only-begotten Son and God, our Lord Jesus Christ: Look down upon Thy servants the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before Thee; make them worthy in due time of the laver of regeneration, the remission of sins, and the robe of incorruption. Unite them to Thy Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, and number them with Thy chosen flock.

P: That with us they may glorify Thine all honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The antimention is now fully unfolded. The priest makes the Sign of the cross over it with the sponge, then kisses the sponge and lays it on the right side.

D: All catechumens, depart. Depart, catechumens. All that are catechumens, depart. Let no catechumens remain.

Let us, the faithful, again and again in peace pray unto the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: We thank Thee, O Lord God of Hosts, Who has accounted us worthy to stand even now before Thy holy altar, and to fall down before Thy compassion for our sins and for the errors of all Thy people. And enable us also, whom Thou hast placed in this Thy service, by the power of Thy Holy Spirit, blamelessly and without offense, in the pure witness of our conscience, to call upon Thee at all times and in every place; that hearing us Thou mayest be merciful to us according to the multitude of Thy great goodness.

D: Wisdom!

P: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

D: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

The four following petitions are recited only if a deacon is serving:

D: For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: Again and often times we fall down before Thee, O God, Who lovest mankind, that looking down upon our petition Thou wouldst cleanse our souls and bodies from all defilement of flesh and spirit; and grant us to stand blameless and without condemnation before Thy holy altar. Grant also to those who pray with us, O God, growth in life and faith and spiritual understanding! Grant them to worship Thee blamelessly with fear and love, and to partake without condemnation of Thy Holy Mysteries, and to be accounted worthy of Thy heavenly Kingdom.

D: Wisdom!

P: That guarded always by Thy might, we may ascribe glory unto Thee: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The deacon returns to the sanctuary. He takes the censer, receives the priest's blessing, and censes the sanctuary, the iconostas, and the people. The Servers get the Candles ready. The people sing the Cherubic Hymn as the priest recites the prayer:

Pp: Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim, and who sing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-creating Trinity, now lay aside all earthly cares.

P: *No one who is bound with the desires and pleasures of the flesh is worthy to approach or draw near or to serve Thee, O King of Glory; for to minister to Thee is great and awesome even to the heavenly powers. Nevertheless through Thine unspeakable and boundless love for mankind, Thou didst become man, yet without change or alteration, and as Ruler of All, didst become our High Priest, and didst commit to us the ministry of this liturgical and bloodless sacrifice. For Thou alone, O Lord our God, rules over those in heaven and on earth; Who art borne on the throne of the Seraphim and King of Israel; Who along art holy and dost rest in the saints. Therefore, I entreat Thee Who along art good and ready to listen: Look down on me, a sinner, Thine unprofitable servant; and cleanse my soul and heart from an evil conscience; and by the power of the Holy Spirit enable me, who am endowed with the grace of the priesthood, to stand before this, Thy holy table, and perform the sacred mystery of Thy holy and pure Body and precious Blood. For I draw near to Thee, and bowing my neck I implore Thee: Do not turn Thy face away from me, nor cast me out from among Thy children; but make me, Thy sinful and unworthy servant, worthy to offer gifts to Thee. For Thou art the Offerer and the Offered, the Receiver and the Received, O Christ our God, and to Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

After the Deacon finishes the censing, the Servers go to the High Place, cross themselves, bow, turn and bow to the priest.

When the Priest finishes reciting the prayer and the Deacon his censing, both stand before the altar and recites the Cherubic Hymn three times, bowing after each recitation.

P: *Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim, and who sing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-creating Trinity, now lay aside all earthly cares.*

D: *That we may receive the King of All, Who comes invisibly upborne by the angelic hosts. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

All go before the Table of Preparation; the Priest censes the Offering and say silently:

P: *O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.*

D: *Lift up, Master.*

The Priest puts the large veil on the Deacon's left shoulder and gives him the paten, saying:

P: *Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the Lord.*

The Priest takes the chalice. Preceded by Servers carrying candles, the Celebrants make the Great Entrance.

Great Entrance

During the Great Entrance, the Priest prays aloud for the hierarchy and the faithful, according to the accepted formula of the local tradition. At the conclusion, he says:

P: May the Lord God remember all of you Orthodox Christians in His Kingdom always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

That we may receive the King of All, Who comes invisibly upborne by the angelic hosts. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Celebrants enter the sanctuary. The Priest places the Holy Gifts on the Altar, saying:

P: *The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb.*

In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul, in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, wast Thou, O boundless Christ, filling all things.

Bearing life and more fruitful than paradise, brighter than any royal chamber: Thy tomb, O Christ, is the fountain of our resurrection.

The Priest takes the veils from the paten and chalice and places them on the altar, saying:

P: *The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb.*

The Priest takes the censer from the Deacon and censes the Gifts, saying:

P: *Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure, rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. Then wilt Thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Thy altar.*

The Priest returns the censer to the Deacon who gives it to a Server; then he bows his head and asks the Deacon:

P: *Remember me, brother and fellow-minister.*

D: *May the Lord God remember your priesthood in His Kingdom.*

P: *Pray for me, my fellow-minister.*

D: *May the Holy Spirit descend on you, and the power of the Most High overshadow you.*

P: *May the Holy Spirit Himself minister together with us all the days of our life.*

D: *Remember me, holy Master.*

P: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Amen.*

If a Bishop is the celebrant, he says to those serving with him:

B: *Brothers, fellow servers, abbots, and priests, pray for me.*

The Clergy:

Cg: *May the Holy Spirit come upon you, and the power of the Most High overshadow you.*

D: *May the Holy Spirit Himself minister together with us, all the days of our life.*

B: *May the Lord direct your steps.*

Cg: *Remember us, holy Master.*

B: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.*

Pp: *Εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποτα.*

Here priests are ordained.

The Deacon goes out the north Deacon Door for the Litany:

The Litany of Supplication

D: Let us complete our prayers to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the precious Gifts now offered, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Lord God almighty, Who alone art holy, Who accepts the sacrifice of praise from those who call upon Thee with their whole heart, accept also the prayer of us sinners, and bear it to Thy holy altar, enabling us to offer unto Thee gifts and spiritual sacrifices for our sins and for the errors of the people. Make us worthy to find grace in Thy sight, that our sacrifice may be acceptable unto Thee, and that the good spirit of Thy grace may dwell upon us and upon these Gifts here offered, and upon all Thy people.

P: Through the compassion of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Peace

P: Peace be unto all.

Pp: And to your spirit.

D: Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess:

Pp: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! The Trinity one in essence, and undivided!

The priest bows three times before the altar, saying each time:

P: *I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my firm foundation, my refuge, and my deliverer.*

He then kisses the paten, the chalice, and the altar. If two or more priests concelebrate, they now exchange the Kiss of Peace, likewise for the deacons (and in some communities, the whole community). The senior priest or deacon says:

Christ is in our midst.

The other priest or deacon answers:

He is and shall be.

The Creed

D: The doors! The doors! In wisdom, let us attend!

The priest lifts the large veil and raises it up and down over the Holy Gifts (originally done to chase away flies and other insects).

If a bishop is serving, the subdeacons light the trikiri and dikiri during the singing of the Creed.

The people sing:

Pp: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; 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 the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. Whose Kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. In one holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Anaphora

D: Let us stand aright! Let us stand with fear! Let us attend, that we may offer the Holy Oblation in peace.

Pp: A mercy of peace! A sacrifice of praise!

The Deacon returns to the sanctuary.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Pp: And with your spirit.

P: Let us lift up our hearts.

Pp: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

Pp: It is meet and right to worship the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit: the Trinity, one in essence, and undivided.

P: It is meet and right to hymn Thee, to bless Thee, to praise Thee, to give thanks to Thee, and to worship Thee in every place of Thy dominion: for Thou art God ineffable, inconceivable, invisible, incomprehensible, ever-existing and eternally the same, Thou and Thine only-begotten Son and Thy Holy Spirit. Thou it was Who brought us from non-existing into being, and when we had fallen away didst raise us up again, and didst not cease to do all things until Thou hast brought us up to heaven, and hast endowed us with Thy Kingdom which is to come. For all these things we give thanks to Thee, and to Thine only begotten Son and to Thy Holy Spirit; for all things of which we know and of which we know not, whether manifest or unseen; and we thank Thee for this Liturgy which Thou hast deigned to accept at our hands, though there stand by Thee thousands of archangels and hosts of angels, the Cherubim and the Seraphim, six-winged, many-eyes, who soar aloft, borne on their pinions.

P: Singing the triumphant hymn, shouting, proclaiming and saying:

As the priest chants the above, the deacon touches the paten with each of the points of the star (making the sign of the Cross), then kisses it and lays it aside; he goes to the right side of the altar.

Pp: Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

P: With these blessed powers, O Master Who lovest mankind, we also cry aloud and say: Holy art Thou and all-holy, Thou and Thine only-begotten Son and Thy Holy Spirit! Holy art Thou and all-holy, and magnificent is Thy glory! Who hast so loved Thy world as to give Thine only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life; Who when He had come and had fulfilled all the dispensation for us, in the night in which He was given up—or rather, gave Himself up for the life of the world—took bread in His holy, pure, and blameless hands; and when He had given thanks and blessed it, and hallowed it, and broke it, He gave it to His holy disciples and apostles, saying:

Take! Eat! This is My Body which is broken for you, for the remission of sins.

Pp: Amen.

As the Priest says the above words, the deacon points to the paten with his stole, and as the Priest says the following words, the deacon points to the chalice with his stole.

P: And likewise, after supper, He took the cup saying:

Drink of it, all of you! This is My Blood of the new testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins!

Pp: Amen.

P: Remembering this saving commandment and all those things which have come to pass for us: the Cross, the Tomb, the Resurrection on the third day, the Ascension into heaven, the Sitting at the right hand, and the second and glorious Coming:

The Deacon crosses his right hand over his left, and elevates the Holy Gifts.

P: Thine own of Thine own we offer unto Thee, on behalf of all and for all.

Pp: We praise Thee. We bless Thee. We give thanks unto Thee, O Lord. And we pray unto Thee, our God.

The Priest and the Deacon bow three times before the holy altar as they say:

P: *O Lord, Who didst send down Thy Most Holy Spirit upon Thine apostles at the third hour: Take Him not from us, O Good One, but renew Him in us who pray to Thee.*

D: *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.*

P: *O Lord, Who didst send down...*

D: *Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.*

P: *O Lord, Who didst send down Thy Most Holy Spirit upon Thine apostles at the third hour: Take Him not from us, O Good One, but renew Him in us who pray to Thee.*

P: Again we offer unto Thee this reasonable and bloodless worship, and ask Thee, and pray Thee, and supplicate Thee: Send down Thy Holy Spirit upon us and upon these Gifts here offered.

The Deacon points to the paten, saying:

D: Bless, Master, the Holy Bread.

The Priest blessed the Holy Bread with the sign of the Cross, saying:

P: And make this Bread the precious Body of Thy Christ.

Pp: Amen.

The Deacon points to the chalice, saying:

D: Bless, Master, the Holy Cup.

The Priest blesses the Holy Cup with the Sign of the Cross, saying:

P: And that which is in this Cup, the precious Blood of Thy Christ.

Pp: Amen.

The Deacon points to both, saying:

D: Bless both, Master.

The Priest blesses the Holy Gifts, saying:

P: Making the change by Thy Holy Spirit.

Pp: Amen! Amen! Amen!

The Deacon bows his head to the priest and says:

D: *Remember me, a sinner, holy Master.*

P: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Amen.*

If a Priest had been ordained at this same Liturgy, the Bishop now summons him, and taking the Holy Bread, and breaking the portion XC from the top thereof, where the cross is, he gives it to him, saying:

B: Receive this pledge, and preserve it whole and unharmed until your last breath, because you shall be held to an accounting therefor in the second and terrible Coming of our great Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ.

And taking it, the Priest kisses the Bishop's hand, and withdrawing he stands behind the Holy Altar; and placing his hand on the Holy Altar, he prays, saying:

P: Have mercy on me, O God... Psalm 51

The Celebrant makes a low bow before the holy altar and continues praying:

P: That they may be to those who partake for the purification of soul, for the remission of sins, for the communion of Thy Holy Spirit, for the fulfillment of the Kingdom of Heaven, for boldness toward Thee, and not for judgment or condemnation.

Again we offer unto Thee this reasonable worship for those who have fallen asleep in the faith: ancestors, fathers, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, preachers, evangelists, martyrs, confessors, ascetics, and every righteous spirit made perfect in faith.

As he receives the censer, the Priest continues:

P: Especially for our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

The Subdeacons blow out the Dikiri and Trikiri.

Pp: It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word: true Theotokos, we magnify you.

During the singing of the above hymn, the Priest continues praying:

P: For the holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John; the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; Saint ____, whom we commemorate today; and all Thy saints, at whose supplication look down upon us, O God. Remember all those who have fallen asleep before us in the hope of resurrection to eternal life, especially ____; grant them rest, O God, where the light of Thy countenance shines on them.

Again we entreat Thee: Remember, O Lord, all the Orthodox Episcopate, who rightly teach [divide] the word of Thy truth; all the priests, the deacons in Christ, and every order of the clergy.

Again, we offer unto Thee this reasonable worship: for the whole world; for the Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church; for those who live in chastity and holiness of life; for all civil authorities; grant them, O Lord, peaceful times, that we, in their tranquility, may lead a calm and peaceful life in all godliness and sanctity.

If a Bishop is the celebrant, the omoforion is taken off, and the Proto-deacon, standing at the Royal Doors and facing the people, says:

D: And all mankind.

Pp: And all mankind.

The Bishop remembers the head of the Church:

B: Among the first, remember, O Lord, our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [our Metropolitan ____,] our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____, and the Most Holy Synod of Bishops. Grant them for Thy holy churches in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, rightly to define the word of Thy truth.

The senior Priest then says:

P: Have in remembrance, O Lord, His Grace, our Bishop, ____. Grant him for Thy holy Church in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, rightly to define the word of Thy truth.

He kisses the Bishop's mitre, and the Bishop blesses him, saying:

B: May the Lord God remember your priesthood.

The Proto-deacon, first turning to the People:

D: The Most Holy Synod, our Metropolitan, and our Bishop ____, who offers these Holy Gifts unto the Lord our God.

For the salvation of the President of the United States and for all the armed forces.

The Proto-deacon then commemorates the living. At the end the People sing:

Pp: And all mankind.

P: Among the first, remember, O Lord, our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [our Metropolitan ____,] our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____. Grant them for Thy holy churches in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, rightly to define the word of Thy truth.

Pp: And all mankind.

P: Remember, O Lord, the city in which we dwell, every city and country; those who in faith dwell in them. Remember, O Lord, travelers by land, by sea, and by air; the sick and the suffering; captives, and their salvation. Remember, O Lord, those who bring offerings and do good in Thy holy churches; those who remember the poor; and upon us all send forth Thy mercies.

The Priest remembers by name the living faithful:

P: And grant that with one mouth and one heart we may praise Thine all-honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Priest blesses the people:

P: And the mercies of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ shall be with all of you.

Pp: And with your spirit.

(Here deacons are ordained in hierarchial Liturgies.)

The Litany Before the Lord's Prayer

D: Having remembered all the saints, again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the precious Gifts now offered and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That our God Who loves mankind, receiving them upon His holy, heavenly, and ideal altar as a sweet spiritual fragrance, will send down upon us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Having asked for the unity of the Faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life until Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: Unto Thee we command our whole life and our hope, O Master Who lovest mankind. We ask Thee, and pray Thee, and supplicate Thee: Make us worthy to partake of the heavenly and awesome Mysteries of this sacred and spiritual table with a pure conscience: for remission of sins, for forgiveness of transgression, for the communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven, for boldness toward Thee, but not for judgment or condemnation.

The Lord's Prayer

P: And make us worthy, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call on Thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:

Pp: 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 day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

P: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of age.

Pp: Amen.

P: Peace be to all.

Pp: And with your spirit.

D: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: We give thanks unto Thee, O King invisible, Who by Thy measureless power didst make all things, and in the greatness of Thy mercy didst bring all things from non-existence into being. Look down from heaven, O Master, upon those who have bowed their heads unto Thee, the awesome God. Do Thou Thyself, O Master, distribute these Gifts here offered, unto all of us for good, according to the individual need of each, sail with those who sail, travel with those who travel by land and by air; heal the sick, O Thou Who art the physician of our souls and bodies.

P: Through the grace and compassion and love toward mankind of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Get hot water ready.

P: Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, out of Thy holy dwelling place from the throne of glory of Thy Kingdom; and come to sanctify us, O Thou Who sittest on high with the Father, and art here invisibly present with us; and by Thy mighty hand impart unto us Thy most pure Body and precious Blood, and through us to all the people.

The deacon crosses his stole over his shoulders. The priest makes three low bows before the holy altar, saying each time:

P: *O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.*

The Priest takes up the Holy Bread in both hands and elevates it above the altar.

If a Priest was ordained at this Liturgy, he who has received ordination returns the bread to the Bishop and the bishop lays it on the holy paten, and the newly ordained Priest receives the Eucharist before the other priests.

D: Let us attend!

P: The Holy Things for the Holy!

Pp: One is Holy. One is the Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Deacon closes the Royal Doors and the curtain. The Communion verse is now sung. On Sunday, it is usually:

Pp: Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

During the Communion of the clergy, a hymn is sung according to local customs. In many parishes today, the prayer before Communion is recited together by the clergy and people before the hymn.

The Communion of the Clergy

The deacon returns to the sanctuary and stands on the right side of the priest.

D: *Divide, Master, the Holy Bread.*

The priest divides the Holy Bread into four parts, with proper reverence.

P: *Divided and distributed is the Lamb of God; Who is divided, yet not disunited; Who is ever eaten, yet never consumed; but sanctifying those who partake thereof.*

The priest arranges the pieces on the rim of the paten in the form of a cross:



The portion IC is placed in the chalice. The portion XC is for the communion of the celebrants. The other two portions, NI and KA, are broken for the communion of the faithful.

D: *Fill, Master, the Holy Cup.*

As the priest places the portion IC into the chalice, the priest makes the sign of the Cross with it over the chalice, saying:

P: *The fullness of the Holy Spirit.*

D: *Amen.*

Bless, Master, the warm water.

The priest blesses the warm water, saying:

P: *Blessed is the warmth of Thy holy things, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.*

The deacon pours a sufficient quantity of water into the chalice cross-wise, saying:

D: *The warmth of faith, full of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

The priest turns towards the people and asks for forgiveness before receiving the Eucharist. The priest breaks the portin XC into a number of pieces corresponding to the number of clergy receiving.

P: *Deacon, draw near.*

The deacon approaches and bows, asking forgiveness; he then kisses the altar and says:

D: *Give me, Master, the precious and holy Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.*

The priest gives the deacon a portion of the Holy Bread, saying:

P: *To the deacon ___ is given the precious, holy, and most pure Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of his sins, and unto life everlasting.*

The deacon kisses the priest's hand as he receives the Holy Bread, and goes behind the holy altar and prays with bowed head:

D: *I believe, O Lord, and I confess...*

As the priest takes a portion of the Holy Bread for himself, he prays:

P: *The precious and most holy Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ is given unto me, the unworthy priest ___ for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting.*

Modern day practice is for both clergy and people to recite the following prayer together at this time:

Pp: *I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first.*

I believe also that this is truly Thine own most pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore, I pray Thee: have mercy on me and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mysteries to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body.

After partaking of the Holy Bread and before drinking of the Holy Cup, he says:

P: *The precious and holy Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ is given unto me, the unworthy priest ___, for the remission of sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.*

He drinks of the Cup three times, saying:

P: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

The priest cleans the chalice and his lips with the veil, and says:

P: *Lo, this has touched my lips, and shall take away my iniquities, and cleanse my sins.*

The priest then summons the deacon:

P: *Deacon, draw near.*

The deacon approaches and bows once, saying:

D: Low, I draw near unto the immortal King and our God. Give unto me, Master, the precious and holy Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The priest holds the chalice and says:

P: The servant of God, Deacon ____, partakes of the precious and holy Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of his sins, and unto life everlasting.

When the deacon has partaken, the priest says:

P: *Lo, this has touched your lips, and shall take away your iniquities, and cleanse your sins.*

People's Communion

The Priest divides the portions NI and KA of the Holy Lamb and puts them into the chalice for the communion of the people; the chalice is covered with a veil. The Royal Doors and curtains are open. The Deacon takes the chalice and goes through the Royal Doors and says:

D: In the fear of God, and with faith draw near!

Pp: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

If the Communion Prayer on page 70, 125 have not yet been recited by the people, the priest leads them in it now.

The Priest communicates those who are prepared to receive the Mystery, saying to each person:

P: The servant [handmaid] of God ____ partakes of the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins and unto life everlasting.

The Deacon cleans the lips of each communicant as he (she) receives. Meanwhile the People sing:

Pp: Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality.

After all have been communicated, the Celebrants return to the sanctuary and replace the chalice on the altar.

Pp: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Deacon holds the paten over the chalice as he says these Hymns of the Resurrection:

D: *Having beheld the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Thy resurrection; for Thou are our God and we know no other than Thee; we call on Thy name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His resurrection, for by enduring the Cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.*

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha, O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God: grant that we may more perfectly partake of Thee in the never-ending day of Thy Kingdom.

Server gets censer ready. As the Deacon wipes the remaining particles from the paten into the chalice, he says:

D: *Wash away, O Lord, the sins of all those remembered here, by Thy precious Blood; through the prayers of Thy saints.*

The Priest blesses the people, saying:

P: O God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

Pp: We have seen the true Light! We have received the heavenly Spirit! We have found the true Faith!
Worshiping the undivided Trinity, Who has saved us.

The Priest covers the chalice with one veil. He puts all the others on the paten, and covers this also. He censes the chalice three times, saying:

P: Be Thou exalted, O God, above all the heavens, and Thy glory over all the earth.

The Priest places the paten on the Deacon's head; the Deacon carries it with reverence to the Table of Preparation. The Priest takes the chalice in his right hand, and says, as he faces the people:

P: *Blessed is our God*

Always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Priest carries the chalice to the Table of Preparation and then censes it three times.

Pp: Amen. Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Thy glory; for Thou hast made us worthy to partake of Thy holy, divine, immortal, and life-creating Mysteries. Keep us in Thy holiness, that all the day we may meditate upon Thy righteousness. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Deacon goes to his place for the Litany; the Priest returns to the altar and folds up the Antimension.

The Litany of Thanksgiving

D: Let us attend! Having partaken of the divine, holy, most pure, immortal, heavenly, life-creating, and awesome Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Asking that the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: We thank Thee, O Master Who lovest mankind Benefactor of our souls, that Thou hast made us worthy this day of Thy heavenly and immortal mysteries. Make straight our path; strengthen us all in Thy fear; guard our life; make firm our steps; through the prayers and intercessions of the glorius Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and of all Thy saints.

The Priest, having folded up the Antimension, makes the Sign of the Cross over it with the Holy Gospel as he exclaims:

P: For Thou art our Sanctification, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Prayer Before The Ambo¹

The most junior priest goes out through the Royal Doors:

P: Let us depart in peace.

Pp: In the name of the Lord.

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: O Lord, Who blessest those who bless Thee, and sanctifies those who trust in Thee, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Preserve the fullness of Thy Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Thy house; glorify them in return by Thy divine power, and forsake us not who put our hope in Thee. Give peace to Thy world, to Thy churches, to Thy priests, to all those in civil authority, and to all Thy people. For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from Thee, the Father of Lights, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, thanksgiving, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (3x)

The Priest returns through the Royal Doors and the Deacon through the north door.

Some parishes add the following from Psalm 34:

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

²My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the afflicted hear and be glad.

³O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

⁴I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.

⁵Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him,
and saved him out of all his troubles.

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

⁸O taste and see that the LORD is good!
Happy is the man who takes refuge in him!

⁹O fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no want!

¹⁰The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

¹Although this prayer is always recited, the rubrics call for other Prayers Behind the Ambo to be said on certain days. Please see the Appendix.

Having completed the prayer, the Deacon, holding the stole, stands with bowed head before the holy icon of Our Lord Jesus Christ until the conclusion of the prayer before the Ambo. The Priest enters the sanctuary through the Holy Doors, and going to the Table of Oblation, silent says the following prayer:

P: O Christ our God, Who art Thyself the fulfillment of the law and the prophets, Who didst fulfill all the dispensation of the Father, fill our hearts with joy and gladness, always, now and evr, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Deacon, entering through a side door, consumes the Holy Gifts with all reverence and awe.

The priest blesses the people, saying:

P: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

P: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee!

Pp: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. (3x)
Father [Master], bless.

Everybody goes out for the veneration of the Cross.

P: May (Sunday: He Who rose from the dead,) Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople; of Saint ___ of the church; of Saint ___, whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

The people come to venerate the Cross and receive the Antidoron Bread. Those who receive the Holy Mysteries read the Prayers of Thanksgiving.

The Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

The priest and deacon stand before the altar and bow three times while saying:

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth Who art everywhere and fillest all things. Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

From Pascha to Pentecost the proper Troparion is recited instead of the above Troparion to the Holy Spirit.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men. (2x)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

The priest kisses the Holy Gospel, the deacon kisses the altar. The deacon then bows his head to the priest and says:

D: *It is time to begin the service to the Lord. Bless, Master.*

The priest blesses him, saying:

P: *Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Pray for me, Master.*

P: *May the Lord direct your steps.*

D: *Remember me, holy Master.*

P: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Amen.*

The deacon leaves the sanctuary. He goes before the Holy Doors and bowing three times, says silently:

D: *O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.*

D: Bless, Master.

The priest kisses the Holy Gospel, lifts it up with both hands, and lowering it, blesses the altar cross-wise, saying:

P: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Litany of Peace

or

Great Litany

If a bishop is the celebrant, he says here secretly the Prayer of Oblation which the priest says during the Liturgy of Preparation at all Liturgies.

D: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [for our Metropolitan ____,] for our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For seasonable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.
- Pp: To Thee, O Lord.
- P: O Lord our God, Thy power is incomparable. Thy glory is incomprehensible. Thy mercy is immeasurable. Thy love for man is inexpressible. Look down on us and on this holy house with pity, O Master, and impart the riches of Thy mercy and Thy compassion to us and to those who pray with us.
- P: For to Thee belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
- Pp: Amen.

The First Antiphon

Traditionally the entire Psalm 102 is sung, but in modern practice only certain verses are usually sung:

- Pp: Bless the Lord, O my soul! Blessed are Thou, O Lord! Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases. The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long suffering and

of great goodness. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Blessed art Thou, O Lord!

- ¹Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!
- ²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
- ³who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- ⁴who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- ⁵who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶The LORD works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- ⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- ¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor requite us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- ¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- ¹³As a father pities his children,
so the LORD pities those who fear him.
- ¹⁴For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.
- ¹⁵As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.
- ¹⁷But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
upon those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
- ¹⁸to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.
- ¹⁹The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

and his kingdom rules over all.

²⁰Bless the LORD, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
hearkening to the voice of his word!

²¹Bless the LORD, all his hosts,
his ministers that do his will!

²²Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Little Litany

D: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Lord, our God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Preserve the fullness of Thy Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Thy house; glorify them in return by Thy divine power, and forsake us not who put our hope in Thee.

P: For Thine is the majesty, and Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Second Antiphon

Pp: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being. Put not your trust in princes, in sons of men in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs he returns to his earth, on that very day his plans perish. The Lord will reign forever; Your God, O Zion, to all generation.

Some communities use the complete Psalm:

Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being. Put not your trusts in princes, in sons of men in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs he returns to his earth, on that very day his plans perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them, Who keeps truth forever; Who administers judgment for those who are wronged, Who gives food to the hungry. The Lord releases those who are bound. The Lord makes wise the blind; The Lord straightens those who are bent down; The Lord loves the righteous. The Lord protects strangers; He supports the orphan and the widow, and wipes out the way of sinners. The Lord will reign forever; Your God, O Zion, to all generation.

Hymn of Justinian the Great

Pp: Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change didst become man and wast crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, save us!

Little Litany

D: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Thou Who hast given us grace with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee, and promised that when two or three are gathered together in Thy name Thou would grant their request: Fulfill now, O Lord, the petitions of Thy servants as may be expedient for them: grant us in this world the knowledge of Thy truth, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

P: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Third Antiphon

Pp: In Thy Kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

If verses are recited from the Octo-Echoes, they begin at this point.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

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

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Little Entrance

The priest and deacon bow three times before the altar. The priest picks up the Holy Gospel and gives it to the deacon. Preceded by the servants, they go around the altar and leave the sanctuary through the north doors and come before the Royal Doors.

D: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

P: *O Master, Lord our God, Who has appointed in heaven orders and hosts of angels and archangels for the service of Thy glory: Grant that with our entrance there may be an entrance of holy angels, serving with us and glorifying Thy goodness. For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

At Pontifical Liturgies, the head priest gives the book of the Holy Gospels to the proto-deacon, who carries it, preceded by the subdeacons with the dikiri and trikiri and the sacramental fans (ripidi). The priests follow, in the order of their rank; and the whole procession, while the Beautitudes are being sung, makes the circuit of the Altar, and coming through the North Door, goes to the Bishop's dais. "Ordination" of proto-deacons and archpriests would take place at this point. The proto-deacon stands in front of the bishop (instead of the Royal Doors).

Standing before the Royal Doors and holding the Holy Gospel in his left hand, the deacon points with his right hand towards the altar, and says:

D: *Bless, Master, the Holy Entrance.*

The priest blesses, saying:

P: *Blessed is the entrance of Thy saints always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.*

The deacon presents the Holy Gospel to the priest; the priest kisses it. Then the deacon faces the altar again and exclaims as he elevates the Book:

D: *Wisdom! Let us attend.*

If there is an Introit (on same major feasts), the deacon intones it now.

Theophany:

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

Sunday of the Holy Cross:

Extol the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for it is holy!

Nativity of Our Lord (25 December):

Out of the womb, before the morning star, have I begotten Thee! The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind. Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

At Pontifical Divine Liturgies, the following is sung by the clergy and the people join in at the end according to local customs. At other Liturgies, the following is sung by the people (or choir):

On Sundays:

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, Who rose from the dead, O Son of God, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

The celebrants enter the sanctuary and the deacon returns the Holy Gospel to the altar.

At Pontifical Liturgy, after the clergy enter the sanctuary, the bishop, bearing the dikiri and censer, accompanied by the proto-deacon bearing the trikiri, censes the church while the people sing:

Pp: Εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποια.

The Troparion and the Kontakion are now sung by the people.

The clergy in the sanctuary:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We, your servants, in that we have been delivered from calamity, do offer unto you, O Theotokos, who as a victorious chieftain warrest for us, songs of triumph and thanksgiving. Do you also, in that you have invincible might, from us form all assaults, that we may cry unto you: Hail, O Bride Unwedded!

P: O holy God: Who dost rest in the saints; Who are hymned by the Seraphim with the thrice-holy cry, and glorified by the Cherubim, and worshipped by every heavenly power; Who out of nothing has brought all things into being; Who has created man after Thine own image and likeness, and hast adorned him with Thine every gift; Who givest to him who asks wisdom and understanding; Who dost not dispise the sinner, but instead has appointed repentance unto salvation; Who hast vouchsafed to us, Thy humble and unworthy servants, even in this hour to offer worship and praise which are due unto Thee. Thyself, O Master, accept even from the mouths of us sinners the thrice-holy hymn, and visit us in Thy goodness. Forgive us every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary. Sanctify our souls and bodies, and enable us to serve Thee in holiness all the days of our life. Through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints who from the beginning of the world have been well-pleasing to Thee.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Bless, Master, the time of the thrice holy.

P: For holy are Thou, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever...

D: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

Pp: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

D: ...and hear us.

Pp: ...and hear us.

D: ...And unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Instead of the Trisagion (Thrice-Holy) hymn on the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Theophany, Holy Saturday, and Resurrection Sunday (Pascha) the following is sung:

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Instead of the Trisagion on Holy Cross Sunday (Third Sunday of Great Lent), the following is sung:

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy Holy Resurrection, we glorify. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And Thy Holy Resurrection, we glorify.

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy Holy Resurrection, we glorify.

At Pontifical Liturgy:

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Bless, Master, the time of the thrice holy.

P: For holy are Thou, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever...

In some traditions, the proto-deacon, coming from the Sanctuary, says:

D: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

Pp: O Lord, save the God-fearing...

D: And hear us.

Pp: And hear us.

Then in Russian Churches the proto-deacon says the Great Eulogy or Diptychs and the people repeat the same:

One version:

To His Holiness, ____, the Patriarch of ____, many years!

To our Most God-fearing Ruler, ____, and to all the Authorities, many years.

To our Lord, the Right (or Most) Reverend, ____, of ____, many years!

To the Right Reverend Patriarchs, Metropolitans, Archbishops, and Bishops, many years.

To the Orthodox Governing Council, and Commanders of the Army and the Navy; to Governors of Towns, and the Christ-loving Army; and to all Orthodox Christians, many years!

Another version:

Diptychs

To His Holiness, BARTHOLOMEW, Archbishop of **Constantinople**, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, PETROS, Locum Tenens of the Church of **Alexandria** and All Africa, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, IGNATIUS, Patriarch of **Antioch** and All the East, Many Years.

To His Beatitude, DIODOROS, Patriarch of the holy city of **Jerusalem** and All Palestine, Many Years!

To His Holiness, ALEKSY, Patriarch of **Moscow** and All Russia, Many Years.

To His Holiness, ELIA, Catholicos and Patriarch of All **Georgia**, Many Years!

To His Holiness, PAVLE, Patriarch of **Serbia**, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, THEOKTIST, Patriarch of **Romania**, Many Years!

To His Holiness, MAXIM, Patriarch of **Bulgaria**, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, CHRYSOSTOMOS, Archbishop of **New Justiniana** and All Cyprus, Many Years.

To His Beatitude, CHRISTODOULOS, Archbishop of **Athens** and All Greece, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, ANASTASIOS, Archbishop of **Tirana** and All Albania, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, SAVA, Metropolitan of **Warsaw** and All Poland, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, NICOLAI, Locum Tenens of the Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia, Many Years!

To His Beatitude, HERMAN, Archbishop of **Washington**, Metropolitan of All America and Canada, Many Years!

To all Orthodox Metropolitans, Archbishops, and Bishops, Many Years!

To all Orthodox Christians, Many Years.

D: And unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Pp: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The clergy repeat the same once.

The people again repeat the same.

After the third repetition, the bishop, holding the cross and the dikiri, says, with his face towards the people:

B: Look down from heaven, O God, and behold and visit this vine which Thou hast planted with Thy right hand, and establish it.

While the people sing the Thrice-Holy for the fourth time, the bishop bestows the blessing with the cross the dikiri. Then the clergy and the people each repeat the Thrice-Holy once more.

Here bishops are ordained.

D: *Bless, Right Reverend Master, the seat on high.*

B: *Blessed art Thou on the throne of glory of Thy kingdom, who sit on the Cherubim all-hymned and exalted forever.*

The bishop then ascends the High Place, and stands there, looking towards the people. And he gives the dikiri to the deacon. And, the proto-deacon gives the trikiri to the bishop, reciting the hymn.

B: *In Jordan was the Trinity made manifest; for the Most-Divine Person of the Father Himself proclaimed: He that is baptized, the same is my beloved Son. And the Spirit descended upon Him that was like unto Himself. For which cause men shall bless Him and exalt Him forever.*

The bishop takes the trikiri, and blessed three times with the trikiri, as usual. Then the bishop gives the trikiri to the deacon.

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The celebrants bow three times before the altar. The deacon says:

D: *Command, Master.*

As they go to the High Place, the priest says:

P: *Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.*

D: *Bless, Master, the High Place.*

P: *Blessed art Thou on the throne of the glory of Thy Kingdom, Who sittest upon the Cherubim; always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

The priest then stands on the right side of the High Place, the center being reserved for the Bishop.

The Epistle

D: Let us attend!

P: Peace be unto all!

R: And to your spirit!

D: Wisdom!

R: The Prokeimenon in the ___ tone.

The reader reads the Prokeimenon and the people repeat it. Then the reader reads one or more verses and the people repeat the original Prokeimenon verse. After the last of the verses, the reader reads the first part of the Prokeimenon and the people finish it with the second part.

If a bishop is the celebrant, the proto-deacon takes the censer, and a deacon the incense, and they approach the bishop. And the bishop, putting incense into the censer, recites the Prayer of the Censer:

B: *We offer Thee incense, O Christ our God, for an odor of spiritual fragrance. Receive it upon Thy heavenly altar, and send down upon us in return the grace of Thine all-holy Spirit.*

D: Wisdom!

R: The reading of the Holy Epistle of Saint Paul the Apostles to ____.

or

The reading of the Epistle of ____.

or

The reading of the Acts of the holy Apostles.

D: Let us attend!

The reader reads the Epistle. During the reading of the Epistle the deacon censens the church. At the end:

P: Peace be to you, reader.

R: And to your spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, in the ___ Tone.

Pp: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The reader reads the verses and after each one the people answers:

Pp: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gospel

P: Illumine our hearts, O Master, Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teaching. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well pleasing to Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

D: Bless, Master, him who proclaims the good tidings of the holy Apostle and Evangelist ____ (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John the Theologian).

P: May God, through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and all laudable Apostle and Evangelist ____, enable you to proclaim the glad tidings with great power, to the fulfillment of the gospel of His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

D: Amen.

Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be unto all.

Pp: And to your spirit.

D: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. ____.

Pp: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

P: Let us attend!

The deacon now reads the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be unto you who have proclaimed the Gospel.

Pp: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Sermon

The sermon should be preached at this point. Some priests preach at Communion and others at the end of the Liturgy, but this is the proper time for the sermon.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication

D: Let us all say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: O Lord almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

The antimimension is partly unfolded by the priest; the upper portion is left unfolded.

D: Again we pray our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [for our Metropolitan ____], for our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy; and for all our brethren in Christ.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Again we pray for the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox patriarchs; and for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; and for all our fathers and brethren, [mothers and sisters], the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God ____, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house, for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

P: O Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication of Thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Thy mercy. Send down Thy bounties upon us and upon all Thy people, who await the rich mercy that comes from Thee.

P: For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Litany for the Departed may be recited here, except on Sundays and Feast Days.

The Litany for the Departed

D: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: Again, we pray for the repose of the soul(s) of the servant(s) of God ____, departed this life; and that he (she, they) may be pardoned all his (her, their) sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: That the Lord God will establish his (her, their) soul(s) where the just repose.

Pp: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

D: The mercies of God, the Kingdom of Heaven, and the remission of his (her, their) sins, let us ask of Christ, the immortal King and God.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: O God of spirits, and of all flesh, Who hast trampled down death and overthrown the Devil, and given life to Thy world; Do Thou, the same Lord, give rest to the soul(s) of Thy departed servant(s) ____, in a place of brightness, a place of refreshment, a place of repose, where all sickness, sighing, and sorrow have fled away. Pardon every transgression which he (she) has (they have) committed, whether by word or deed or thought. For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind; because there is no man who lives yet does not sin; for Thou only art without sin; Thy righteousness is to all eternity; and Thy word is truth.

Pp: For Thou art the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servant(s) ____ who is (are) fallen asleep, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Litany for the Catechumens

D: Pray to the Lord, you catechumens.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Let us, the faithful, pray for the catechumens, that the Lord may have mercy on them.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That He may teach them the word of truth.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That He may reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That He may unite them to His Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help them, save them, have mercy on them, and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Bow your heads unto the Lord, you catechumens.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O Lord our God, Who dwellest in the heavens and regardest all Thy works: Look down on Thy servants the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before Thee. Grant them a light yoke; make them precious members of Thy Holy Church; make them worthy of the laver of regeneration, the remission of sins, and the robe of incorruption--for the knowledge of Thee, our true God.

P: That with us they may glorify Thine all honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The antimention is now fully unfolded. The priest makes the Sign of the cross over it with the sponge, then kisses the sponge and lays it on the right side.

D: All catechumens, depart. Depart, catechumens. All that are catechumens, depart. Let no catechumens remain.

Let us, the faithful, again and again in peace pray unto the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: Thou, O Lord, hast revealed to us this great mystery of salvation. Thou hast enabled us, Thy humble and unworthy servants, to be ministers at Thy holy altar. By the power of Thy Holy Spirit, enable us also to perform this service so that standing blamelessly before Thy holy glory, we may offer Thee a sacrifice of praise. For Thou alone accomplishest all things in all men. May our sacrifice be acceptable and well-pleasing in Thy sight, O Lord, for our sins and for the errors of all Thy people.

D: Wisdom!

P: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The four following petitions are recited only if a deacon is serving:

D: Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O Lord, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: O God, Who in mercy and compassion hast visited our lowliness; Who hast set us, Thy humble and sinful and unworthy servants, to serve at Thy holy altar before Thy holy glory. By the power of Thy Holy Spirit, strengthen us for this service; and grant speech to our lips so that we may call down the grace of Thy Holy Spirit upon the gifts that are about to be offered.

D: Wisdom!

P: That guarded always by Thy might, we may ascribe glory unto Thee: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The deacon returns to the sanctuary. He takes the censer, receives the priest's blessing, and censes the sanctuary, the iconostas, and the people. The people sing the Cherubic Hymn as the priest recites the prayer:

Pp: Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim, and who sing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-creating Trinity, now lay aside all earthly cares.

P: *No one who is bound with the desires and pleasures of the flesh is worthy to approach or draw near or to serve Thee, O King of Glory; for to minister to Thee is great and awesome even to the heavenly powers. Nevertheless through Thine unspeakable and boundless love for mankind, Thou didst become man, yet without change or alteration, and as Ruler of All, didst become our High Priest, and didst commit to us the ministry of this liturgical and bloodless sacrifice. For Thou alone, O Lord our God, rules over those in heaven and on earth; Who art borne on the throne of the Seraphim and King of Israel; Who along art holy and dost rest in the saints. Therefore, I entreat Thee Who along art good and ready to listen: Look down on me, a sinner, Thine unprofitable servant; and cleanse my soul and heart from an evil conscience; and by the power of the Holy Spirit enable me, who am endowed with the grace of the priesthood, to stand before this, Thy holy table, and perform the sacred mystery of Thy holy and pure Body and precious Blood. For I draw near to Thee, and bowing my neck I implore Thee: Do not turn Thy face away from me, nor cast me out from among Thy children; but make me, Thy sinful and unworthy servant, worthy to offer gifts to Thee. For Thou art the Offerer and the Offered, the Receiver and the Received, O Christ our God, and to Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

When the priest finishes reciting the prayer and the deacon his censing, both stand before the altar and recites the Cherubic Hymn three times, bowing after each recitation.

P: *Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim, and who sing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-creating Trinity, now lay aside all earthly cares.*

D: *That we may receive the King of All, Who comes invisibly upborne by the angelic hosts. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

They go before the Table of Preparation; the priest censes the Offering and say silently:

P: *O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.*

D: *Lift up, Master.*

The priest puts the large veil on the deacon's left shoulder and gives him the paten, saying:

P: *Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the Lord.*

The priest takes the chalice. Preceded by servers carrying candles, the celebrants make the Great Entrance.

Great Entrance

During the Great Entrance, the priest prays aloud for the hierarchy and the faithful, according to the accepted formula of the local tradition. At the conclusion, he says:

P: May the Lord God remember all of you Orthodox Christians in His Kingdom always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

That we may receive the King of All, Who comes invisibly upborne by the angelic hosts. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The celebrants enter the sanctuary. The priests places the Holy Gifts on the altar, saying:

P: *The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb.*

In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul, in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, wast Thou, O boundless Christ, filling all things.

Bearing life and more fruitful than paradise, brighter than any royal chamber: Thy tomb, O Christ, is the fountain of our resurrection.

The priest takes the veils from the paten and chalice and places them on the altar, saying:

P: *The noble Joseph,...*

The priest takes the censer from the deacon and censes the Gifts, saying:

P: *Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure, rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem. Then wilt Thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Thy altar.*

The priest returns the censer to the deacon; then he bows his head and asks the deacon:

P: *Remember me, brother and fellow-minister.*

D: *May the Lord God remember your priesthood in His Kingdom.*

P: *Pray or me, my fellow-minister.*

D: *May the Holy Spirit descend on you, and the power of the Most High overshadow you.*

P: *May the Holy Spirit Himself minister together with us all the days of our life.*

D: *Remember me, holy Master.*

P: *May the Lord God remember your diaconate in His Kingdom.*

D: *Amen.*

If a Bishop is the celebrant, he says to those serving with him:

B: *Brothers, fellow servers, abbots, and priests, pray for me.*

The Clergy:

Cg: *May the Holy Spirit come upon you, and the power of the Most High overshadow you.*

D: *May the Holy Spirit Himself minister together with us, all the days of our life.*

B: *May the Lord direct your steps.*

Cg: *Remember us, holy Master.*

B: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.*

Pp: *Εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη Δέσποτα.*

Here priests are ordained.

The Litany of Supplication

D: Let us complete our prayers to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the precious Gifts now offered, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

- D: For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.
- Pp: Lord, have mercy.
- D: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pp: Grant it, O Lord.
- D: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pp: Grant it, O Lord.
- D: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pp: Grant it, O Lord.
- D: All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pp: Grant it, O Lord.
- D: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pp: Grant it, O Lord.
- D: A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pp: Grant it, O Lord.
- D: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.
- Pp: To Thee, O Lord.
- P: O Lord, our God, Who hast created us and brought us into this life; Who hast shown us the ways to salvation, and bestowed on us the revelation of heavenly mysteries: Thou art the One Who has appointed us to this service in the power of Thy Holy Spirit. Therefore, O Lord, enable us to be ministers of Thy new Testament and servants of Thy holy Mysteries. Through the greatness of Thy mercy, accept us as we draw near to Thy holy altar, so that we may be worthy to offer to Thee this reasonable and bloodless sacrifice for our sins and for the errors of Thy people. Having received it upon Thy holy, heavenly, and ideal altar for an odor of spiritual fragrance, send down upon us in return the grace of Thy Holy Spirit. Look down on us, O God, and behold this our service. Receive it as Thou didst receive the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah, the whole burnt offerings of Abraham, the priestly offices of Moses and Aaron, and the peace-offerings of Samuel. Even as Thou didst receive from Thy holy apostles this true worship, so now, in Thy goodness, accept these gifts from the hands of us sinners, O Lord; that having been accounted worthy to serve without offence at Thy holy altar, we may receive the reward of wise and faithful stewards on the awesome day of Thy just retribution.
- P: Through the compassion of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Peace

P: Peace be unto all.

Pp: And to your spirit.

D: Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess:

Pp: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! The Trinity one in essence, and undivided!

The priest bows three times before the altar, saying each time:

P: *I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my firm foundation, my refuge, and my deliverer.*

The priest bows three times before the altar, saying each time:

He then kisses the paten, the chalice, and the altar. If two or more priests concelebrate, they now exchange the Kiss of Peace, likewise for the deacons. The senior priest or deacon says:

Christ is in our midst.

The other priest or deacon answers:

He is and shall be.

The Creed

D: The doors! The doors! In wisdom, let us attend!

The priest lifts the large veil and raises it up and down over the Holy Gifts (originally done to chase away flies and other insects).

During the singing of the Creed the subdeacons light the trikiri and dikiri.

The people sing:

Pp: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; 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 the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. Whose Kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. In one holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Anaphora

D: Let us stand aright! Let us stand with fear! Let us attend, that we may offer the Holy Oblation in peace.

Pp: A mercy of peace! A sacrifice of praise!

The deacon returns to the sanctuary.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Pp: And with your spirit.

P: Let us lift up our hearts.

Pp: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

Pp: It is meet and right to worship the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit: the Trinity, one in essence, and undivided.

P: O Existing One, Master, Lord God, Father almighty and adorable! It is truly meet and right and befitting the magnificence of Thy holiness to praise Thee, to sing to Thee, to bless Thee, to worship Thee, to give thanks to Thee, to glorify Thee—the only true existing God—and to offer to Thee this our reasonable worship with a contrite heart and a spirit of humility, for Thou hast granted us the knowledge of Thy truth. Who can utter Thy mighty acts? Or make all Thy praises known? Or tell of all Thy miracles at all times? O Master of all, Lord of heaven and earth and of all creation both visible and invisible; who sittest upon the throne of glory and beholdest the depths; without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, indescribable, changeless. O Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the great God and Savior, our hope, Who is the image of Thy goodness, the seal of Thy very likeness, showing forth in Himself Thee, O Father—the living Word, the true God, the eternal Wisdom, the Life, the Sanctification, the Power, the true Light, through Whom the Holy Spirit was revealed--the Spirit of truth, the gift of sonship, the pledge of future inheritance, the first fruits of eternal blessings, the life-creating power, the foundation of sanctification, through Whom every creature of reason and understanding worships Thee and always sings to Thee a hymn of glory, for all things are Thy servants. Thou art praised by angels, archangels, thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities, powers, and many-eyed Cherubim. Round about Thee stand the Seraphims, one with six wings and the other with six wings; with two they cover their faces, with two they cover their feet, and with two they fly crying one to another with unceasing voices and ever-resounding praises:

P: Singing the triumphant hymn, shouting, proclaiming and saying:

As the priest chants the above, the deacon touches the paten with each of the points of the star (making the sign of the Cross), then kisses it and lays it aside; he goes to the right side of the altar. (At Hierarchal Liturgies, the omofor goes on the bishop.)

Pp: Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

P: With these blessed powers, O Master Who lovest mankind, we also cry aloud and say: Holy art Thou—truly most holy—and there are no bounds to the magnificence of Thy holiness. Thou art gracious in all Thy deeds, for with righteousness and true judgment Thou hast ordered all things for us.

When Thou didst create man by taking dust from the earth, and didst honor him with Thine own image, O God, Thou didst set him in a paradise of delight, promising him eternal life and the enjoyment of everlasting blessings in the observance of Thy Commandments. But when man disobeyed Thee, the true God Who had created him, and was deceived by the guile of the serpent, becoming subject to death through his own transgressions, Thou, O God, in Thy righteous judgment, didst send him forth from paradise into this world, returning him to the earth from which he was taken, yet providing for him the salvation of regeneration in Thy Christ Himself.

For Thou didst not turn Thyself away forever from Thy creature, whom Thou hadst made, O Good One, nor didst Thou forget the works of Thy hands. Through the tender compassion of Thy mercy, Thou didst visit him in various ways: Thou didst send prophets: Thou didst perform mighty works by Thy saints,

who in every generation were well-pleasing to Thee; Thou didst speak to us by the mouth of Thy servants the prophets, foretelling to us the salvation which was to come; Thou didst give us the law as a help; Thou didst appoint angels as guardians.

And when the fullness of time had come, Thou didst speak to us through Thy Son Himself, by Whom Thou didst also make the ages; Who, being the Radiance of Thy glory and the Image of Thy person, upholding all things by the word of His power, thought it not robbery to be equal to Thee, the God and Father. He was God before the ages, yet He appeared on earth and lived among men, becoming incarnate of a holy Virgin; He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being likened to the body of our lowliness, that He might liken us to the image of His glory.

For as by man sin entered into the world, and by sin death, so it pleased Thine only-begotten Son, Who was in the bosom of Thee, the God and Father, Who was born of a woman, the holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, Who was born under the law to condemn sin in His flesh, so that those who were dead in Adam might be made alive in Thy Christ Himself. He lived in this world and gave us commandments of salvation; releasing us from the delusions of idolatry, He brought us to knowledge of Thee, the true God and Father. He obtained us for His own chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. Having cleansed us in water, and sanctified us with the Holy Spirit, He gave Himself as a ransom to death, in which we were held captive, sold under sin.

Descending through the Cross into hell—that he might fill all things with Himself—He loosed the pangs of death. He arose on the third day, having made for all flesh a path to the resurrection from the dead, since it was not possible for the Author of Life to be a victim of corruption. So He became the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep, the first-born of the dead, that He might be Himself truly the first in all things. Ascending into heaven, He sat down at the right hand of Thy majesty on high, and He will come to render to every man according to his works. And as memorials of His saving Passion, He has left us these things which we have set forth according to His command. For when He was about to go forth to His voluntary and ever-memorable and life-creating death—in the night in which He gave Himself up for the life of the world—He took bread into His holy and pure hands; and having shown it to Thee, the God and Father, having given thanks, blessed and hallowed it, and broken it,

He gave it to his holy disciples and apostles, saying: Take! Eat! This is My Body which is broken for you for the remission of sins.

Pp: Amen.

As the priest says the above words, the deacon points to the paten with his stole.

P: Likewise He took the cup of the fruit of the vine, and having mingled it and given thanks, blessed and hallowed it,

He gave it to his holy disciples and apostles, saying: Drink of it, all of you! This is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins!

As the priest says the above words, the deacon points to the chalice with his stole.

Pp: Amen.

P: Do this in remembrance of Me! For as often as you eat this Bread and drink this Cup, you proclaim My Death, you confess My Resurrection. Therefore, we also, O Master, remembering His saving Passion and life-creating Cross, His three-day Burial and Resurrection from the dead, the Ascension into heaven and Sitting at the right hand of God and Father, and His glorious and awesome Second Coming:

The deacon crosses his right hand over his left, and elevates the Holy Gifts.

P: Thine own of Thine own we offer unto Thee, on behalf of all and for all.

Pp: We praise Thee. We bless Thee. We give thanks unto Thee, O Lord. And we pray unto Thee, our God.

The priest and the deacon bow three times before the holy altar as they say:

P: *O Lord, Who didst send down Thy Most Holy Spirit upon Thine apostles at the third hour: Take Him not from us, O Good One, but renew Him in us who pray to Thee.*

D: *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.*

P: *O Lord, Who didst send down Thy Most Holy Spirit upon Thine apostles at the third hour: Take Him not from us, O Good One, but renew Him in us who pray to Thee.*

D: *Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.*

P: *O Lord, Who didst send down....*

P: Therefore, most holy Master, we also, Thy sinful and unworthy servants, whom Thou hast permitted to serve at Thy holy altar not because of our own righteousness (for we have done nothing good upon the earth), but because of Thy mercy and compassion (which Thou hast so richly poured out on us), we now dare to approach Thy holy altar and, offering to Thee the antitypes of the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ, we pray Thee and call upon Thee, O Holy of Holies, that by the favor of Thy goodness Thy Holy Spirit may come upon us and upon the gifts now offered, to bless, to hallow, and to show.

The deacon points to the paten, saying:

D: Bless, Master, the Holy Bread.

The priest blessed the Holy Bread with the sign of the Cross, saying:

P: This Bread to be the precious Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Pp: Amen.

The deacon points to the chalice, saying:

D: Bless, Master, the Holy Cup.

The priest blesses the Holy Cup with the Sign of the Cross, saying:

P: And this Cup to be the precious Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Pp: Amen.

P: Shed for the life of the world.

Pp: Amen.

The deacon points to both, saying:

D: Bless both, Master.

The priest blesses the Holy Gifts, saying:

P: Making the change by Thy Holy Spirit.

Pp: Amen! Amen! Amen!

The deacon bows his head to the priest and says:

D: *Remember me, a sinner, holy Master.*

P: *May the Lord God remember you in His Kingdom always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

D: *Amen.*

If a priest had been ordained at this same Liturgy, the bishop now summons him, and taking the Holy Bread, and breaking the portion XC from the top thereof, where the cross is, he gives it to him, saying:

B: Receive this pledge, and preserve it whole and unharmed until your last breath, because you shall be held to an accounting therefor in the second and terrible Coming of our great Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ.

And taking it, the priest kisses the bishop's hand, and withdrawing he stands behind the Holy Altar; and placing his hand on the Holy Altar, he prays, saying:

P: Have mercy on me, O God... Psalm 51

The celebrant makes a low bow before the holy altar and continues praying:

P: And unite all of us to one another who become partakers of the one Bread and Cup in the communion of the Holy Spirit. Grant that none of us may partake of the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ for judgment or condemnation. Instead, may we find mercy and grace with all the saints who through the ages have been well-pleasing to Thee: ancestors, fathers, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, preachers, evangelists, martyrs, confessors, teachers, and every righteous spirit made perfect in faith.

As he receives the censer, the priest continues:

P: Especially for our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

Subdeacons blow out Trikiri and Dikiri.

Pp: All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace, the assembly of angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child--our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. Glory to you!

On Holy Thursday:

Come, O faithful! Let us enjoy the Master's hospitality: the Banquet of Immortality! In the Upper chamber with uplifted minds, let us receive the exalted words of the Word, Whom we magnify!

On Holy Saturday:

Do not lament Me, O Mother, seeing Me in the tomb; the Son conceived in the womb without seed. For I shall arise, and be glorified with eternal glory as God. I shall exalt all who magnify you in faith and in love.

During the singing of the above hymn, the priest continues praying:

P: With the holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John; the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; Saint ____, whom we commemorate today; and with all Thy saints. By their prayers, visit us, O God.

For the salvation, visitation, and remission of sins, of the servants of God ____.

Remember all those who have fallen asleep before us in the hope of resurrection to eternal life, especially ____; grant them rest in forgiveness of soul, O our God, in a place where there is no sighing or sorrow, but where the light of Thy countenance shines on them.

Again we entreat Thee: Remember, O Lord, Thy Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, which is from end to end of the universe; give peace to her whom Thou hast obtained with the precious Blood of Thy Christ; also preserve this holy house until the end of the world. Remember, O Lord, those who offered

Thee these gifts, and those for whom and through whom they offered them, and their intentions. Remember, O Lord, those who bring offerings and do good in Thy holy churches, and those who remember the poor; reward them with Thy rich and heavenly gifts; for their earthly, temporal, and corruptible gifts, do Thou grant them Thy heavenly ones, eternal and incorruptible.

Remember, O Lord, those who are in the desert, mountains, caverns and pits of the earth. Remember, O Lord, those who live in chastity and godliness, in austerity and holiness of life. Remember, O Lord, this country and all civil authorities; grant them a secure and lasting peace; speak good things into their hearts concerning Thy Church and all Thy people, that we, in their tranquility, may lead a calm and peaceful life in all godliness and sanctity. Remember, O Lord, every principality and authority; our brothers who serve in the government and the armed forces. Preserve the good in goodness, and make the evil be good by Thy goodness. Remember, O Lord, the people here present and also those who are absent for honorable reasons. Have mercy on them and on us according to the multitude of Thy mercies. Fill their treasuries with every good thing; preserve their marriages in peace and harmony; raise the infants; guide the young; support the aged; encourage the faint-hearted; reunite the separated; lead back those who are in error and join them to Thy Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church; free those who are held captive by unclean spirits; sail with those who sail; travel with those who travel by land and by air; defend the widows; protect the orphans; free the captives; heal the sick. Remember, O God, those who are in courts, in mines, in exile, in harsh labor, and those in any kind of affliction, necessity, or distress.

Remember, O Lord, our God, all those who entreat Thy great loving-kindness; those who love us and those who hate us; those who have asked us to pray for them, unworthy though we be; and remember all Thy people, O Lord, our God. Pour out Thy rich mercy upon all of them, granting them all the petitions which are for their salvation. And remember, Thyself, O God, all those whom we have not remembered through ignorance, forgetfulness or the multitude of names; since Thou knowest the name and age of each, even from his mother's womb. For Thou, O Lord, art the Helper of the helpless, the Hope of the hopeless, the Savior of the bestormed, the Haven of the voyager, the Physician of the sick. Be all things to all men, O Thou Who knowest each man and his request, his home and his need. Deliver this city, O Lord, and every city and country, from famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, invasion by enemies, and civil war.

If a bishop is the celebrant, the omoforion is taken off and the proto-deacon, standing at the Royal Doors and facing the people, says:

D: And all mankind.

Pp: And all mankind.

B: Among the first, remember, O Lord, our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [our Metropolitan ____,] our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____, and the Most Holy Synod of Bishops. Grant them for Thy holy churches in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, rightly to define the word of Thy truth.

The senior priest then says:

P: Have in remembrance, O Lord, His Grace, our Bishop, ____. Grant him for Thy holy Church in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, rightly to define the word of Thy truth.

He kisses the bishop's mitre, and the bishop blesses him, saying:

B: May the Lord God remember your priesthood.

The proto-deacon, first turning to the people:

D: The Most Holy Synod, our Metropolitan, and our Bishop ____, who offers these Holy Gifts unto the Lord our God.

For the salvation of the President of the United States and for all the armed forces.

The proto-deacon then commemorates the living. At the end the people sing:

Pp: And all mankind.

P: Among the first, remember, O Lord, our great lord and father, the Most holy Patriarch Alexis, [our Metropolitan ____.] our most Reverend (Arch)Bishop ____. Grant them for Thy holy churches in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, rightly to define the word of Thy truth.

Pp: And all mankind.

P: Remember, O Lord, all the Orthodox Episcopate, who rightly define the word of Thy truth. Remember, O Lord, my unworthiness also, by the multitude of Thy compassions; forgive my every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary. Because of my sins, do not withhold the grace of Thy Holy Spirit from these Gifts here set forth. Remember, O Lord, the priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and every order of the clergy. Let none of us who stand about Thy holy altar be put to confusion. Visit us with Thy loving kindness, O Lord; manifest Thyself to us through Thy rich compassions. Grant us seasonable and healthful weather; send gentle showers upon the earth so that it may bear fruit; bless the crown of the year with Thy goodness. Prevent schisms among the churches; pacify the ragings of the pagans; quickly destroy the uprisings of heresies by the power of Thy Holy Spirit. Receive us all into Thy kingdom, showing us to be sons of the light and sons of the day. Grant us Thy peace and Thy love, O Lord our God, for Thou hast given all things to us.

The priest remembers by name the living faithful:

P: And grant that with one mouth and one heart we may praise Thine all-honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The priest blesses the people:

P: And the mercies of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ shall be with all of you.

Pp: And with your spirit.

(Here deacons are ordained.)

The Litany Before the Lord's Prayer

D: Having remembered all the saints, again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For the precious Gifts now offered and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That our God Who loves mankind, receiving them upon His holy, heavenly, and ideal altar as a sweet spiritual fragrance, will send down upon us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Pp: Grant it, O Lord.

D: Having asked for the unity of the Faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life until Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: O our God, the God of Salvation, do Thou teach us to thank Thee worthily for the benefits which Thou hast performed for us and still performest with us. Having accepted these gifts, O our God, do Thou purify us from every defilement of flesh and spirit, and teach us how to perfect our sanctification, in Thy fear, so that receiving a portion of Thy holy things with a pure conscience we may be united with the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ. Having received them worthily, may we have Christ dwelling in our hearts, and may we become the Temple of Thy Holy Spirit. Yes, O our God, let none of us be guilty of these, Thy awesome and heavenly Mysteries, nor be infirm in soul and body by partaking of them unworthily. But, enable us, even to our last breath, to receive a portion of Thy holy things worthily, as a support on the road to eternal life and an acceptable defense at the dread judgment seat of Thy Christ. That we also, together with all the saints who through the ages have been well pleasing to Thee, may become partakers of Thy eternal good things, which Thou hast prepared for those who love Thee, O Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

- P: And make us worthy, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call on Thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:
- Pp: 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 day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
- P: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of age.
- Pp: Amen.
- P: Peace be to all.
- Pp: And with your spirit.
- D: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.
- Pp: To Thee, O Lord.
- P: O Master, Lord, Father of compassions and God of every consolation: Bless, sanctify, guard, strengthen, and confirm those who have bowed their heads to Thee. Withdraw them from every evil deed; apply them to every good work and make them worthy to partake without condemnation of these, Thy most-pure and life-creating Mysteries, for remission of sins and for the communion of the Holy Spirit.
- P: Through the grace and compassion and love toward mankind of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
- Pp: Amen.
- P: Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, out of Thy holy dwelling place from the throne of glory of Thy Kingdom; and come to sanctify us, O Thou Who sittest on high with the Father, and art here invisibly present with us; and by Thy mighty hand impart unto us Thy most pure Body and precious Blood, and through us to all the people.

The deacon crosses his stole over his shoulders. The priest makes three low bows before the holy altar, saying each time:

P: *O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me.*

The priest takes up the Holy Bread in both hands and elevates it above the altar.

If a priest was ordained at this Liturgy, he who has received ordination returns the bread to the bishop and the bishop lays it on the holy paten, and the newly ordained priest receives the Eucharist before the other priests.

D: Let us attend!

P: The Holy Things for the Holy!

Pp: One is Holy. One is the Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Communion verse is now sung. On Sunday, it is usually:

Pp: Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

On Holy Thursday, it is:

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee; Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

During the Communion of the clergy, a hymn is sung according to local customs. In many parishes today, the prayer before Communion is recited together by the clergy and people before the hymn.

The Communion of the Clergy

The deacon returns to the sanctuary and stands on the right side of the priest.

D: *Divide, Master, the Holy Bread.*

The priest divides the Holy Bread into four parts, with proper reverence.

P: *Divided and distributed is the Lamb of God; Who is divided, yet not disunited; Who is ever eaten, yet never consumed; but sanctifying those who partake thereof.*

The priest arranges the pieces on the rim of the paten in the form of a cross:



The portion IC is placed in the chalice. The portion XC is for the communion of the celebrants. The other two portions, NI and KA, are broken for the communion of the faithful.

D: *Fill, Master, the Holy Cup.*

As the priest places the portion IC into the chalice, the priest makes the sign of the Cross with it over the chalice, saying:

P: *The fullness of the Holy Spirit.*

D: *Amen.*

Bless, Master, the warm water.

The priest blesses the warm water, saying:

P: *Blessed is the warmth of Thy holy things, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.*

The deacon pours a sufficient quantity of water into the chalice cross-wise, saying:

D: *The warmth of faith, full of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

The priest turns towards the people and asks for forgiveness before receiving the Eucharist. The priest breaks the portion XC into a number of pieces corresponding to the number of clergy receiving.

P: *Deacon, draw near.*

The deacon approaches and bows, asking forgiveness; he then kisses the altar and says:

D: *Give me, Master, the precious and holy Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.*

The priest gives the deacon a portion of the Holy Bread, saying:

P: *To the deacon ___ is given the precious, holy, and most pure Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of his sins, and unto life everlasting.*

The deacon kisses the priest's hand as he receives the Holy Bread, and goes behind the holy altar and prays with bowed head:

D: *I believe, O Lord, and I confess...*

As the priest takes a portion of the Holy Bread for himself, he prays:

P: The precious and most holy Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ is given unto me, the unworthy priest ___ for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting.

Modern day practice is for both clergy and people to recite the following prayer together at this time:

Pp: I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first.

I believe also that this is truly Thine own most pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore, I pray Thee: have mercy on me and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mysteries to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body.

After partaking of the Holy Bread and before drinking of the Holy Cup, he says:

P: The precious and holy Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ is given unto me, the unworthy priest ___, for the remission of sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

He drinks of the Cup three times, saying:

P: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

The priest cleans the chalice and his lips with the veil, and says:

P: *Lo, this has touched my lips, and shall take away my iniquities, and cleanse my sins.*

The priest then summons the deacon:

P: *Deacon, draw near.*

The deacon approaches and bows once, saying:

D: Low, I draw near unto the immortal King and our God. Give unto me, Master, the precious and holy Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The priest holds the chalice and says:

P: The servant of God, Deacon ___, partakes of the precious and holy Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of his sins, and unto life everlasting.

When the deacon has partaken, the priest says:

P: *Lo, this has touched your lips, and shall take away your iniquities, and cleanse your sins.*

People's Communion

The priest divides the portions NI and KA of the Holy Lamb and puts them into the chalice for the communion of the people; the chalice is covered with a veil. The deacon takes the chalice and goes through the Royal Doors and says:

D: In the fear of God, and with faith draw near!

Pp: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

If the Communion Prayer on page 70, 125 have not yet been recited by the people, the priest leads them in it now.

The priest communicates those who are prepared to receive the Mystery, saying to each person:

P: The servant [handmaid] of God ___ partakes of the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins and unto life everlasting.

The deacon cleans the lips of each communicant as he (she) receives. Meanwhile the people sing:

Pp: Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality.

On Holy Thursday, the people sing:

Pp: Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief I will confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!

After all have been communicated, the celebrants return to the sanctuary and replace the chalice on the altar.

Pp: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The deacon holds the paten over the chalice as he says these Hymns of the Resurrection:

D: *Having beheld the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Thy resurrection; for Thou are our God and we know no other than Thee; we call on Thy name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His resurrection, for by enduring the Cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.*

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha, O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God: grant that we may more perfectly partake of Thee in the never-ending day of Thy Kingdom.

As the deacon wipes the remaining particles from the paten into the chalice, he says:

D: *Wash away, O Lord, the sins of all those remembered here, by Thy precious Blood; through the prayers of Thy saints.*

The priest blesses the people, saying:

P: O God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

Pp: We have seen the true Light! We have received the heavenly Spirit! We have found the true Fath! Worshiping the undivided Trinity, Who has saved us.

The priest covers the chalice with one veil. He puts all the others on the paten, and covers this also. He censes the chalice three times, saying:

P: Be Thou exalted, O God, above all the heavens, and Thy glory over all the earth.

The priest places the paten on the deacon's head; the deacon carries it with reverence to the Table of Preparation. The priest takes the chalice in his right hand, and says, as he faces the people:

P: *Blessed is our God*

Always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The priest carries the chalice to the Table of Preparation and then censes it three times.

Pp: Amen. Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Thy glory; for Thou hast made us worthy to partake of Thy holy, divine, immortal, and life-creating Mysteries. Keep us in Thy holiness, that all the day we may meditate upon Thy righteousness. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

On Holy Thursday:

Pp: Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief I will confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!

The deacon goes to his place for the Litany; the priest returns to the altar and folds up the antimimension.

The Litany of Thanksgiving

D: Let us attend! Having partaken of the divine, holy, most pure, immortal, heavenly, life-creating, and awesome Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

D: Asking that the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Pp: To Thee, O Lord.

P: We thank Thee, O Lord our God, for the participation in Thy holy, most pure, immortal, and heavenly Mysteries, which Thou hast granted us for the good and sanctification and healing of our souls and bodies. Do Thou, O Master of all, grant that the communion of the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ may be to us for a faith unashamed, a love unfeigned, an increase of wisdom, the healing of soul and body, the repelling of every adversary, the observing of Thy commandments, and an acceptable defense at the dread judgment seat of Thy Christ.

The priest, having folded up the antimimension, makes the Sign of the Cross over it with the Holy Gospel as he exclaims:

P: For Thou art our Sanctification, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

The Prayer Before The Ambo

P: Let us depart in peace.

Pp: In the name of the Lord.

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

Pp: Lord, have mercy.

P: O Lord, Who blessest those who bless Thee, and sanctifies those who trust in Thee, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Preserve the fullness of Thy Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Thy house; glorify them in return by Thy divine power, and forsake us not who put our hope in Thee. Give peace to Thy world, to Thy churches, to Thy priests, to all those in civil authority, and to all Thy people. For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from Thee, the Father of Lights, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, thanksgiving, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

On the feast of St. Basil only, the following prayer is prescribed: For other prescribed prayers, see page 233

O Thou Who for a sacrifice of praise and a well-pleasing worship acceptest this rational and unbloody sacrifice from those who with their whole heart call upon Thee, O Christ our God, the Lamb and Son of God, Which takest away the sin of the world, the blameless Calf, Which receivest not the yoke of sin,

and wast sacrificed for us voluntarily; which are broken, yet not severed, which art eaten, yet never consumed, but sanctifying those who partake thereof; Who in remembrance of Thy voluntary Passion, and life-giving Resurrection on the third day, hast made us communicants of Thine ineffable, and heavenly, and terrible Mysteries, Thy holy Body and Thy precious Blood; keep us Thy servants and ministers, and all civil authorities, and our Armed Forces, and all the people here present, in Thy sanctification, and grant us at every time and season to meditate on Thy righteousness, that being led according to Thy will and doing the things that well-please Thee, we may become worthy of a place also at Thy right hand when Thou shall come to judge the living and the dead; rescue those of our brethren [and sisters] who are captives; visit those in sickness; pilot those in peril on the sea; and give repose where the light of Thy countenance shines, to the souls of those who have gone before us to their rest in the hope of resurrection unto life everlasting; and hearken to all who beseech Thine aid; for Thou art the giver of all good things, and to Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thine unoriginate Father, and Thine all-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (3x)

Some parishes add the following from Psalm 34:

- ¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- ²My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the afflicted hear and be glad.
- ³O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!
- ⁴I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
- ⁵Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- ⁶This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him,
and saved him out of all his troubles.
- ⁷The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- ⁸O taste and see that the LORD is good!
Happy is the man who takes refuge in him!
- ⁹O fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no want!
- ¹⁰The young lions suffer want and hunger;
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Having completed the prayer, the deacon, holding the stole, stands with bowed head before the holy icon of Our Lord Jesus Christ until the conclusion of the prayer before the Ambo. The priest enters the sanctuary through the Holy Doors, and going to the Table of Oblation, silent says the following prayer:

P: The mystery of Thy dispensation, O Christ our God, has been accomplished and perfected as far as it was in our power; for we have had the memorial of Thy death; we have seen the type of Thy Resurrection; we have been filled with Thine unending life; we have enjoyed Thine inexhaustible food; which in the world to come be well-pleased to vouchsafe to us all, through the grace of Thine eternal Father, and Thine holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The deacon, entering through a side door, consumes the Holy Gifts with all reverence and awe.

The priest blesses the people, saying:

P: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Pp: Amen.

P: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee!

Pp: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. (3x)
Father [Master], bless.

P: May (Sunday: He Who rose from the dead,) Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople; of Saint ___ of the church; of Saint ___, whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

The people come to venerate the Cross and receive the Antidoron Bread. Those who receive the Holy Mysteries read the Prayers of Thanksgiving.

Prayers in Preparation for Holy Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, through the prayers of Thy most pure Mother and all the saints, have mercy on us.

A priest uses the following:

Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth Who art everywhere and fillest all things, Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most holy Trinity: have mercy on us. O Lord: cleanse us from our sins. O Master: pardon our transgressions. O Holy One: visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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 day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

If there is a priest, he adds the usual exclamation:

P: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

When the Prayers in Preparation for Holy Communion are read immediately after Morning Prayers, we begin the former at this point.

Come, let us worship God our King!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

Psalm 22(23)

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want;

²he makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil;
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff,
they comfort me.

⁵Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil,
my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for ever.

Psalm 23(24)

¹The earth is the LORD's and the fulness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein;

²for he has founded it upon the seas,
and established it upon the rivers.

³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false,
and does not swear deceitfully.

⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD,
and vindication from the God of his salvation.

⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

⁸Who is the King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!

Psalm 115(116)

¹⁰I kept my faith, even when I said,
"I am greatly afflicted";

¹¹I said in my consternation,
"Men are all a vain hope."

¹²What shall I render to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

¹³I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,

¹⁴I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.

¹⁶O LORD, I am thy servant;
I am thy servant, the son of thy handmaid.
Thou hast loosed my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁸I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

Tone 8

Disregard my iniquities, O Lord Who wast born of a Virgin! Cleanse my heart and make it a temple of Thy most pure Body and Blood. Turn me not away from Thy countenance, for Thy great mercy is immeasurable.

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

How dare I partake of Thy Holiness in my unworthiness? Even if I dare to approach Thee with the worthy, my garment accuses me, for it is not a wedding garment, and I secure the condemnation of my most sinful soul. Cleanse, O Lord, the defilement of my soul and save me, for Thou lovest mankind.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Great is the multitude of my sins, O Theotokos! I come to you, O Pure One, in need of salvation. Visit my ailing soul, O you who alone are blessed, and pray to your Son and our God that He absolve the evil I have done.

On Great and Holy Thursday, the following Troparion is used, in Tone 8:

When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the washing of their feet, before the supper, then the impious Judas was darkened, ailing with avarice, and to the lawless judges he betrayed Thee, the Righteous Judge. Behold, O lover of money, this man who because of money hanged himself. Flee from the greedy soul which dared such things against the Master. O Lord Who art good towards all men, glory to Thee!

If the Canon of Preparation for Holy Communion has not been read the preceding evening, it may be read here.

Lord, have mercy. (40x)

The above are said with as many prostrations as desired. Then we read the following Verses of Instruction:

When you intend, O man, to eat the Master's Body, approach with fear, lest you be burned—for It is fire!

Before drinking the Divine Blood in Communion, make peace with those who have grieved you.

Only then may you dare to eat the Mystical Food.

Before partaking of the Dread Sacrifice, the life-giving Body of the Master, pray, trembling, in this manner:

A Prayer of St. Basil the Great

O Lord and Master Jesus Christ our God, the fountain of life and immortality, the Creator of everything visible and invisible, the eternal and everlasting Son of the eternal Father, Thou hast come in these latter days because of the abundance of Thy goodness, Thou hast put on our human flesh and wast crucified and buried for us thankless and graceless men, and through Thine own blood Thou hast renewed our human nature which is corrupted by sin. And now, O Immortal King, accept the repentance of me a sinner and incline Thine ear to me and listen to my words:

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned before heaven and before Thy face, and I am not worthy to look upon the height of Thy Glory.

I have provoked Thy goodness, I have transgressed Thy commandments, I have not obeyed Thy statutes.

But, O Lord, since Thou dost not remember evil, but art long-suffering and of great mercy, Thou hast not given me over to destruction for my lawlessness, but hast ever awaited my conversion.

O Lover of men, Thou hast said by Thy prophets: "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live."

For Thou dost not wish, O Master, that the work of Thy hands should perish, neither dost Thou take pleasure in the destruction of men, but Thou desire that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

Therefore, although I am unworthy both of heaven and of earth and of this passing life, having wholly yielded myself to sin and defiled Thine image, yet being Thy creature and of Thy making, I do not despair of my salvation in my wretchedness. But made bold by Thine infinite compassion, I draw near.

Receive me, O Christ Who lovest all men, as Thou didst receive the prostitute, the thief, the tax collector, and the prodigal. Take away the heavy burden of my sins, for Thou takest away the sins of the world. Thou healest the infirmities of men. Thou callest to Thyself and givest rest to those who labor and are heavy laden.

Thou hast not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Cleanse me from every stain of flesh and spirit. Teach me to fulfill holiness in fear of Thee. That having the testimony of my own conscience clean, and having communion of Thy holy things, I may be united with Thy Body and Blood and may have Thee to dwell and abide in me, with the Father and Thy Holy Spirit.

O Lord Jesus Christ my God, may the communion of Thy most pure and life-creating mysteries not bring me into judgment, nor may I become weak in soul and body by partaking in an unworthy manner, but grant me to receive communion of Thy holy things without condemnation even to my very last breath, and by them to receive communion of the Holy Spirit, provision for the journey of eternal life, and an acceptable answer at Thy dread judgment seat; that I, together with all Thy chosen ones, may also be a partaker of the incorruptible blessings which Thou hast prepared for those who love Thee, O Lord, in whom Thou art glorified forever. Amen.

A Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

O Lord my God, I know that I am not worthy nor sufficiently pleasing that Thou shouldst come under the roof of the house of my soul for it is entirely desolate and fallen in ruin and Thou wilt not find in me a place worthy to lay Thy head. But as Thou didst humble Thyself from on high for our sake, so now humble Thyself to my lowliness.

As Thou didst deign to lie in a cavern, in a manger of dumb beasts, so now deign to enter into the manger of my beastly soul, and into my soiled body.

And as Thou didst not disdain to enter and to eat with sinners in the house of Simon the leper, so now be pleased to enter into the house of my soul, humble and leprous and sinful.

And as Thou didst not cast out the prostitute, the sinful woman who came to touch Thee, so have compassion on me a sinner who comes to touch Thee.

And as Thou didst not abhor the kiss of her sin-stained and unclean mouth, do not abhor my mouth, worse stained and more unclean than hers, nor my stained and shamed and unclean lips, nor my still more impure tongue.

But let the fiery coal of Thy most pure Body and Thy most precious Blood bring me sanctification, enlightenment, and strengthening of my lowly soul and body, relief from the burden of my many transgressions, protection against every action of the devil, repulsion and victory over my wicked and evil habits, mortification of my passions, accomplishment of Thy commandments, increase of Thy divine grace, and inheritance of Thy kingdom.

For I do not come to Thee in presumption, O Christ my God, but make bold by Thine unspeakable goodness, lest I stray far away from Thy flock, O Master, and become caught by the wolf of souls.

Therefore, I pray Thee, O Master, for Thou alone art holy, sanctify my soul and body, my mind and heart, my muscles and bones. Renew me entirely, implant Thy fear in my fleshly members and let Thy sanctification never be removed from me.

Be my helper and defender, guide my life in peace and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand with all Thy saints.

By the prayers and supplications of Thy most pure Mother, of Thy spiritual servants, the most pure angelic powers, and of all the saints who from all ages have been well-pleasing to Thee. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Simeon Metaphrastes

O only pure and incorruptible Lord, because of the unspeakable mercy of Thy love for mankind, Thou didst take to Thyself our entire human composition from the pure blood of the Virgin who gave birth to Thee beyond nature, by the descent of the Holy Spirit and the good-will of the ever-existing Father.

O Christ Jesus, Wisdom of God and Peace and Power, through the human nature which Thou didst take to Thyself, Thou didst suffer the life-creating and saving passion: the cross, the nails, the spear, death itself. Put to death in me the soul-destroying passions of the body.

Through Thy burial Thou didst capture the kingdom of death. Bury in me the evil devices of the devil with good thoughts, and destroy the spirits of evil.

Through Thy life-bringing resurrection Thou didst raise up the first father who had fallen. Raise me up who am sunk down in sin and give me the image of repentance.

Through Thy glorious ascension Thou didst make the flesh which Thou didst assume to be divine, and placed it on the throne at the Father's right hand. Grant me to receive a place at the right hand with the saved through communion of Thy holy mysteries.

Through the coming of Thy Spirit, the Comforter, Thou didst make Thy consecrated disciples to be honorable vessels. Show me also to be the receptacle of His coming.

Thou has promised to come again to judge the world in righteousness. Grant that I may go to meet Thee in the clouds, my judge and creator, with all Thy saints; that I may glorify and praise Thee without end, together with Thy Father who is without beginning, and Thy most holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. John of Damascus

O Lord and Master Jesus Christ our God, Who alone hast power to absolve men from their sins, forgive all my transgressions done in knowledge or in ignorance, and make me worthy without condemnation to have communion of Thy divine and glorious and pure and life-creating mysteries, for Thou art good and lovest all men. Let them not be for my punishment, or for the increase of my sins. But let them be for my purification and sanctification, as a promise of the life and kingdom to come, a defense and a help and a repulsion of every evil attacker and the removal of my many transgressions. For Thou art a God of mercy and generosity and love for mankind, and to Thee we send up glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Basil the Great

I know, O Lord, that I have communion unworthily of Thy most pure Body and Thy most precious Blood, that I am guilty and drink condemnation to myself not discerning Thy Body and Blood, O my Christ and God. But daring upon Thy generous loving-kindness I come to Thee Who hast said: "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him." Be merciful, therefore, O Lord, and do not rebuke me a sinner, but deal with me according to Thy mercy, and let Thy holy things be for my purification and healing, for enlightenment and protection, for the repulsion of every tempting thought and action of the devil which works spiritually in my fleshly members. Let them be for boldness and love for Thee, for the correction and grounding of my life, for the increase of virtue and perfection, for the fulfillment of Thy commandments, for the communion of the Holy Spirit, for the journey of eternal life, for a good and acceptable answer at Thy dread judgment, but not for judgment or condemnation. Amen.

O God, absolve, remit and pardon me my transgressions; as many sins as I have committed by word or action or thought, willingly or unwillingly, consciously or unconsciously; forgive me everything since Thou art good and the lover of men. And by the prayers of Thy most pure Mother, of Thy spiritual servants, the holy angelic powers and all the saints, who from all ages have been well-pleasing to Thee, be pleased to allow me to receive Thy most pure Body and Thy most precious Blood for the healing of my soul and body, and the purification of my evil thoughts. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

I am not worthy, Master and Lord, that Thou shouldst enter under the roof of my soul; yet inasmuch as Thou desirest to live in me as the lover of men, I approach with boldness. Thou hast commanded: Let the doors be opened which Thou Thyself alone hast made and Thou shalt enter with Thy love for men just as Thou art. Thou shalt enter and enlighten my darkened reasoning. I believe that Thou wilt do this. For Thou didst not cast away the prostitute who came to Thee with tears, neither didst Thou turn away the tax-collector who repented, nor didst Thou reject the thief who acknowledged Thy kingdom, nor didst Thou forsake the repentant persecutor, the Apostle Paul, even as he was. But all who came to Thee in repentance Thou didst unite to the ranks of Thy friends, who alone art blessed forever, now and unto the endless ages. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ my God, absolve, loose, cleanse and forgive me Thy sinful and useless and unworthy servant my errors, transgressions and sinful failings as many as I have committed from my youth up to this present day and hour, consciously and unconsciously, in words or actions or reasonings, thoughts, pursuits and in all my senses. By the prayers of Thy mother the most pure and ever-virgin Mary who gave birth to Thee without human seed, my only hope which will not put me to shame, my intercessor and salvation, grant me to have communion without condemnation of Thy most pure, immortal, life-creating and awesome mysteries ; for the remission of sins and unto life everlasting; for sanctification, enlightenment, strength, healing and health of soul and body for the most perfect removal and destruction of my evil thoughts and reasonings and intentions, fantasies by night, brought by dark and evil spirits; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory and the honor and the worship with the Father and Thy Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer of St. John of Damascus

I stand before the doors of Thy temple and I do not forsake my wicked thoughts. But, O Christ my God, as Thou hast justified the tax-collector, and hast had mercy on the woman of Canaan and hast opened the gates of paradise to the thief, open to me the interior depths of Thy love for men and receive me as I come and repent before Thee. Receive me as Thou didst receive the sinful woman and the woman with the flow of blood. For the first embraced Thy most pure feet and received the forgiveness of her sins, and the second just touched the hem of Thy garment and received healing. But I who am lost, daring to receive Thy whole body, may I not be burned; but receive me as Thou hast received them, and enlighten my spiritual senses, burning up my sinful faults by the prayers of her who gave birth to Thee without human seed, and of the heavenly angelic powers, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ the Son of the living God who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own most pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore, I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.

May the communion of Thy holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body.

Prayers of Thanksgiving After Communion

Glory to Thee, O God. (3x)

I thank Thee, O Lord my God, for Thou hast not rejected me, a sinner, but hast made me worthy to be a partaker of Thy holy things. I thank Thee, for Thou hast permitted me, the unworthy, to commune of Thy most pure and heavenly Gifts. But, O Master Who lovest mankind, Who for our sakes didst die and rise again, and gavest us these awesome and life-creating Mysteries for the good and sanctification of our souls and bodies; let them be for the healing of soul and body, the repelling of every adversary, the illumining of the eyes of my heart, the peace of my spiritual powers, a faith unashamed, a love unfeigned, the fulfilling of wisdom, the observing of Thy commandments, the receiving of Thy divine grace, and the attaining of Thy Kingdom. Preserved by them in Thy holiness, may I always remember Thy grace and live not for myself alone, but for Thee, our Master and Benefactor. May I pass from this life in the hope of eternal life, and so attain to the everlasting rest, where the voice of those who feast is unceasing and the gladness of those who behold the goodness of Thy countenance is unending. For Thou art the true desire and the ineffable joy of those who love Thee, O Christ our God, and all creation sings Thy praise forever. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Basil The Great

O Master Christ our God, King of the Ages, Maker of all things: I thank Thee for all the good things Thou hast given me, especially for the communion with Thy most pure and life-creating Mysteries. I pray Thee, O gracious Lover of Man: preserve me under Thy protection, beneath the shadow of Thy wings. Enable me, even to my last breath, to partake worthily and with a pure conscience of Thy holy things, for the remission of sins and unto life eternal. For Thou art the Bread of Life, the Fountain of Holiness, the Giver of all Good; to Thee we ascribe glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Simeon Metaphrastes

Freely Thou hast given me Thy Body for my food, O Thou Who art a fire consuming the unworthy. Consume me not, O my Creator, but instead enter into my members, my veins, my heart. Consume the thorns of my transgressions. Cleanse my soul and sanctify my reasonings. Make firm my knees and body. Illumine my five senses. Nail me to the fear of Thee. Always protect, guard, and keep me from soul-destroying words and deeds. Cleanse me, purify me, and adorn me. Give me understanding and illumination. Show me to be a temple of Thy One Spirit, and not the home of many sins. May every evil thing, every carnal passion, flee from me as from a fire as I become Thy tabernacle through communion. I offer Thee as intercessors all the saints: the leaders of the bodiless hosts, Thy Forerunner, the wise apostles, and Thy pure and blameless Mother. Accept their prayers in Thy love, O my Christ, and make me, Thy servant, a child of light. For Thou art the only Sanctification and Light of our souls, O Good One, and to Thee, our Master and God, we ascribe glory day by day.

Another Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ our God: let Thy holy Body be my eternal life; Thy precious Blood, my remission of sins. Let this Eucharist be my joy, health, and gladness. Make me, a sinner, worthy to stand on the right hand of Thy glory at Thine awesome second Coming, through the prayer of Thy most pure Mother and of all the saints.

A Prayer to the Theotokos

O most holy Lady Theotokos, the light of my darkened soul, my hope, my protection, my refuge, my rest, and my joy. I thank you, for you have permitted me, the unworthy, to be a partaker of the most pure Body and precious Blood of your Son. Give the light of understanding to the eyes of my heart, you that gave birth to

the True Light. Enliven me who am deadened by sin, you that gave birth to the Fountain of Immortality. Have mercy on me, O loving Mother of the merciful God. Grant me compunction and contrition of heart, humility in my thoughts, and a release from the slavery of my own reasonings. And enable me, even to my last breath, to receive the sanctification of the most pure Mysteries, for the healing of soul and body. Grant me tears of repentance and confession, that I may glorify you all the days of my life, for you are blessed and greatly glorified forever. Amen.

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people: a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of Thy people, Israel.

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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 day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

The priest gives the exclamation:

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Grace shining forth from your lips like a beacon has enlightened the universe. It has shown to the world the riches of poverty. It has revealed to us the heights of humility. Teaching us by your words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

At the Liturgy of St. Basil:

Your proclamation has gone out into all the earth, for it was divinely taught by hearing your voice. You expounded the nature of creatures and ennobled the manners of men. O holy father of royal priesthood, entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved.

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

You were revealed as the sure foundation of the Church, granting all men a lordship which cannot be taken away, sealing it with your precepts, O venerable and heavenly father.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Steadfast protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to heal our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

The priest pronounces the dismissal.

Sunday Hymns from the Octoechos

Tone 1

Beatitudes

Truly the enemy expelled Adam from Paradise because he ate of the fruit. But Christ, by His Cross, admitted the thief in his place, when the latter cried, "Remember me, O Lord, when thou comest into Thy kingdom."

I bow down to thy Passion; I glorify Thy resurrection; and, with Adam and the thief, cry with plaintive voice, "Remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest into thy kingdom."

Thou wast crucified, O sinless One, and wast placed in a grave. But because Thou art God, Thou didst arise and with thee didst raise Adam, who cried: "Remember me when Thou comest into thy kingdom."

O Christ God, Thou didst raise Thy body on the third day after Thy burial; and Thou didst raise Adam and those who came from Adam, who cried, "Remember us when Thou comest into thy kingdom."

The ointment-bearers came in the early dawn to Thy grave, O Christ God, weeping. And they found an angel sitting, attired in a white robe, who said to them, "What seek ye? Truly, Christ has risen. Weep therefore no more."

O Lord Savior, Thy Disciples went to the mount which Thou didst command them to go. And they had knelt down, Thou didst send them to the gentiles to teach and to baptize them.

Glory : Let us worship the Father, let us glorify the Son, and let us all praise the all-holy Spirit, speaking out and saying, "O Holy Trinity, save us all."

Now.- O Christ, Thy people offer supplications to Thee and to Thy Mother. By her pleadings, O good One, grant us Thy compassion, that we may glorify Thee, O thou who didst shine forth on us from the tomb.

Troparion

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body; Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

Kontakion

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished! Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee: Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 33)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us * as we have set our hope on Thee.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 18)

God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me.

He magnifies the salvation of the king, and deals mercifully with His Christ, with David and his seed forever.

Tone 2

Beatitudes

We come to thee, O Savior, with the voice of the thief, beseeching thee, Remember us in thy kingdom.

We offer to thee for the forgiveness of our sins thy Cross which thou didst accept for our Sake, O Lover Of mankind.

We worship, O Lord, thy Burial, and thy Resurrection, by both of which thou didst deliver the world from Corruption, O Lover of mankind.

Truly, death has been swallowed up by death, O Lord; and by Thy resurrection, O Savior, Thou didst save the world.

When Thou didst arise from the dead Thou didst meet the bearers of ointment; and Thou didst command Thy Disciples to proclaim Thy Resurrection.

They, O Christ, who slumber in darkness, when they beheld Thee, O Light in the abyss of Hades, truly arose.

Glory: Let us glorify the Father, and worship the Son, and praise together with faith the Holy Spirit.

Now: Rejoice, O throne of fiery figures. Rejoice, O bride without bridegroom. Rejoice, O Virgin who gave birth to God for mankind.

Troparion

When Thou didst descent to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Kontakion

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee! And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 118)

The Lord is my strength and my song. * He has become my salvation.

The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 20)

The Lord answers you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protects you!

Save the king, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!

Tone 3

Beatitudes

Truly when Adam, the first ancestor, disobeyed thy commandment, O Christ, thou didst exile him from paradise. But when the thief confessed Thee on the cross O compassionate One, thou didst bring him to dwell (herein, because he cried -out, Remember me O Savior, in thy kingdom.

O life-giving Lord, thou didst condemn us, because We sinned against thee, with the curse of death. But when thou didst suffer in thy blameless body, O Master Thou didst bring to life the dead who cry out to Thee, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

When thou didst rise from the dead, O Lord Savior, thou didst raise us from suffering by thy Resurrection, and didst abolish all the might of death. Wherefore, we shout to thee in faith, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

By thy three-day Burial, thou hast revived the dead who are in Hades, and hast raised them with thee, since thou art God. And since thou art good, thou didst cause incorruption to spring up for us who ever cry to thee in faith, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

Thou didst appear first to the ointment-bearing women, O Christ Savior, when thou didst rise from the dead, and shouted to them, Rejoice; and -through them thou didst proclaim thy Resurrection to thy beloved ones. And therefore we shout to thee in faith, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

Truly, Moses, when he stretched out his hands on the mountain, conquering Amalek, foreshadowed the Cross. As for us, having taken him in faith as a powerful Weapon against demons, we shout together, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

Glory.- Let us, O believers, praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God and one Lord, as from one sun; for the Trinity is truly like the trinity of light, and lights all those who cry to him, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

NOW: Rejoice, O gate of God, through whom the Creator did pass incarnate, preserving thee sealed. Rejoice O bright cloud bearing Christ who is the divine Rain. Rejoice, O heavenly ladder and throne. Rejoice, revered and fat mountain, never ending.

Troparion

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first-born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy!

Kontakion

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 47)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! *Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Clasp your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 31)

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!

Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge, in order to save me!

Tone 4

Beatitudes

Truly, Adam, because of a tree, became estranged from paradise. But the thief because of the tree of the Cross came to reside in paradise. The former, when he tasted of the fruit, disobeyed the commandment of the Creator ; and the latter, when he was crucified with thee, confessed that thou art a God disguised, and cried; Remember me in thy kingdom.

O thou who didst ascend the Cross, and didst annul the power of death, and because thou art God didst expunge the handwriting of the decree against us, give us O Lord the repentance of the thief, O thou who art, alone the Lover of mankind. We who do worship thee in faith cry to thee, O Christ our God, remember us also in thy kingdom.

By the spear of the Cross, O Lord, thou didst tear in pieces the handwriting of the decree against us, and when thou wast numbered amongst the dead, thou didst bind the giant there, freeing us all from the bonds of Hades by thy Resurrection, by which we are illuminated, who cry to thee, O Lover of mankind, remember us also in thy kingdom.

O thou who wast crucified and didst rise from the tomb after three days, since thou art mighty, and didst raise with thee Adam of the first creation, O Lord, who alone art deathless, make me worthy to return with all my heart to repentance, and to cry unto thee always with fervid faith, Remember me, O Savior, in thy kingdom.

He who is free from sufferings became a suffering man for our sakes; and when he was nailed upon the Cross willingly, he did raise us with him. Wherefore, with the Cross do we glorify his Passion and his Resurrection, through which he hath renewed our creation, and by which we are saved, crying, Remember us also in thy kingdom.

Let us pray, O believers, to Him Who is risen from the dead, Who led captive the might of death, Who appeared to the ointment-bearing women, saying to them: "Rejoice," in that He can deliver our souls from corruption, who shout to Him always with the voice of the grateful thief, "Remember us also in Thy kingdom."

Glory: Let us plead that we may be worthy, O believers, to glorify in unison, as it is proper to do, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the one Trinity in three Persons, immovable, immiscible, single, indivisible, and unapproachable, through Whom we are delivered from the fire of torment.

Now: O most Merciful, O Christ Lord, we offer Thee for intercession Thy mother, truly virgin, who gave Thee birth in the flesh without seed, and remained after birth-giving without corruption Grant, therefore, forgiveness of sins to those who cry to Thee at all times, "Remember us also in Thy kingdom."

Troparion

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Kontakion

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 104)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! Is wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 45)

Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

Tone 5

Beatitudes

The thief, O Christ, believed in Thee while on the cross, affirming that Thou art God. From the depth of his heart and with guilelessness he confessed thee, crying “Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.”

Let us sing in unison to him who made life for our kind blossom by the tree of the Cross, effacing the curse resulting from the tree; for he is Savior and Creator.

By thy death, O Christ, thou hast dissolved the power of death, raising with thee the dead from eternity who praise thee, O true God our Savior.

The noble women, O Christ, did come to thy grave, seeking to anoint thee, O Giver of life. An angel did appear to them, shouting; The Lord is risen.

Between two condemned thieves, O Christ, thou wert crucified. One blasphemed thee falsely and was reprov'd justly; the other confessed thee and therefore dwelt in paradise.

The noble women went to the ranks of the and acclaimed, Christ hath risen, for he is the Master and Creator; let us worship him.

Glory.- O indivisible Trinity, the all-creating Oneness, omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Thee do we praise, O true God our Savior.

Now : Rejoice, O living temple of God, O uncrossed door. Rejoice, O unconsumed throne of fiery figures. Rejoice, O Mother of Immanuel, Christ our God.

Troparion

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as almighty; resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, and we all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 12)

Thou, O Lord, shall protect us * and preserve us from this generation forever.

Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 89)

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever, and my truth will be prepared in the heavens.

Tone 6

Beatitude

Remember me, O God my Savior, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom. Save me since Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

By the tree of the Cross Thou didst save Adam deceived by the tree; and likewise the thief who cried, "Remember me, Lord, in Thy kingdom."

Thou didst demolish the gates of Hades and its bars, O Giver of life and didst raise all, O Savior, who cry to Thee, "Glory to Thy Resurrection."

Remember me, O Thou Who by Thy burial didst lead death captive, and by Thy resurrection didst fill all with joy; for Thou art compassionate.

The ointment-bearing women came to Thy grave and heard the angel saying, "Christ God has risen and lighted all creation."

Let us all in unison praise Christ Who was nailed up on the tree of the Cross, and Who saved the world from error.

Glory: We glorify the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, saying, "O Holy Trinity, save our souls."

Now: O Thou Who didst conceive in the completeness of time, in an ineffable manner, and didst give birth to your Creator, O Virgin, save those who magnify you.

Troparion

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord Who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

Kontakion

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 28)

O Lord, save Thy people * and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 91)

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

He will say to the Lord: My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust.

Tone 7

Beatitudes

Truly, the fruit which caused my death was pleasing and good to eat. But Christ is the Tree of life, of Whom if I eat, I shall not die. Albeit, I cry with the thief, "Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom."

When Thou wast elevated on the Cross, O compassionate One, Thou didst blot out the decree of Adam's sins, written of old by hand, and didst save from error the whole race of mankind Wherefore, do we praise Thee, O Lord and Benefactor.

O compassionate Christ, Thou didst nail our sins upon the Cross, and by Thy death Thou didst cause death to die, and didst raise the dead from the tombs. Wherefore, do we worship Thy glorified Resurrection.

Truly, the serpent did inject her poison into the ears of Eve. But Christ, by the tree of the Cross did pour out to the world the sweetness of life. Wherefore, Lord, remember me in Thy kingdom.

Thou wast placed in the grave as dead, O Christ, Life of all. Thou didst shatter the bars of Hades and didst rise in glory on the third day; for Thou art mighty and Thou didst enlighten all. Glory, therefore, to Thy resurrection.

The Lord arose from the dead on the third day; and he granted his peace to His disciples, and blessed them, and sent them, saying, "Bring forth all to My kingdom."

Glory: Light is the Father; Light is the Son, the Word; and Light the Holy Spirit. But the three are one Light, one God in three Persons, one Nature and one supremacy, indivisible and without confusion. And He is eternal before the ages.

Now: O Theotokos, the virgin Mother, you have given birth in the flesh on earth to the Son, the Word of God, as he knows. Wherefore, we who have become divine through you hail you, O hope of Christians.

Troparion

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death! To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! For the myrrhbearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy! And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

Kontakion

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers! Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry: The Savior has come to those in faith! Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 29)

The Lord shall give strength to His people! * The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord.

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 92)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High!

To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night!

Tone 8

Beatitudes

Remember us, O Christ, Savior of the world, as Thou didst remember the thief on the tree; and make us worthy of Thy heavenly kingdom, O Thou Who art alone compassionate.

Hear, O Adam, and rejoice with Eve; for he who of old stripped you naked and led you captive by deceit, has vanished by the Cross of Christ.

Thou wast nailed upon the Cross of Thine own volition, O Savior, and didst deliver Adam from the curse of the tree, restoring him, since Thou art compassionate, to his original form and to his abode in Paradise.

Today has Christ risen from the tomb, granting all believers incorruption; and has renewed the joy of the ointment-bearing women after the passion and the resurrection.

Rejoice, O women, the wise ointment-bearing ones who did first see Christ rise and proclaimed to His disciples the recalling of the whole world.

Since, O Apostles, you have been shown as the beloved ones of Christ, you shall become His companions in His glory. Wherefore, intercede with Him, since you are His disciples, to make us to stand before Him with favor.

Glory: O Trinity without beginning, O indivisible Essence, the Oneness co-equal in session, glory, and honor, O Nature transcendent over every presidency and sovereignty, save those who praise Thee in faith.

Now: Rejoice, O spacious dwelling of God; rejoice, O tabernacle of the New Covenant, rejoice, O golden jar, from which all were given the heavenly manna.

Troparion

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

Kontakion

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One.

Prokeimenon

(Psalm 76)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!

Alleluia Verses

(Psalm 95)

Come let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with psalms!

Daily Antiphons

(These are sung when there are no verses prescribed to be sung at the Beatitudes from the Menaion.)

The First Antiphon:

It is good to Praise the Lord, to hymn Thy name, O Most High.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.
To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.
For the Lord our God is righteous, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The Second Antiphon:

The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty;
The Lord is robed with strength and has girded Himself.
Through the prayers of the Saints, O Savior, save us.
For He has established the world which shall never be moved.
Through the prayers of the Saints, O Savior, save us.
Thy decrees are very sure; holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, for evermore. Through the prayers of the Saints,
O Savior, save us.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God...

The Third Antiphon:

Come, let us rejoice in the Lords let us shout with joy to God our Savior.
Save us, O Son of God, who art wonderful in Thy saints, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!
Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully shout to Him with psalms! Save us, O Son of God,
who art wonderful in Thy saints, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!
For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all the earth.
Save us, O Son of God, who art wonderful in Thy saints, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!
For in His hand are all the ends of the earth, and the heights of the mountains are His. Save us, O Son of God,
who art wonderful in Thy saints, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!
For the sea is His, and He made it; His hands formed the dry land.
Save us, O Son of God, who art wonderful in Thy saints, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Daily Dismissals

Mondays

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles,...

Tuesday

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the honorable and glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles;..

Wednesday

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles,...

Thursday

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of our father among the saints, Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia;...

Friday

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles;...

Saturday

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious, and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers;...

Paschal Cycle
Preparatory Sundays
Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

Kontakion

Tone 4

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee and learn humility from the Publican's tears. Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, O only merciful One."

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Kontakion

Tone 3

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: "I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; receive me a penitent and make me as one of Thy hired servants."

Meat-fare Sunday

Kontakion

Tone 1

When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, all things shall tremble and the river of fire shall flow before Thy Judgment Seat; the Books shall be opened and the hidden things disclosed; then deliver me from the unquenchable fire and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge.

Cheese-fare Sunday

Kontakion

Tone 6

O Master, Teacher of Wisdom, Bestower of virtue, Who teaches the thoughtless and protects the poor, strengthen and enlighten my heart. O Word of the Father, let me not restrain my mouth from crying to Thee: "Have mercy on me, a transgressor, O Merciful Lord."

Lent and Holy Week

First Sunday of Great Lent

Troparion

Tone 2

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to

the enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: “Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior, for Thou didst come to save the world.”

Kontakion

Tone 8

No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty. We confess and proclaim our salvation in word and images.

Prokeimenon

Canticles of the Fathers

Tone 4

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Alleluia Verses

Psalm 99

Tone 4

Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His name.
They cried to the Lord, and He answered them.

Communion Hymns

Psalms 148 and 32

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

Second Sunday of Great Lent

Troparion

Tone 8

O Light of Orthodoxy! Teacher of the Church. Its Confirmation! O Ideal of Monks and invincible Champion of Theologians! O wonder working Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and Preacher of Grace! Always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion

Tone 4

Now is the time for action! Judgement is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: “Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of All, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns.”

Prokeimenon

Tone 5

Psalm 12

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Alleluia Verse

Of the Tone.

Communion Hymns

Psalms 148 and 112

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

The righteous will be remembered forever; he is not afraid of evil tidings.

Third Sunday of Lent

Troparion

Tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians, over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

Kontakion

Tone 7

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of paradise; it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross! The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; for Thou, O my Savior, didst come and cry to those in hell: "Enter again into Paradise."

Trisagion

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection, we glorify.

Prokeimenon

Tone 7

Psalm 99

Extol the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for it is holy!

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

Psalm 74

Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast gotten of old.

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

Communion Hymns

Psalm 4

The light of Thy countenance has shone on us, O Lord.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Troparion

Tone 1

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body! You were a wonder-worker, O our God-bearing Father John! You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer: healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. Glory to Him Who gave you strength! Glory to Him Who granted you a crown! Glory to Him Who through you grants healing to all!

Kontakion

Tone 4

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence, to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, O our Father and Teacher John.

Prokeimenon

Of the Tone and then to the Saint:

Tone 8

Let the righteous exult in glory! Let them sing for joy on their couches!

Alleluia Verses

Of the Tone and then to the Saint:

Tone 8

Those planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Communion Hymns

Psalms 148 and 112

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

The righteous will be remembered forever; he is not afraid of evil tidings.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Troparion

Tone 8

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother, for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. by so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away; but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal. Therefore your spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion

Tone 3

Having been a sinful woman, you became through repentance a Bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life, you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross! Therefore, O most glorious Mary, you are a Bride of the Kingdom!

Prokeimenon

Of the Tone and to the Saint in Tone 4

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel!

Alleluia Verses

Of the Tone

Communion Hymns

Psalms 148 and 112

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

The righteous will be remembered forever; he is not afraid of evil tidings.

Resurrection of Lazarus

Troparion

Tone 1

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!"

Kontakion

Tone 2

Christ—the Joy, the Truth, and the Light of all, the Life of the World and the Resurrection—has appeared in His goodness, to those on earth. He has become the Image of our Resurrection, granting divine forgiveness to all.

Trisagion

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ, Alleluia.

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my Savior! Whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the defender of my life! Of whom shall I be afraid?

Alleluia Verses

Tone 5

Psalm 93

The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty!

For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Let us honor the Pure Theotokos! She accepted the Fire of Divinity in her womb but was not consumed! Let us magnify her in songs!

Communion Hymns

Psalm 8

From the mouths of babes and infants Thou hast found praise.

Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem

First Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 116

I love the Lord because He has heard the voice of my supplication.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of hell laid hold on me.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

I suffered distress and anguish; then I called upon the name of the Lord.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Second Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 116

I kept my faith even when I said: "I am greatly afflicted!"

O Son of God Who sat upon the foal, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”

What shall I render to the Lord for all the things He has given me?

O Son of God Who sat upon the foal, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

O Son of God Who sat upon the foal, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

O Son of God Who sat upon the foal, save us who sing to Thee: “Alleluia!”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Third Antiphon

Tone 1

Psalm 118

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

Let the house of Israel say: “For He is good, for His mercy endures forever!”

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

Let the house of Aaron say: “For He is good, for His mercy endures forever!”

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

Let all those who fear the Lord say: “For He is good, for His mercy endures forever!”

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

Introit of the Little Entrance

Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

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

Another Troparion

When we were buried with Thee in Baptism, O Christ God, we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy Resurrection! Now we praise Thee and sing: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Tone 6

Sitting on Thy throne in heaven, carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God! Accept the praise of angels and the songs of children, who sing: “Blessed is He That comes to recall Adam!”

Prokeimenon

Tone 7

Psalm 119

Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things!

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God!

Hymn to the Theotokos

God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Celebrate the feast and come with gladness! Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, singing: “Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord!”

Communion Hymns

Psalm 118

Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

Dismissal

May He Who deigned to sit on the foal of an ass for our salvation, Christ our true God...

Ⲑentecostarion

Pascha: The Resurrection of Our Lord

Pascha Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Paschal Verses

Psalm 68

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!

This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen!

First Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 66

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Say to God: "How awesome are Thy deeds! So great is Thy power that Thy enemies cringe before Thee!"

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy name, O Most High!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The Second Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 67

God be bountiful to us and bless us! Show the light of Thy countenance upon us and have mercy on us!

O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia."

That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations!

O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia."

Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to Thee!

O Son of God who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Third Antiphon

Psalm 68

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Introit of the Little Entrance

Bless God in the churches, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain!

Hypakoe

Before the dawn, Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the dead as a man the One Who is everlasting light? Behold the clothes in the grave! Go and proclaim to the world: 'The Lord is risen!' He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen!

Kontakion

Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death! In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thy apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Instead of the Trisagion:

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokeimenon

Tone 8

Psalm 118

This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 4

Thou didst arise and have mercy on Zion.

The Lord looked down from heaven and saw all the sons of men.

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: "Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: 'Rejoice!'

Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead!!

Rejoice, all ye people!"

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality.

Dismissal

May Christ, Who rose from the dead, trampled down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowed life, our true God,...

Prokeimena & Alleluia for Bright Week

Monday

*Prokeimenon *8*

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe.

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

*Alleluia *1*

Let the Heavens praise Thy wonders, O Lord; Thy faithfulness in the assembly of the saints.

God is glorified in the council of the saints.

Tuesday

*Prokeimenon *3 (Canticle of the Theotokos)*

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

*Alleluia *8*

Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy might.

The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back.

Wednesday

*Prokeimenon *6*

I will remember your name in all generations.

Hear, O daughter, consider, and incline your ear.

*Alleluia *2*

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

For He has exalted the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Thursday

*Prokeimenon *3*

Sing praises to our God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Clap your hands, all peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

*Alleluia *4*

Go forth, and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

You love righteousness and hate wickedness.

Friday

*Prokeimenon *8*

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth and their words to the ends of the universe.

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

And of the Theotokos: Tone 3:

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

*Alleluia *1*

Let the heavens praise Thy wonders, O Lord; Thy faithfulness in the assembly of the saints.

God is glorified in the council of the saints.

Saturday

*Prokeimenon *3*

The Lord is my light and my Savior; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom shall I be afraid.

*Alleluia *5*

The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty.

For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.

Second Sunday of Pascha

St. Thomas the Apostle

Troparion

Tone 7

From the sealed tomb, Thou didst shine forth, O Life! Through closed doors Thou didst come to Thy disciples, O Christ God! Renew in us, through them, an upright spirit, by the greatness of Thy mercy, O Resurrection of all!

Kontakion

Tone 8

Thomas touched Thy life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God, when Thou didst come to Thy apostles through closed doors. He cried out with all: "Thou art my Lord and my God!"

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

Psalm 147

Great is our Lord and abundant in power. His understanding is beyond measure.

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

Psalm 95

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all the earth.

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: "Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: 'Rejoice!'

Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead!!

Rejoice, all ye people!"

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Psalm 147

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

Third Sunday of Pascha

Myrrh-bearers & Noble Joseph

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!"

Troparion of Righteous Joseph

Tone 2

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. But Thou didst rise on the third day, O Lord, granting the world great mercy.

Troparion of the Myrrh-bearing Women

Tone 2

The angel came to the myrrh-bearing women at the tomb and said: "Myrrh is meet for the dead; but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! So proclaim: 'The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy.'"

Kontakion

Tone 2

Thou didst command the myrrh-bearers to rejoice, O Christ! By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, O God! Thou didst command Thy apostles to preach: "The Savior is risen!"

Prokeimenon

Tone 6

Psalm 28

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

Psalm 85

Lord, Thou wast favorable to Thy land; Thou didst restore the fortune of Jacob.

Mercy and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: "Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: 'Rejoice!' Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead!!"

Rejoice, all ye people!”

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality;

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Fourth Sunday of Pascha

Paralytic

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first-born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy.

Kontakion

Tone 3

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, as Thou didst raise up the paralytic of old, so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; so that being saved I may sing to Thee: “Glory to Thy majesty, O Bountiful Christ!”

Prokeimenon

Tone 1

Psalm 33

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 5

Psalm 89

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

Thou hast said: “Mercy will be established forever, and my truth will be prepared in the heavens.”

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: “Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: ‘Rejoice!’

Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead!!

Rejoice, all ye people!”

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality.

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Wednesday of the Fourth Week after Pascha: Mid-Feast

Troparion

Tone 8

In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: "If anyone thirst, let him come to me and drink!" O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

Kontakion

Tone 4

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the law: "Come and draw the water of immortality!" We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: "Grant us Thy bounties, for Thou art the Fountain of our life."

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

Psalm 147

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power. His understanding is without measure.

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

Psalm 74

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old.

God is our King before the ages: He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: "Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: 'Rejoice!'

Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead!!

Rejoice, all ye people!"

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Psalm 4

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

Fifth Sunday of Pascha

The Samaritan Woman

Troparion

Tone 4

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Kontakion

Tone 8

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly! She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified.

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

Psalm 47

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 4

Psalm 45

Go forth and prosper and reign, because of truth and meekness and righteousness.

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: "Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: 'Rejoice!'

Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead!!

Rejoice, all ye people!"

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Psalm 4

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality.

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Sixth Sunday of Pascha

Blind Man

Troparion

Tone 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion

Tone 4

I come to Thee, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, and call to Thee in repentance: “Thou art the most radiant Light of those in darkness!

Prokeimenon

Tone 8

Psalm 76

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

Psalm 119

Look upon me and have mercy on me.

Lead my steps according to Thy word.

Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: “Rejoice, O Pure Virgin! Again I say: ‘Rejoice!’

Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead!!

Rejoice, all ye people!”

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality.

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Ascension of Our Lord

First Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

For the Lord, the Most High is terrible! A great God over all the earth!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet!!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Second Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 48

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God!

O Son of God Who ascended in glory, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"

Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King!

O Son of God Who ascended in glory, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"

Within her citadels God is known when He defends her!

O Son of God Who ascended in glory, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"

For lo, the kings assembled; they came on together!

O Son of God Who ascended in glory, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God...

Third Antiphon

Tone 4

Psalm 49

Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world!

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit.

Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

The earth-born and the sons of men, rich and poor together!

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

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

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle in psalmody.

Introit of the Little Entrance

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Troparion

Tone 4

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Tone 6

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, and unite earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying: "I am with you and no one will be against you!"

Prokeimenon

Tone 7

Psalm 57

Be Thou exalted, O God, above the heavens and Thy glory over all the earth!

My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody in my glory!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 2

Psalm 47

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

The Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who has ascended from earth to heaven!

We magnify you, the Mother of God, who beyond reason and understanding gave birth in time to the Timeless One!

Communion Hymns

Psalm 4

God has gone up with a shout; the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!

Dismissal

May He Who in glory ascended from us into heaven and sat at the right hand of God and Father, Christ our true God,...

Seventh Sunday of Pascha

The Holy Fathers

Troparion

Tone 8

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! Through them Thou hast guided us to the true faith! O greatly Compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Kontakion

Tone 7

The apostles' preaching and the fathers' doctrines have established one faith for the Church. Adorned with the role of truth, woven from heavenly theology; great is the mystery of piety which it defines and glorifies.

Prokeimenon

Tone 4

Canticles of the Fathers

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

Psalm 50

The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Gather to me my venerable ones, who make a covenant with me by sacrifice.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who has ascended from earth to heaven!

We magnify you, the Mother of God, who beyond reason and understanding gave birth in time to the Timeless One!

Communion Hymns

Psalms 148 and 32

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

First Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Second Antiphon

Tone 2

Psalm 20

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble: the name of the God of Jacob protect us.

O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia."

May He send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia."

May He remember all your offerings, and fulfill all your plans.

O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Third Antiphon

Tone 8

Psalm 21

In Thy strength the King rejoices, O Lord, and exults greatly in Thy salvation.

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withheld the request of his lips.

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

For Thou dost meet him with godly blessing; Thou dost set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Introit

Be exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength! We will sing and praise Thy power!

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Kontakion

Tone 8

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations; but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the all-holy Spirit!

Instead of the Trisagion

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokeimenon

Tone 8

Psalm 19

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth; and their words to the ends of the universe.

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

Psalm 33

By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all their host by the Spirit of His mouth.

The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw all the sons of men.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Rejoice, O Queen! Glory of mothers and virgins! No mouth, however sweet or fluent, is eloquent enough to praise you worthily! Every mind is overawed by your childbearing. Therefore with one voice we glorify you!

Communion Hymns

Psalm 143

Let Thy good spirit lead me on a level path.

Dismissal

May He Who sent the most holy Spirit from heaven upon His holy disciples and apostles, in the form of fiery tongues, Christ our true God,...

The First Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints

Troparion

Tone 4

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyr's blood shed throughout all the world. She cried to Thee, O Christ God: "Send down Thy bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy habitation, and great mercy to our souls.

Kontakion

Tone 8

The universe offers Thee the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. Through the Theotokos and their prayers establish Thy Church in peace.

Prokeimenon

Tone 8

Psalm 95

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!

To the saints, Tone 4

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 4

Psalm 34

The righteous called, and the Lord heard them.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivers them out of them all.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just.

The Festal Cycle

The Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos

(September 8)

Troparion

Tone 4

Your Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universal The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Kontakion

Tone 4

By your Nativity, O most pure Virgin, Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness ; Adam and Eve, from the corruption of death. And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you: The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life.

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

Canticle of the Theotokos

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!

For he has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

Psalm 45

Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear.

Before your face, the richest of the people will pray.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Virginity is foreign to mothers; childbearing is strange for virgins. But in you, O Theotokos, both were accomplished! For this, all the earthly nations unceasingly magnify you!

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 116)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

The Elevation of the Life-creating Cross

(September 14)

First Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 22)

God, my God, attend to me! Why hast Thou forsaken me?

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Why art Thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, the praise of Israel.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The Second Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 74)

O God, why dost Thou cast us off forever?

O Son of God crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old.

O Son of God crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Remember Mount Zion, where Thou hast dwelt.

O Son of God crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

O Son of God crucified in the flesh, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God...

The Third Antiphon

Tone 1

(Psalm 99)

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the Cherubim; let the earth quake!

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

The Lord is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the peoples!

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

Bow down in worship to the Lord in His holy court.

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

The Introit of the Little Entrance

Extol the Lord our God; worship at His footstool, for it is holy! .

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy name; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries, by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

Instead of the Trisagion

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master, and Thy holy Resurrection, we glorify.

Prokeimenon

Tone 7

(Psalm 99)

Extol the Lord our God. Worship at His footstool, for it is holy!

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

(Psalm 74)

Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old.

God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth.

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord.

You are the mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, in which Christ blossomed; through Him the life-bearing Wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its Elevation, as we bow in worship before it, we magnify you.

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 4)

The light of Thy countenance has shone on us, O Lord.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

(November 21)

Troparion

Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears in the temple of God, in anticipation, proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation!

Kontakion

Tone 4

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin; the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, which the angels of God do praise. Truly this woman is the Abode of Heaven!

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

(Canticle of the Theotokos)

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior!

For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

(Psalm 45)

Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear.

Before your face, the richest of the people will pray.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

The angels beheld the entrance of the Pure One and were amazed I How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

As you are a living Temple of God, let no impure hand touch you, O Theotokos! But let the lips of all believers sing, constantly magnifying you in joy with the angelic salutation: Truly you are above all creatures, O Pure One!

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 116)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

(December 25)

The First Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 111)

I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Thy wonders known.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

They are studied by all who have pleasure in them.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

His work is glory and beauty, and His righteousness endures forever.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, () Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us)

The Second Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 112)

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

() Son of God born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed!

() Son of God born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory and wealth are in His house, and His righteousness endures forever!

() Son of God born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate and righteous!

O Son of God born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God...

The Third Antiphon

Tone 4

(Psalm 110)

The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand!"

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shown to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, Glory to Thee !

Until I make thine enemies Thy footstool!

Thy Nativity,...

The Lord sends forth from Zion Thy mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of Thy foes.

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shown to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, Glory to Thee !

Authority shall be with Thee on the day of Thy power, among the splendor of Thy holy ones!

Introit of the Little Entrance

Out of the womb, before the morning star, have I begotten Thee! The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind. Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom! For by it, those who worshipped the stars, were taught by a star to adore Thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Tone 3

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One! Angels, with shepherds, glorify Him! The wise men journey with the star! Since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little child!

Instead of the Trisagion

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

(Psalm 66)

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee. Let it praise Thy Name, O Most High!
Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name! Give glory to His praise!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

(Psalm 19)

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge!

The Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts!

To love silence is easier, as a safeguard against fear! But to compose songs of love in harmony is more difficult, O Virgin! Grant us strength, O Mother, equal to our purpose.

Or

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery! Heaven - the cave! The cherubic throne - the Virgin I The manger - the place where Christ lay, the uncontainable God whom we magnify in song!

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 111)

The Lord has sent redemption to His people!

Dismissal

May He Who was born in a cavern and lay in a manger for our salvation, Christ our true God,...

Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ

(January 6)

The First Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 114)

When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language.
Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.
Judah became His sanctuary, Israel His dominion.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The Second Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 116)

I love the Lord because he has heard the voice of my supplication.

O Son of God baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

O Son of God baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of hell laid hold on me. I suffered distress and anguish, then I called upon the name of the Lord.

O Son of God baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Gracious and righteous is the Lord, and our God is merciful.

O Son of God baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God...

The Third Antiphon

Tone 1

(Psalm 118)

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Let the house of Israel say : For He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest I For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and host enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Let the house of Aaron say: For He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Let all those who fear the Lord say: For He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

The Introit of the Little Entrance

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the House of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son! And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontaion

Tone 4

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe, and Thy light, O Lord, has shone on us, who with understanding praise Thee: Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, O Light Unapproachable!

Instead of the Trisagion

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokeimenon

Tone 4

(Psalm 118)

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 4

(Psalm 29)

Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters!

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable than the heavenly hosts!

No tongue is capable of praising you worthily: the angelic mind is overawed in exalting you, O Theotokos! But accept our faith, since you are gracious and know our divine love. You are the protectress of Christians, and we praise you!

Communion Hymn

(Titus 1:11)

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men.

Dismissal

May He Who deigned to be baptized by John in the Jordan for our salvation, Christ our true God,...

The Meeting of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 2

The Introit of the Little Entrance

The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness before the nations.

Troparion

Tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness! Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder; you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, who grants us the Resurrection.

Kontakion

Tone 1

By Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb! And didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

(Canticle of the Theotokos)

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

(Canticle of Simeon)

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word.

A light for revelation to the gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel.

Hymn to the Theotokos

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians! Protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you!

We faithful saw the figure in the shadow of the law and the scriptures: every male child that opened the womb was holy to God. Therefore, we also magnify the first-begotten Son of the unoriginate Father, the first-born Son of the unwedded Mother!

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 116)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Dismissal

May He Who deigned to be carried in the arms of the righteous Simeon for our salvation, Christ our true God,...

The Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos

March 25

Troparion

Tone 4

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery! The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him, let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

Kontakion

Tone 8

O victorious leader of triumphant hosts! We, your servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to you, O Theotokos! As you possess invincible might set us free from every calamity so that we may sing: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!

Prokeimenon

Tone 4

(Psalm 96)

From day to day proclaim the salvation of our God!

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 1

(Psalm 72)

He descends like the rain on the grass, like showers that water the earth!

May His name be blessed forever, His name continue as long as the sun!

Hymn to the Theotokos

As you are a living Temple of God, let no impure hand touch you, O Theotokos! But let the lips of all believers sing, constantly magnifying you in joy with me angelic salutation: Truly you are above all creatures, O Pure One!

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 132)

The Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation.

Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ

August 6

The First Antiphon

Tone 2

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to His praise! *(Psalm 66)*

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The crash of Thy thunder was in the whirlwind; Thy lightning lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook. *(Psalm 77)*

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment. *(Psalm 104)*

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

The Second Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 48)

Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the Great King!

O Son of God who wast transfigured on the mount, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

And He brought them to the mountain of His holiness, this mountain which His right hand had won!

O Son of God who wast transfigured on the mount, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

The Mount Zion which He loved, He fashioned for His holy abode.

O Son of God who wast transfigured on the mount, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God...

The Third Antiphon

Tone 7

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (*Psalm 125*)

Thou wast transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light shine upon us sinners! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

As the mountains are round about Him, so the Lord is round about His people, from this time forth and forevermore. (*Psalm 125*)

Thou wast transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light shine upon us sinners! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

O Lord, who shall sojourn in Thy tent? Who shall dwell on Thy holy hill? (*Psalm 15*)

Thou wast transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light shine upon us sinners! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord! And who shall stand in His holy place? (*Psalm 24*)

Thou wast transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light shine upon us sinners! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

The Introit of the Little Entrance

O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me, let them bring me to Thy holy mountain.

Thou wast transfigured on the Mount, O Christ God, revealing Thy glory to Thy disciples as far as they could bear it. Let Thine everlasting light shine upon us sinners! Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion

Tone 7

On the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father!

Prokeimenon

Tone 4

(*Psalm 104*)

O Lord, How manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God Thou art very great!

Alleluia Verses

Tone 8

(*Psalm 89*)

The heavens are Thine, the earth also is Thine.

Blessed are the people who know the festal shout!

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the Lord who was transfigured on Mount Tabor!

Your birth-giving was incorruptible! God came from your body and appeared on earth in flesh, dwelling among men. Therefore, we magnify you, O Theotokos!

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 89)

O Lord we will walk in the light of Thy countenance, and will exult in Thy name forever.

Dismissal

May He Who was transfigured in glory before His disciples on Mount Tabor for our salvation, Christ our true God,..

The Falling Asleep of the Most Holy Theotokos

(August 15)

Troparion

Tone 1

In giving birth, you preserved your virginity! In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos! You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death!

Kontakion

Tone 2

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb!

Prokeimenon

Tone 3

(Canticle of the Theotokos)

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Alleluia Verses

Tone 2

(Psalm 132)

Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy might.

The Lord swore Truth to David from which He will not turn back.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

The limits of nature are overcome in you, O. Pure Virgin: for birth-giving remains virginal and life is united to death! A virgin after childbearing and alive after death! You ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymn

(Psalm 116)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Ambon Prayers

Sunday of the Last Judgement

Commemoration the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as Judge

Christ our God, accept our humble prayer, as You accepted the tears and ointment of the harlot. Be pleased with our songs of praise, as You were with her kisses. Give us a beautiful conversion like hers, and deem us also worthy of the forgiveness of sins.

You did not turn away from her, as she clung to Your pure feet, so do not reject us, who throw ourselves at the unseen feet of Your love for mankind. Without words she confessed You, for You know the hearts of man, and You did not send her away in shame.

Do not put us to shame when our hidden sins are revealed before angels and men in Your fearful tribunal, but make us heirs of Your eternal forgiveness and incorruptible glory, for You love mankind, and are glorified together with Your Father without beginning, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Sunday of Forgiveness

Blessed are You, Lord, highly exalted and glorified and good. In Your divine providence You set the length of the year, and have anchored us in these days of inner peace. To Your servants give the good fruit of righteousness in all their works. Give them might and power for the destruction of sin, and for the renewal of soul and mind, that during the forty days of fast, we might overcome the crafty contrivances of the intruder, for You are our God.

Through prayer and fasting You have made men equal to angels, and the fasting Moses You entrusted with the tablets of the Law written by Your divine hand. Now, O Lord, return us to the safe harbour of the honourable passion of Your Christ, that with the wood of the Cross as our weapon, we may be victors over sin and worthy of Your joyful third-day Resurrection.

Through the prayers and supplications of the all-holy and pure God-bearer and ever-virgin Mary and of all Your saints, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

First Sunday of the Great Fast and the Triumph of Orthodoxy

We thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, for You have led us to this present time of fasting towards salvation. We thank You, for You have arranged to heal the great wounds of our souls in this short time, and to effect the rejection of our many sins. Good Master, we pray You, remove from us pharisaical hypocrisy in fasting, and banish all false sadness. Drive from us pride in our self-moderation and self-denial in deed, word or thought. Fill us with light and truth as You prescribed. Strengthen us in the struggle against passions and in the war against sin. Through alienation from passions prepare us to follow You. By fasting You have shown us the way to victory over the devil, and how to partake in Your death and Resurrection, and to rejoice in eternal joy, which You have prepared for those who hunger and thirst for Your righteousness.

For You are the God of mercy, and glory is due to You, together with the Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

Master and Lord, our God, because You are good, we ask You to listen to Your unworthy servants, and enable us to reach the desired end of these days of fasting, given to us for correction. Lead us who have started this present contest to the hoped-for crowns of victory. Take off the armour of darkness and clothe us with the armour of light. Grant us, O Lord, self-denial with hypocrisy, prayer in secret, which is more acceptable to You, and humble almsgiving, which is pleasing to You.

Through the mercies of Your only-begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with the only all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Third Sunday of the Great Fast

Veneration of the Holy Cross

O God and Father of glory, for our sake You gave Your only-begotten Son, and through Him have made us sons, and worthy again of Your Spirit. Have compassion on us now, for we have broken Your commandments. Do not condemn us with those who have cut themselves off from You, nor leave us starved of Your spiritual gifts. Instead, make us worthy to draw near to You in our words and in our hearts, and to prove by our deeds that we are Your sons, as we imitate the conversion of the prodigal son. To him You made known Your love beyond expression for sinners.

May we obtain everlasting happiness which You have made ready for all who do Your will, through the grace and mercy and love for mankind of Your only-begotten Son, with whom glory is due to You, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast

Sunday of St. John of the Ladder

Lord our God, though we are unworthy, You have deemed us worthy to stand in this holy place. Though we have nothing good to offer You: we sacrifice a humbled heart and a contrite spirit to You Who have no need of anything of ours. Because You are good, we seek from You forgiveness of our sins.

Hear our worthless prayers, for You did not turn away from the publican who humbled himself before You, but proclaimed him justified. Banish from our hearts the self-praise and boasting of the self-righteous Pharisee. Grant us, instead, the compunction of the Publican and humility that would draw us to You. For You exalt the humble and humble the exalted. Make us worthy of the happiness of the Kingdom of heaven, which You have made ready for the poor in spirit.

Through the mercies of Christ, with whom You are blessed, together with the all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

O Christ our God, You give strength to all who fall, and rescue all who have been cast aside. Without leaving the bosom of the Father, You came to us and took flesh from the holy virgin Mary. You came into the world to raise up our nature that fell among thieves who kill the spirit. We were stripped of everlasting life, and cruelly wounded by them, yet You thought us worthy of care, and restored us to our ancient fatherland.

Lord, by Your praiseworthy blood poured out for us, and by Your holy anointing You have given us, heal the bruises and bind up the wounds of our spirit, and deliver us from the constant blows of the powers of darkness, which hurry to rob us of faith and hope in You, for they wish to wash Your grace from us.

Keep not Your healing of salvation from us, in Your love for mankind, that after we are healed and cleansed of all stain, we may be made worthy of the Church of the first-born, written in heaven, for You are the Healer of our illnesses of body and soul.

You are our God, and we give glory to You, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Saturday of Lazarus

O Christ our God, by Your voice You loosed Lazarus from the chains of death, and brought him to life.

Bring to life us who have been killed by our sins, and give us a life that cannot be taken away: give unending life to those who hope in You, and make us Your heirs, for You are our life and resurrection, and glory is due to You, together with Your immortal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Palm Sunday

The Entry of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

Christ our God, we sing of Your humility beyond our understanding, for though You sat upon a throne in heaven, and had the earth for a footstool, You did not think it beneath You to take flesh from a holy virgin, to be made man and to lie unnoticed as a newborn babe in the manger. Indeed, You sat upon a colt and by Your own will endured suffering for us. Before, by inspiration, the heavenly powers sang hymns to You worthy of Your Godhead, but now a new hymn is sung to You on earth. You taught the troublesome mob by perfecting praise from the mouths of infants and children. You taught them how to tell of glory in heaven and peace on earth.

With these accept the songs of Your unworthy servants, who sing to Your victory over death. Bless those who proclaim: "You come in the Name of God, yet not entirely abandoning the glory of the Father, for You will come again to judge the whole world in righteousness." Make us worthy to receive You as You come, arm us for a victorious struggle against passions, and crown us with virtue in return for our palms and branches, that with joy we may meet You as You come upon the clouds in glory, and that we may become heirs of Your Kingdom.

For You are the Lover of mankind, and are glorified together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

Today brings us light and salvation.

Brothers and sisters, today is the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Church of the Lord is honoured by many good people. See how many of the faithful have not only endured the weariness of fasting, but, with lighted candles, are eager to offer gifts to the King of ages on the feast of the Resurrection. For the whole world rejoices in the Resurrection of Christ: Heaven is purified by the brightness of the Godhead, the earth is clothed, the sea is calmed, tyranny stopped, reverence grows, those who are taught are enlightened, those who have wandered away have returned, sinners are loosed from sin, the Churches are joyful, and Christ is glorified! Not only do we carry candles offering gifts to the King of ages, not only are the meadows in flower, but the newly-baptized receive the grace of the Spirit.

Receive, therefore, the sacrifice and worship of our humble priests. Forgive the sins of all—both young and old—for You are a good God Who love mankind. Give strength to the civil authorities, keep our bishop on his honoured throne, keep all the clergy and people in oneness of mind. Watch, preserve, have mercy upon and keep all the people standing about in the enjoyment of Your divine, immortal and life-creating mysteries, through the prayers of Your pure Mother, and of the holy Apostles and myrrh-bearing women.

For You are the Resurrection from death, Christ our God, and we give glory to You, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Monday of Bright Week

Pascha, Pascha, and again I say, Pascha: for Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. He alone is immortal. He alone cannot be seen or grasped. The angels and principalities, the authorities, dominions and powers, and the cherubim and seraphim praise Him.

With these heavenly powers we Your unworthy servants praise, bless and worship You, Lord our God.

For in these last days, You came into the world, took flesh from our holy and pure Lady, the God-bearer and ever-virgin Mary, and suffered crucifixion, that You might free us from the curse of the tree. For all this how can we repay You, God according to nature and Father according to grace? We offer You praise from our lips: glory to You Who were baptized, glory to You Who were crucified, glory to You Who were buried, glory to You, for You are risen and raise us with You.

Glory to You together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Tuesday of Bright Week

O Lord, God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ, You shattered the bronze gates and iron bars, You freed the holy souls held fast in the depths of Hades, and let them appear to many after Your Resurrection.

Give us a part and inheritance with all Your saints in Your Kingdom. Lord, on this holy day of Your Resurrection, remember those present here, and those absent or travelling, those in affliction or distress, those who are oppressed, and those sick in mind and body. Remember them all and heal them, and blot out all their sins, whether they are rich or poor, free or in bondage. Reveal Your newly-enlisted soldiers to be sons of light and heirs of Your everlasting good gifts. Pour out upon them the rich gifts of Your Holy Spirit to raise these who have come from the baptismal fount above the brightness of the sun. Make our city and every city and

village and the Christian people living in them grow and increase. Implant reverence of You into their hearts, that they may always do Your will and please You.

For You are a good God and love mankind, and we give glory to You, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

St. Thomas Sunday

O Holy One, You have placed us in Your house, You have opened Your dwelling to us, and have put the hymn of victory into our mouths. You have gladdened us with your pure and holy Body, You have given us to drink from Your ever-flowing fountain, Your pure and life-creating side, which Thomas saw, touched and worshipped, as he cried in a loud voice, “My Lord and my God!”

How, O Master, can we repay You for all You have given us? O mighty King of all, clothe Your priests who live in true faith with righteousness, strengthen our government, keep the people present here in peace, stop war among nations, free our fellow Christians who are in captivity, and give peace to the world, O God our Saviour.

For all glory, honour, thanksgiving and worship are due to You, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Mid-Pentecost Wednesday

Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, You were well-pleased to deign to become flesh of the holy Virgin, to lie speechless in a manger, and to be baptized by John, though You had no need of purification.

About the day of mid-Pentecost You went up to the temple and taught the crowds, who said in amazement, “How did this man get his education when he had no teacher?” They did not know that You are the Wisdom of the Father, and the Creator of all things.

Lover of men, on this day make us sinners and Your unworthy servants worthy to worship and to glorify You and in joy partake of Your pure Body and precious Blood.

Deem those blameless and free of condemnation worthy to be presented to You at the glorious Second Coming. Give strength and peace to our government and its armed forces. Keep our bishop on his honoured throne. Rescue our brothers in faith who are in captivity. Comfort those who are afflicted or persecuted or are in any trying circumstances. Give rest to our departed Christian brothers. Keep the people present here in peace and oneness of mind and deliver them from the slavery and dominion of seen and unseen enemies.

For You are the King of peace and the Saviour of our souls, and we give glory to You, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ

Master, lift up our minds towards heaven, as we worship Your might, and draw up our understanding from earthly cares to Yourself. For You have lifted our lowly nature in Yourself and enthroned it in the highest with the Father. Make us worthy here in this world as in heaven to be citizens who seek that which is on high, where You are seated on the right hand of God.

We await Your glorious and fearful coming, which You revealed through the angels to the blessed Apostles, the spectators of Your Ascension into heaven. Number us with those who will be taken up into the clouds to meet

You coming to judge the world in righteousness, that with them we may be full of joy for ever, by the good will and love of men of Your eternal Father, with whom You are blessed and glorified, together with Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Sunday of Pentecost

After Your suffering and Resurrection, O Christ, You ascended into the heavens, the heavens which You had lowered before to descend and to take flesh from the Virgin for our sakes. You confirmed Your promise made on earth by sending down Your comforting Spirit upon Your disciples. In them You sustained a firm and all-holy unity and through them the Church by belief in You in the steadfast presence of the Spirit and His many gifts.

Do not take His grace from us, as our sins deserve, but put to death all carnal desires in us that would prevent the coming of the Spirit. Drive out from us any thought, word or deed that would grieve Him, and any hindering evil passion that would make our souls dark with the loss of His light. Make us cleansed vessels of His glory, that we may represent the upper room in Sion, full of His brightness. Show us to be thrones of His spiritual fire and life to Your Apostles who received His first-fruits. For by His strength, we will be led into the holy earth of Your immortal and blessed promise. The whole world, then, is full of joy in You and continually glorifies You.

For You are most glorious, together with Your co-eternal Father, and Your co-eternal, all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Sunday of All Saints

O Lord You are glorified in the Council of Your holy ones, You are the boast of the Apostles, the joy of the prophets, the support of the martyrs, the joy of the saints, and the crown of the Birth-giver!

Give us Your peace. Guide and guard our lives by Your merciful goodness that we may be deemed worthy to imitate their struggles, and pleasing You, to come to future happiness with them.

For it is You, O Christ our God, Who give us everlasting gifts, and we give glory to You, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Nativity of the Theotokos

Lord Christ our God, You are without beginning and surpass all essence. You see and rule all. You are a God Who work wonders and make the unexpected come to pass. Alone You accomplish great deeds.

Lord, Who hear our petitions, You are the Saviour of those in despair and confusion. You reward good desires arising from prayer.

For Your servants Joachim and Anna, who lived blamelessly together, You changed the sorrow of barrenness to the joy of children. You gave them a beautiful offspring, a shoot growing from the root of Jesse mystically foretold by lips inspired by God.

From this shoot You planned that the flower guiding the world aright would be born according to the flesh.

Now You, a fountain of all goodness and enlightenment and giver of riches have sprung up. Born of a Virgin, You filled the community with grace and showed forth the birth of salvation.

As we partake of Your divine Mysteries and deifying Liturgy, deliver us from a sterile barrenness in good works and deem us worthy to make virtues our offering to You always, that we may have a right to a place in the land of the just in Your kingdom.

Free us from bitter and continual warfare, relieve all oppression and lift the yoke of slavery from all men, that all may be wholly free from tyranny and judgement.

Bless Your people and protect Your inheritance, save us from all temptations of the enemy, and from afflictions.

Increase the glory of people under the law of Christ and exalt them. Give them earthly and heavenly good things, and an abundance of crops. For You provide and, indeed, create all that is good.

Through the prayers of Your all-pure Mother and our Lady, with whom we return worship and adoration to You, together with Your eternal Father, and Your life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Exaltation of the Cross

Lord, You dwell in the heights and it is You Who exalt all, for by Your own will You endured being lifted up upon the Cross, so that by Your pure outstretched hands You might draw all men to Yourself. You entirely humbled Yourself, going down as far as Hades, so that You might be lifted up and lift up our souls beyond the falsehood of pride and the vanity of conceit. By theology You are lifted up before the nations of the world, as You are glorified by the lifting up of hands on high in sacrifices of praise to the Father.

You were denounced by being raised upon the Cross, and by being taken down You destroyed the power of hell, triumphed over death and ransomed Your people from the original fall.

We celebrate today Your divine victory and bow before the manifestation of Your sign of victory. Do not ignore our prayers, for we ask You, and have asked You, in Your compassion and mercy, to be a strong help for us against the rational powers threatening to corrupt our souls. Be kind to us as You were to the Israelites of old, who were healed from the bite of serpents by looking up at a bronze serpent raised by the hand of Moses. Humble those who raise up against us in sin, and lift us up in valour against him who would throw obstacles on our path. Lord, quiet the uprisings of barbarous people, crush weapons of hatred and the arrogance of tyrants on behalf of those whose only boast is the Cross.

For the hands of Moses lifted up were a type of the Cross and when his hands were lifted up the Israelites turned back the onslaughts of Amalek. Throw down all those who lift their hands against Your Church, destroy

all instigations raised against Your wisdom, bar up all mouths opened in blasphemy, but enlighten all those darkened by ignorance, and open our minds to Your thoughts, that strengthened by meditation on Your heavenly and blessed good gifts, we may come to that true exaltation of those of Your flock who enjoy Your pasture and live in the happiness of Your kingdom.

For it is You Who raise up and bring low, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Archangel Michael and All Angels

Lord our God, who does not praise the fearful powers and hosts of heaven, Your archangels? For the sake of Your beloved servants they always keep those worthy of themselves in unchanging good. Rightly they are praised, for they are mighty and powerful as they worship You, Master of all Creation. Without ceasing they hymn You with a threefold voice to proclaim clearly the consubstantial Trinity. For men they are guides to the unapproachable radiance of the one Godhead as they lead in life the souls of those who reverently praise the fearful and glorious Mystery of the Trinity beyond our understanding.

Through their prayers make all who celebrate their feast blessed, for You are God blessed and most glorious and to You is due glory, together with Your only Son and Your life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple

Who can describe Your power, Lord, or who can give proper praise of all the good You have done for our sakes? For You wished to reveal the Mystery hidden from the ages, the Mystery of Your only-begotten Son becoming man for the salvation of mankind. You wished to bring to its appointed end that which the Prophet David announced. For this You chose Your Mother as a dwelling for the manifestation of Yourself according to the flesh. From her You came among men as a man and saved Your fellow men. From her You assumed all that belongs to man and made it new.

Today we celebrate the feast of her entrance into the Temple. We thank You, for You have given us all that is good. Through her we pray that You show Your face to us, and make known to us how we can please You. Deliver us from the deceits of the evil one and show us the way to salvation through repentance. Keep us joyful as we celebrate this holy feast.

For You are a God of mercy and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Sunday of the Holy Fathers (Sunday before Nativity)

O God of the holy and blessed Fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, You are the all-Holy, the Saviour of the martyrs, the Boast of the righteous and the Crown of those who have been pleasing to You from the beginning of time. Grant that we may remember all Your saints and take part in their sufferings.

You have allowed Your holy athletes, the martyrs, to fight the good fight, to finish the race of godliness, and to keep the faith they confessed. Give us a part and inheritance, that in imitating them, we may be made worthy to share in the good things You have in store for them.

A cave and a manger hid You Who sit at the right hand of the Father. The Magi honour You with three gifts, the armies of angels glorify You in song, the shepherds dance in joy, the angels praise You with a loud voice. With them, we sinners and Your unworthy servants, as we come to this brilliant and glorious feast of Your Birth, offer You these hymns and spiritual songs: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men in Your good will.”

Lover of mankind, receive our lowly praise, and send down upon us in return the riches of Your mercy. Give us a peaceful life subject to Your will, grant peace on earth to our country and to all nations, and make all of us heirs to the Kingdom of heaven, through the prayers of our most pure Lady, the God-bearer and ever-Virgin Mary.

For You are the King of Peace, and we give glory to You, to Your Father without beginning, and to Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit. now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord

Glory to You, Christ our God, “without father, without mother or ancestry, without beginning of days or end of life.” For in Your pure Birth the woman remained a virgin, and You became flesh in these last days without the union of man and woman. You kept the freedom of the spiritual divine nature and took the form of a slave, though Master and Lord of the Universe. Through the prayers of Hananiah, Azariah and Mishael and of the most blessed prophet Daniel and of all Your saints, have mercy on us and be a helper for us.

Deem us worthy, after being purified, to venerate the feast of the Birth of Christ our God, by the help of Your life-giving Spirit, for to You is due all glory, honour and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Nativity of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Christ our God, from before all ages, You shone forth from the eternal Father, and were not liable to suffering. Yet in these our days You took flesh and were born from a holy Virgin. You became poor for our sakes, that in Your poverty we might become rich. As a newborn Child You were wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger, although as God You encompass all things. Master, receive this our worthless praise as You received the praise of the shepherds and the worship and gifts of the Magi.

Grant that we may be worthy to join Your heavenly host and be shown to be heirs of the joy of heaven You prepared for those who rightly celebrate Your Birth.

For you love mankind, and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Saint Stephen, Protomartyr

Christ our God, You accepted the weakness of our flesh and strengthened it against the spiritual enemy and by Your life-creating death, gave it courage against death. Because of this, Your holy martyrs preferred to die for You than to live. You revealed the man named Stephen as the founder of the assembly of martyrs.

You gave him such wisdom that he was unconquerable by his adversaries in proclaiming Your message. You endowed him with the power to work wonders, and made him a beholder of Your glory beyond description. He was the first of Your martyrs and imitators of Your Passion.

Through his prayers and the prayers of all your saints, especially of Your all-pure Mother, our Lady, the ever-Virgin Mary, deem us worthy of Your mercy. Give us confidence in the face of Your enemies. Give us wisdom against all false knowledge, and show us to be doers of Your commandments. Give peace to our country and its government, and make us sharers of the joy You have prepared for those who love You.

For You are the source of all good, and to You belongs glory, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Circumcision of our Lord Jesus Christ and Commemoration of our Holy Father among the Saints, Saint Basil the Great

O Eternal God, You are holy and love the human race, and are tremendous in deeds and marvellous in works. You made the heavens, the earth, the seas and all that is in them. You kept Your covenant and fulfilled all Your decrees. For You did not abandon man utterly and keep him in the darkness of sin, but You sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, from Your eternal bosom, that He might become flesh and be born, that He might be wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger as a newborn Child, that He fulfill all that was spoken by the prophets, that He be circumcised on the eighth day, in Your infinite wisdom a way to conquer the wisdom of the wicked and the plots of the evil one.

On this day of Your holy and light-bearing birth, You shone upon both the flock of the shepherds and the flock of the celebrated Hierarch Basil. Through his prayers show us to be imitators of his wondrous life. Keep Your Church in peace and concord, and hear us and have mercy on us all.

For it is You Who give us everything that is good, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Prefestive Day of Theophany

Lord Jesus Christ our God, source of life, sanctify the sources of the waters. You made water a deliverance of those held captive, a remission of debts, a forgiveness of sins, a washing of rebirth, a gift of adoption as sons, and a garment of incorruption. You manifest Yourself as our God, and by water enlighten and save Your people. Deem us worthy to celebrate Your Holy Theophany in joy, with a pure conscience.

For to You belong all glory, honour and worship, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Holy Theophany of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ

O Lord our God, Your love for us is beyond expression, for it pleased You to make Your only-begotten Son a man born of a pure woman, like us in every way except sin. As man He was baptized for our sakes by John the Forerunner, though He had no need of purification, that He might make the nature of water holy and favour us with rebirth from water and from the Spirit.

Eternal Father, He was baptized, that we might recognize You, that we might adore and praise Your beloved Son from heaven, and that we might glorify Your Holy Spirit, who descended upon Him, and showed Him to the Baptist. In Him You sealed and anointed us through baptism; You made us sharers of Your Christ. Through

Him do not fail us sinners but strengthen us against all evil powers. Strengthen Your government against all tyranny and guide us all into Your Kingdom.

In us may Your holy Name, and that of Your only-begotten Son and that of Your Holy Spirit, be glorified, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Meeting of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple with St. Symeon

O Master and Lord, You sent Your only-begotten Son and Word into the world, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those subject to the Law. Through the Spirit You announced beforehand His coming to Symeon the elder, and You revealed His presence to Him.

Bless us also, Your unworthy servants, by the dawn of His coming and accept our prayers, as You accepted the acknowledgment of the prophetess Anna. Make us worthy to embrace and hold Your incarnate Word in our hearts and to become consecrated temples of the Holy Spirit.

By Your strength, give joy to our civil authorities and to all Your Church: that in us Your Name may be glorified, and that of Your only-begotten Son, and that of Your adorable and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos

Lord our God and Ruler of all, You were pleased that Your only-begotten Son took flesh from a Virgin, and became man for our salvation. You sent Your archangel Gabriel to the holy Virgin Mary, to break the good news of this conception without seed. Before all ages You predetermined she would be the vessel of such a fearful mystery, foreknown to You and to Your Word glorified with You. Through her prayers, and the prayers of all the saints, now break the good news to us, of the forgiveness of sins through Your grace, and of the joy that has appeared today. Speak peace to Your people, and make known to us the way to travel to be accepted into Your heavenly Kingdom.

Through the mercies of Your Christ, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Nativity of the Honourable, Glorious Prophet,

Forerunner, and Baptist John

Forerunner, Prophet and Baptist, you knew the Master while still in your mother's womb, and leaped in worship. You were born from a womb that had been barren. From your conception you wanted the height of virtue and lived in the pathless desert. You were the herald of repentance, the baptizer of our Lord, and, by grace, a witness of the Holy Trinity. Rightly did the Lord greet you as greater than anyone born of a woman. Christ our God, by him You were baptized and enlightened the whole world: now send Your help from heaven and have mercy on all of us.

For to You is due all glory, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Commemoration of the Holy, Glorious and Illustrious Apostles Peter and Paul

Lord our God, through Your holy Apostles Peter and Paul You made the mystery of Your Christ known to us. Through their preaching You enlightened us and, by the light of the grace of Your Son shining in them, led us to the truth. Shed Your grace upon us who take part in remembering them, that we may gain Your everlasting gifts in Jesus Christ our Lord, with Whom You are blessed and glorified, together with Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ

Master Jesus Christ our God, lead us upon the All-holy mountain of love, just as You led Your chief apostles upon a lofty mountain. Open the eyes of our minds to a sight of unspeakable beauty just as for Your apostles You surrounded Your bodily form with a marvellous brightness, for You revealed the rays of Your Godhead through Your body. Guide us into better things by Your all-powerful right hand. Beyond our understanding You changed this limiting form: now raise our senses to see Your lordship witnessed by Moses and Elias.

Give us a constant memory of the voice of Your eternal Father, revealing His beloved Son, so that we may put Your commandments into action, and shine forth with You to those worthy of Your immortal Kingdom, who see in You the eternal Father, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

O Christ our God, You transferred Your incorrupt Mother from life to death to the fullness of life. Though she was buried in a grave of corruption, beyond our understanding You lifted her on high and gathered Your apostles from everywhere to be at her side. By her prayers, ransom all of us who celebrate the feast of her Dormition from all deadly thoughts and deeds and free us from spiritual corruption. Save us from the death of despair, and keep us from disbelief or any memory of bad faith. Put to sleep all tyranny and treachery against governments following the pure way. Put to death the audacity of barbarous people and humble all who rise to scoff at Your teachings.

Make all of us worthy of eternal life, for You want all men to be saved, and to You belongs glory together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The Beheading of John the Baptist

O Christ our God, you lowered the heavens and came down to earth, and showed us all Your meekness and condescension. As an example of salvation You gave us Your Forerunner and Baptist, a herald of truth, an envoy of a call to penance and inhabitant of the desert. You made him worthy to fight the good fight, to finish the race and in the end to receive a crown of righteousness and truth, and to spread beforehand the good news of salvation and redemption to those held in Hades.

Give us the grace to imitate his famous life and joyful citizenship in the Kingdom of God by scorning earthly pleasures. Save us from the cosmic powers of this dark world. Guard us with the wings of Your goodness. Bless us, Giver of blessings, and make us worthy of Your heavenly Kingdom.

For through You and with You all honour and glory are due to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Ambon Prayer for the Departed,

(To Be Used for the Five All Souls Saturdays)

Master, Lord and almighty God, You do not reject Your servants, nor despise the souls who pray to You. Give rest now to the souls of Your servants in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Give them rest in a holy place, in the light of life, in a paradise of delight. Overlook their sins, whether committed in knowledge or in ignorance. Deem them worthy of rest in the joy to come and bring us who are yet alive into happiness — yet when You will and as You will, for it is You Who provide for our lives — and keep us in forgiveness of sins.

Through the prayers of the holy, glorious and ever-virgin Mary, and of all the saints, who glorify and give thanks to Your all-holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Little Litany

Albanian

Përsëri dhe përsëri, më paqe le t'i lutemi Zotit.

Mëshiro, O Zot.

Përkrahna, shpëtona, mëshirona, dhe ruajna, O Perëndi, me hirin tënt.

Mëshiro, O Zot.

Tërëshenjtën, të pacinuarën, te përmibekuarën, të lavdëruarën, Kryezonjën tonë, Hyjlindesen, dhe gjithënjë Virgjëreshën Mari dyke kujtuar me gjithë Shenjtorët, veten tone, dhe njërrjatin, dhe tërë jetën tonë Krishtit Perëndi le tja pranojmë.

Ty, O Zot.

Se jotja është lartmadhësia, dhe jotja është mbretëria, dhe fuqia, dhe lavdia, e Atit e Birit edhe Shpirtit Shenjt, tani dhe përherë, dhe në jetët e jetëve.

Se ti je Perëndi mëshirëplot edhe njeridashës, edhe ty të dërgojmë lavdi, Atit e Birit edhe Shpirtit Shenjt, tani dhe përherë, dhe në jetët e jetëve.

Danish

Atter og atter i fred lad os bede til Herren.

Herre forbarm Dig.

Beskærm os, o Gud, frels os, forbarm Dig over os og beskyt os ved Din nåde.

Herre forbarm Dig.

Lad os, ihukommende vor helligste, reneste, højtpriste og velsignede herskerinde Gudsmoder, den bestandigt jomfruelige Maria, samt alle de hellige, befale os selv, hverandre og hele vort liv til Kristus, vor Gud.

Til Dig, o Herre.

Thi Din er magten, og Dit er Riget og kraften og herligheden, Faderens og Sønnens og Helligåndens, nu og altid og i evigheders evighed.

Amen.

Thi Du er god og elsker menneskene, Gud, og vi opsender lov og pris til Dig, Faderen og Sønnen og Helligånden, nu og altid og i evigheders evighed.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Отче наш, Иже еси на небесех! Да святится имя Твое, да приидет Царствие Твое.

Да будет воля Твоя, яко на небеси и на земли. Хлеб наш насущный даждь нам днесь. И остави нам долги наша, якоже и мы оставляем должником нашим. И не введи нас во искушение, но избави нас от лукаваго.

Яко Твое есть царство, и сила, и слава, Отца и Сына, и Святаго Духа, ныне и присно, и во веки веков. Хор: Аминь.

How Glorious is Our God

How glorious is our God of Zion,
no tongue can praise Him justly in word.
So great in heaven on His throne,
His name supreme on earth is heard.
On high is God, on high we are praising
By night, by day almighty God our King.

Кол славен нас Господ в Зионе,
Не может из яснит язык.
Велик он в небесан на троне,
Всилинкана на земли велик.
Везде Господ, везде он славин,
в ноци, во дни сиянем ра'вен.