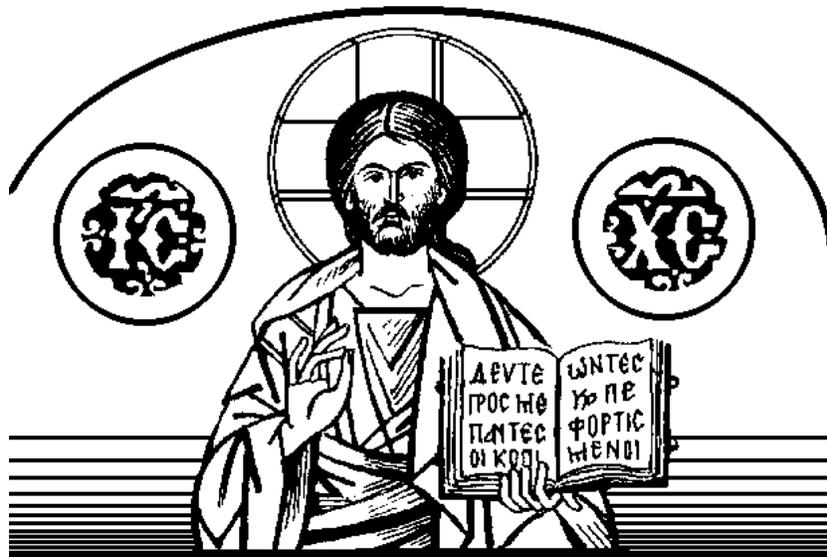


**The Divine and Holy Liturgy
of
Our Father among the Saints
John Chrysostom**



**St. George Byzantine Catholic Church
Romanian Catholic Diocese of Canton, Ohio
The Reverend Father Frederick Peterson, OSB**

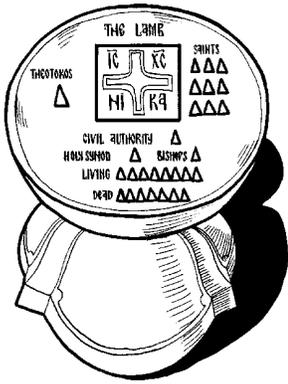
*Prepared with the Propers for the Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs
for Celebration in the Oratory of the Holy Cross at Conception Seminary College*

January 29, 2009

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

The term “Divine Liturgy” in the Byzantine churches is restricted to the Eucharistic Sacrifice, the Holy Mass, which is the outstanding act of public worship. In our tradition there are three Divine Liturgies: that of St. Basil the Great, St. John Chrysostom, and that of the Presanctified. The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is simply a modification of the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, which in turn is a shortened form of the Liturgy of the Church of Constantinople, derived through Caesarea from the primitive uses of Antioch and Jerusalem. Many believe that these liturgies form the most authentic expression of the Church’s original liturgical tradition.

The Preparation of the Gifts

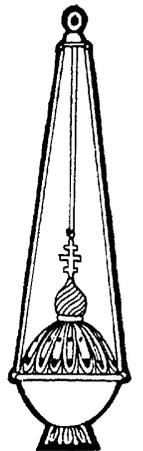


The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom has three main parts. The first division, the preparation or proskomedia, takes place at the side table or prothesis, which is located in the north side of the Sanctuary. After the Prayer of Intention to offer the eucharistic sacrifice the priest dons the liturgical vestments and proceeds to the prothesis. Here he performs the necessary ablution, repeats the Prayer of the Publican, arranges the sacred vessels and begins the proskomedia with the words: “Blessed be our God, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.” The species: bread made of pure wheaten flour, natural water and yeast and the wine made of pure grape are prepared. The celebrant then blesses the incense

and incenses the sacred vessels containing the species, the veils and the prothesis, completing the rite of preparation with the dismissal.

Great Incensation

The priest leaves the prothesis and incenses the main altar, going around it, then comes through the northern door of the icon screen to the solea and stands before the Royal Doors. He then incenses the four main pictures of the icon screen and walks down the length of the nave incensing the people while he recites Psalm 50.



Great Doxology

In many churches it is customary for the people to sing the Great Doxology and Trisagion during the great incensation directly preceding the beginning of the Divine Liturgy. Other appropriate hymns may also be sung.



1. Glo-----ry to God in--- the high-----est, and on earth-- peace, good will am-ong men.



2. We praise thee, we bless thee, we ad---ore--- thee,



we glo-rif---y thee, we-- give thee thanks for thy great glo-----ry.



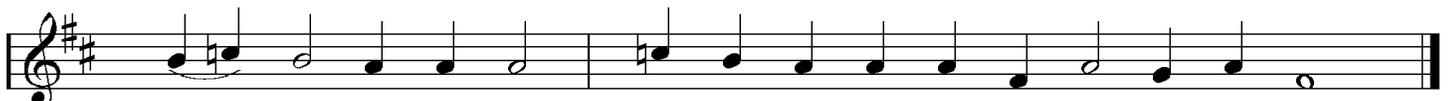
3. O Lord-- God, heav-en--ly King, Fath---er Al---migh-----ty.



O--- Lord, O--nly--be--got--ten Son, Je--sus Christ and Ho-ly Spir---it.



4. O--- Lord God, Lamb of God Son-- of the Fath-er who take aw--ay the sins of the world



have-- mer---cy on us, thou who take aw---ay the sins of the world.



5. Re-ceive our prayer, thou who sit at the right hand of the Fath-er, and have mer-cy on---- us.



6. For thou al--one art ho-----ly, thou al--one art Lord, Je--sus Christ:



in the glo----ry of God the Fath--er Am-----en.



7. Ev--ery day will I bless thee, and I will praise thy name for-----ev---er and ev---er.



8. Make-- us----- worth--y, O Lord this day, to be pre--served free from sin.



9. Bless-----ed are thee, O Lord the God of our Fath--ers



and thy name is praised and glo--rif--ied for--ev--er. Am----en.



10. Let your mer-cy, O---- Lord, be up-----on us e---ven as we have hoped in---- thee.



11. Bless-ed art thou, O---- Lord: teach-- me thy right-eous-ness. (twice)



Bless---ed art-- thou, O----- Lord, teach me thy right-eous--ness.



12. Lord-- thou hast been our ref-uge from one gen-er---a--tion to gen--er---a--tion



I said: Lord have mer-----cy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned be--fore- thee.



13. Lord in thee---- have I---- hoped, teach me to do thy will for thou are my---- God.



14. For with thee is the source of---- life in thy light will we---- see---- light.



15. Ex---tend thy mer-----cy un--to those who know----- thee.



Trisagion



1. Ho--ly God--, Ho----ly Migh-----ty One, Ho-----ly Im--mor-tal One, have mer-cy on us.



3. Ho--ly God, Ho----ly Migh-----ty One, Ho--ly Im--mor-tal One, have mer-cy on us.



4. Glo--ry to--- the Fath-----er, and to the Son---, and--- to the Ho--ly Spir-----it,



now--- and--- al-----ways, and for----ev-----er and ev-----er. Am---en.



Ho-----ly Im--mor-----tal One, have mer-cy on us.

The Divine Liturgy of Our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom

Opening Blessing

Priest: Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
Now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am-----men.

Litany of Peace

Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
(Quickly, ● = 120)



Response: Lord, have mer---cy.



P: For peace from on high, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

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



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For this Holy House and for those who with faith and reverence, and in the fear of God
enter it, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For our Holy Father, Pope Benedict, for his Beatitude, our Archbishop Lucian, for our Most Reverend Bishop John Michael, for the Most Reverend Bishop of this place, Robert, for the Right Reverend Father Gregory, abbot of this holy monastery and of its monks, for the honored Priesthood, the Diaconate of Christ, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For our country, its President and government, and all who are in authority, let us pray to the Lord.



Response: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For this city, for all the cities and villages, and for all who in faith dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For good weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For those who travel, for those who are sick, for those who suffer and those in prison, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: That we may be delivered from all distress, wrath, tribulation, and want, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: Preserve, help, save, and have mercy on us, O God, by the grace.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and our entire lives, to Christ our God.



Response: To----- thee, O Lord.

Priest: (*quietly*) O Lord our God, whose might is ineffable, whose glory is inconceivable, whose mercy is infinite, and whose love of man unutterable: look down, O Master, in thy tender compassion, upon us and upon this holy house: and grant us, and unto those who pray with us, thy abundant graces and mercies.

(*aloud*) For to thee is due all glory, honor and adoration, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

First Antiphon

Psalm 102

(Alternate hymns may be sung in place of these.)



Glo-ry to the Fath-----er, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.



Bless the Lord--, O my soul, and let all that is with-in me bless His---- Ho-ly---- Name.



Ev--er----- bless-----ed art Thou--, O----- Lord.

Short Litany

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



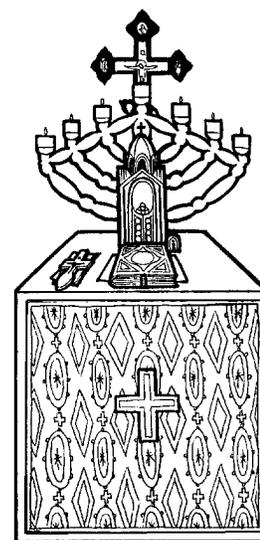
Response: Lord, have mer----cy.

Priest: Preserve, help, save, and have mercy on us, O God, by thy grace.



R: Lord, have mer----cy.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and our entire lives, to Christ our God.





Response: To----- thee, O Lord.

Priest: *(quietly)* O Lord our God, save thy people and bless thine inheritance; protect in peace the fullness of thy church; sanctify those who love the beauty of thy house; glorify them by thy divine power, and forsake not us who place our trust in thee.

(aloud) For thine is the majesty, and thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

Second Antiphon
Hymn of the Incarnation by Emperor Justinian



Now, and- al---ways-, and for---ev---er and ev---er. Am-----en.



O----- o---nly be--got-ten Son and--- Word of God, Thou Who art im---mor-----tal,



yet didst con-de-scent for the sake of our sal--va-----tion to be-come in--car-----nate



of the ho-ly Moth-er of God and-- ev-er Vir-gin Ma-----ry, with-out change be-com-ing man,



and be-ing cru--cif-----ied, O Christ-- our God, with--- death didst Thou-- con--quer Death,



thou who art one of the Ho-ly Trin-----it----y, glo--rif--ied--- to--geth-er with the Fath-----er



and the---- Ho-ly Spir-it, save--- us.

Short Litany

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



Response: Lord, have mer----cy.

Priest: Preserve, help, save, and have mercy on us, O God, by thy grace.



R: Lord, have mer----cy.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and our entire lives, to Christ our God.



Response: To----- thee, O Lord.

Priest: *(quietly)* Thou who hast given us these common and united prayers, and who hast promised to grant the petitions even of two or three who are gathered together in thy name: do thou now grant the petitions of thy servants unto their good; giving us also the knowledge of thy truth in this life, and life everlasting in the world to come.

(aloud) For thou art a good God who loves mankind, and to thee do we offer glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

Third Antiphon *The Beatitudes*

Refrain:



Re--mem-ber us, O Lord, when You come in---to Your king-dom.

Verses:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn. For they shall be comforted.

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

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after justice, For they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they shall revile you and persecute you,
speaking all that is evil against you, untruly for My sake.

Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is very great in heaven.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
Now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

During the Third Antiphon and before the Entrance of the Word, the priest makes three reverences.

Procession at the Entrance of the Word

The Priest picks up the holy Gospel book and goes from the south side behind the holy table and comes out through the north side, candle bearers going before him, thus making the Entrance of the Word. Standing at the customary place, he bows his head, and continues:

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest: Lord Master, our God, who hast established in heaven the ranks and hosts of angels and archangels unto the service of thy majesty, grant that with our entrance may enter also thy holy angels, who with us give glory to thy goodness. For to thee is due all glory, honor and adoration, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

Priest: Blessed is the entrance of thy Saints, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

Elevating the Gospel Book, and making with it a sign of the cross, the Priest sings aloud:

P: Wisdom, Rise!

*The people respond with the appropriate Entrance Hymn.
(Alternate hymns may be sung in place of these.)*



Hymn at the Entrance of the Word

Entrance Hymn: *(for Weekdays)*



The Priest enters the sanctuary through the holy door and places the Gospel book upon the holy table.

Troparion and Hymn to the Mother of God

The people sing the appropriate Troparion and Theotokion.

(An appropriate Kontakion may also be taken.)

Troparion: (Tone 1) [of the Three Holy Hierarchs]



As-semb-ling to-ge-th-er, let- us who re-vere their words hon-or in song



the three- great- ex-po-nents of the- thrice ra-diant Div-in-it-y,



they who with the rays of their div-ine teach-ing il-lum-ine- the- whole world,



flow-ing- streams- of- the- hon-ey of- un-der-stand-ing,



who in- pour-ing out the- know-ledge of- God nour-ish ev-ery crea-ure,



Bas-il the Great and- Greg-o-ry the- The-o-lo-gian



to-ge-th-er- with the re-nowned John who speaks with mouth of- gold;



for they pray con-tin-ual-ly to- the- Trin-it-y- for- us.

Kontakion: (Tone 2) [of the Three Holy Hierarchs]



In the joy and--- re---pose of thy----- good-----ness-----, Lord,



thou didst re-----ceive the-- ho---ly mess--en---gers



and preach-ers of God--, chiefs am---ong-- thy teach---ers:



for thou--- didst ac-cept their la--bors and----- death more than all--- the-- hol--o---causts,



thou---- who al-----one----- didst glo---rif--y thy----- Saints.

THREE HIERARCHS



Kontakion: (Tone 6) [to the Theotokos]



Thou faith-----ful help of--- chris-----tians,



un---swerv-ing me--di---a---trix in the pres-ence of the Cre---a-----tor,



do not----- o---ver---look the prayer-ful voi---ces of sin-----ners,



but ha--sten in thy good-ness, to our aid, who trust-ing----ly---- cry to--- thee:



Make haste----- in prayer, and be dil---ig--ent for our sal---va-----tion,



O Moth--er of God, ev---er pro--tec---ting those who-- hon-----or thee.



Prayer of the Thrice-Holy Hymn

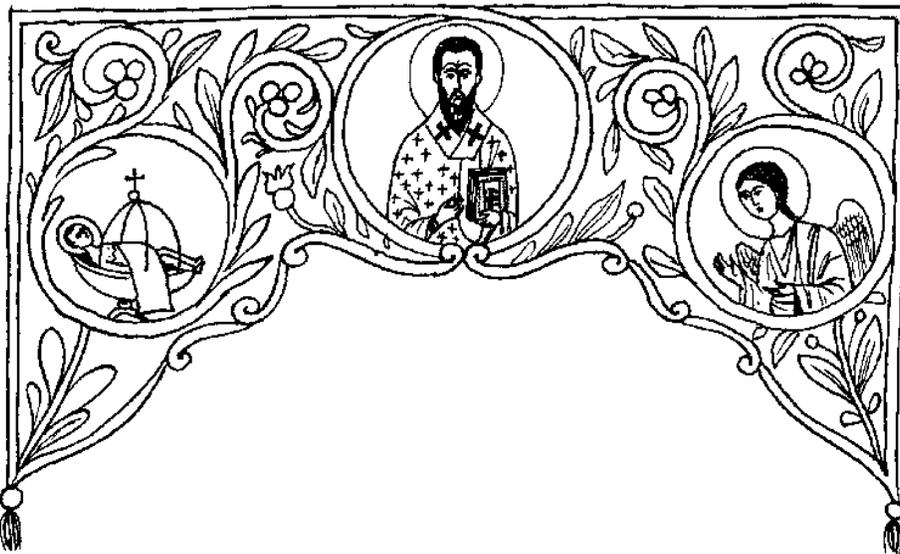
The Priest prays the following:

O Holy God, who retest among the Saints, and in thrice-holy song art praised by the Seraphim and glorified by the cherubim, and adored by all the powers of heaven: who out of nothingness didst bring all things into being, and didst create man after thy image and likeness, adorning him with all thy grace: thou who givest wisdom and understanding to him who asks, and dost not scorn the sinner but ordainest penance for his salvation: who hast made us humble and unworthy servants even in this hour worthy to stand before the glory of thy holy altar and to bring thee due adoration and songs of praise: do thou, O Lord, accept from the mouths of us sinners this thrice-holy hymn and visit us with thy goodness; pardon all our transgressions, whether voluntary or involuntary; sanctify our souls and bodies and grant us the grace of serving thee with reverence all the days of our lives, through the intercession of the holy Mother of God and of all the Saints, who from the beginning have pleased thee. For holy art thou, our God, and to thee do we offer glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

Lord Master, God of Might, save thy people: preserve them in peace by the power of thy Holy Spirit, through the image of the most honored Cross of thy only-begotten Son, together with whom thou art blessed forever and ever. Amen.

Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord.

Blessed art thou on the throne of thy kingdom, who sittest on the Cherubim, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.



Trisagion

When the singers come to the last troparion, the Priest sings:

Priest: For holy art thou, our God, and to thee do we offer glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am-----men.



Ho-----ly God, Ho-----ly Migh--ty One,



Ho-ly Im-mor-----tal One, have mer-cy on us. (3X) *Fine*



Glo-ry to the Fath-er and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-----it,



now and al---ways, and for---ev--er and ev---er. Am-----en.



Ho-ly Im--mor-----tal One, have mer-cy on us. *D.C. al Fine*

Prayers of the Throne

Priest: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed are You on the throne of glory of your kingdom, seated upon the Cherubim, at all times, now and always and forever and ever.*

Prokimenon

Priest: Let us attend. Peace be to all.



Response: And with thy spir-----it.

The appropriate Prokimenon to the Epistle is chanted.

Prokimenon: *(Tone 8) [of the Three Holy Hierarchs]*



Through all the earth their voice re---ounds; their mess--age reach-es to the ends-- of the earth.

v. The heavens proclaim the glory of God,
And the firmament shows forth the work of His hands.

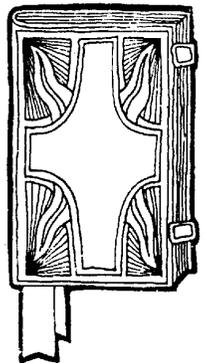
Epistle

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: *A Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews*

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: *(The Epistle is chanted.)*
Hebrews 13: 7-16



Gospel Acclamation

When the reader has finished chanting the Epistle, the Priest says:

Priest: Peace be to you, reader.

Reader: And with thy spirit.

The Alleluia is chanted. (Alternate melodies may be taken.)

Alleluia: *(Tone 4) [of the Three Holy Hierarchs]*



Al--le--lu--ia, Al--le--lu-----ia, Al--le--lu-----ia.



Al--le--lu--ia, Al--le--lu-----ia, Al--le--lu-----ia.

- v. The heavens proclaim your wonders, O Lord,
The assembly of Your holy ones proclaims Your truth.
- v. God is to be extolled in the council of the holy ones,
Great and awesome to all around Him.

When the Alleluia is being sung the Priest takes the censer and incenses the holy table crosswise all around, the whole sanctuary, the icon of the iconostasis, and the people while reciting the prayer before the Gospel.

Enkindle in our hearts, Master and lover of mankind, the pure light of thy divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our understanding, that we may comprehend the teachings of thy gospel: instill in us a fear of thy blessed commandments that, trampling all desires of the flesh, we might live a spiritual, thinking and doing all those things which are pleasing to thy holy will. For thou art the light of our souls and of our bodies, O Christ our God, and to thee do we offer glory, together with thy eternal Father, and to thy most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.



At the Gospel

Priest: Wisdom! Rise! Let us attend to the holy Gospel. Peace be to all.



Response: And with thy spir-----it.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

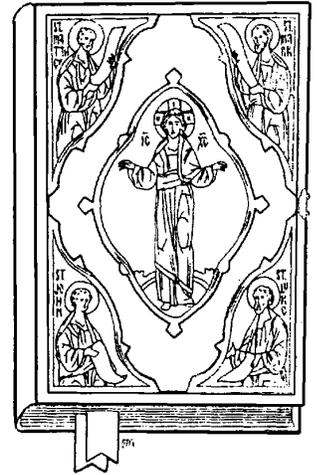


Glo--ry to thee, O Lord, glo-----ry to---- thee.

Priest: Let us attend. (*The Gospel is chanted by the Priest.*)
Matthew 5: 14-19



Glo--ry to thee, O Lord, glo-----ry to---- thee.



He kisses the holy Gospel book, makes with it a sign of the cross over the people, and places it on the holy table.

Hymn to the Holy Spirit
Alternate hymns may be sung



O----- heav-en----ly King---, Con---so---ler Spir-----it of Truth,



who art in--- all pla-----ces, and-- fill---est----- all----- things,

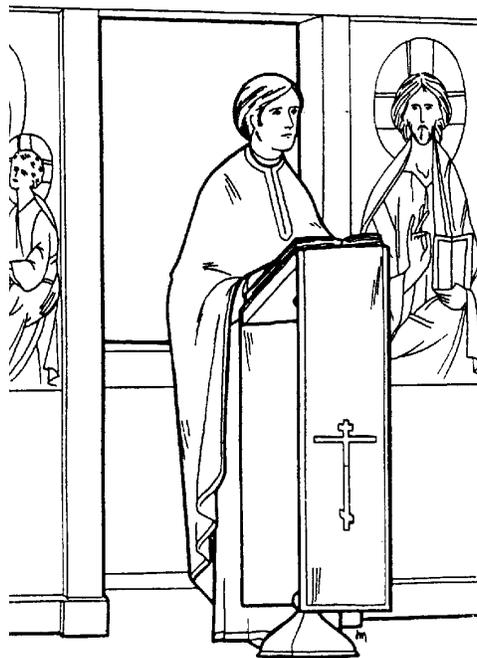


treas---ur-y of good-ness and-- giv-----er of life, come and-- take--- up-- thine ab--ode am-----ong--- us,



and cleanse us of--- ev-----ery stain, and-- save----- our-- souls---, O--- Good One.

Homily



P: We pray also for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, remission and forgiveness of sins of the servants of God, the brethren of this holy Church.

P: We pray also for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy Church, and for all our faithful fathers and brethren, who have fallen asleep before us and who, here and elsewhere, rest in the Lord.



R: Lord-----, have mer--cy Lord-----, have mer-cy, Lord----- have mer-----cy.

P: We pray also for those who bring gifts and do good unto this holy and blessed Church, and for those who labor, for those who sing, and for the people here present awaiting thy great and abundant mercy.

During the Incessant Litany the Priest prays silently:

Priest: *(quietly)* O Lord our God, accept from thy servants this suppliant prayer and have mercy on us according to the greatness of thy mercies; grant thy blessings to us, and to all thy people, who await thy rich mercies.

(aloud) For thou art a merciful God, lover of mankind, and to thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

The Litany and Prayer for the dead may be taken here.

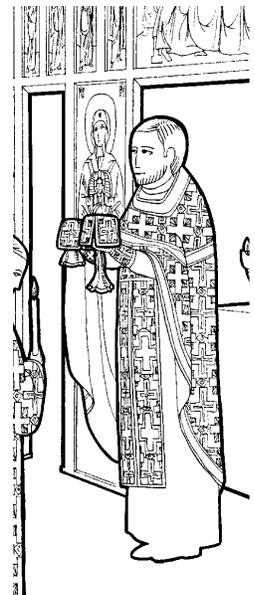
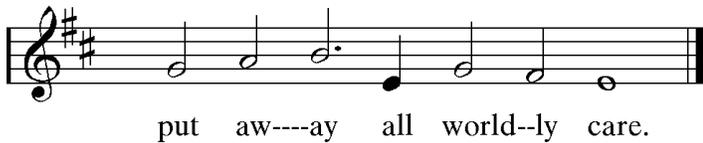
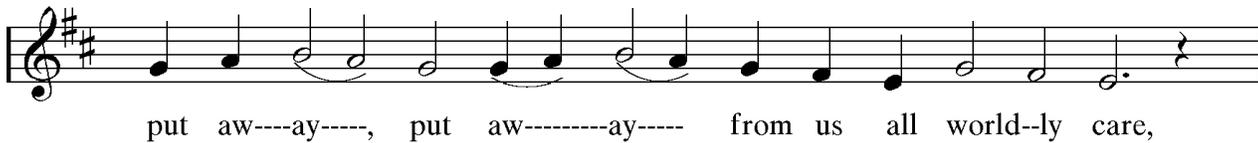
The Litany and Prayers for the Catechumens may be taken here.

The Litany and Prayers for the Faithful may be taken here.



Cherubic Hymn

(This hymn is sung slowly and may need to be repeated until the Entrance of the Gifts.)



The Cherubic Prayer

During the singing of the Cherubic Hymn, the Priest prays the Cherubic Prayer.

None of those bound by the desires and pleasures of the flesh is worthy to come, or to approach, or to serve thee, King of glory; for to serve thee is a great and fearsome task even for the heavenly powers. Nevertheless, because of thine unbounded and unspoken love for man, without change or mutation thou didst become man and didst name thyself our High Priest, giving us the holy working of this bloodless liturgical sacrifice, being Master of all. For thou alone, O Lord our God, reignest over heavenly things and over earthly things, thou who art carried on the chair of the Cherubim, Lord of the Seraphim and King of Israel, who alone art holy and retest amongst the Saints. I beseech thee, therefore, who alone art good and condescending, to look upon me, thy sinful and unworthy servant, and to purify my soul and my heart of every traitorous thought; make me worthy, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, that being vested with the grace of the Priesthood, I may stand before this, thy holy table, and sacrifice to thee thy holy and most pure Body, and most precious Blood. For to thee do I pray, bowing my head, beseeching thee not to turn thy face from me, nor cast me out from amongst thy servants; but make me, thy sinful and unworthy servant, worthy to bring thee these gifts. For it is thou who offerest and art offered, who receivest and art imparted, Christ our God, and to thee do we ascribe glory, together with thy eternal Father, and thy most holy and blessed and life-giving Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

The Priest incenses the holy table all around, the whole sanctuary and the iconostasis while reciting Psalm 50.

The Priest, then standing in front of the holy table recites the Cherubic Hymn three times with arms upraised.

*Priest: Let us, who mystically represent the Cherubim,
Bringing the thrice-holy hymn to the life-giving Trinity,
Put away from us all worldly care;*

*Priest: That we may receive the King of all,
Who is surrounded by the angelic hosts.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

(three times)

After incensing, the Priest proceeds to the prothesis. He makes three reverences, saying each time:

O God, be propitious to me a sinner and have mercy on me. (three times)

The priest places the aer on his shoulders and the diskos and cup in his hands. He begins the Entrance of the Gifts.

Entrance of the Gifts

(Other appropriate petitions may be added to these.)

Priest: May the Lord God remember all of you in His kingdom, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am-----men.

Priest: May the Lord God remember in His kingdom our Holy Father, Pope Benedict, for his Beatitude, our Archbishop Lucian, for our Most Reverend Bishop John Michael, for the Most Reverend Bishop of this place, Robert, for the Right Reverend Father Gregory, abbot of this holy monastery and of its monks, and all his priests, now, and always, and forever and ever.

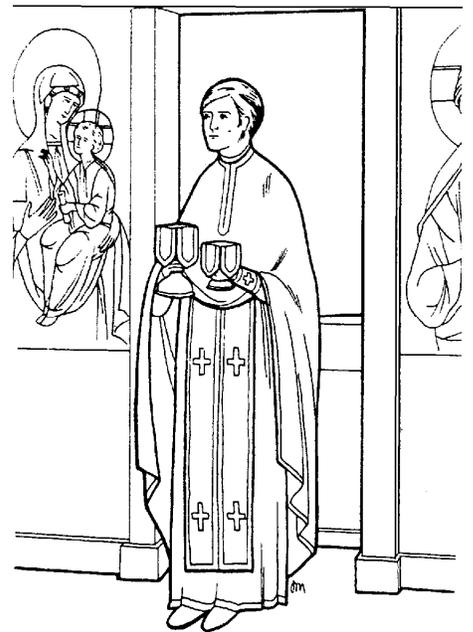


Response: Am--en.

P: May the Lord God remember in His kingdom our country, its President and government, and all who are in authority, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am-----men.



P: May the Lord God remember in His kingdom the founders and benefactors of this church, living and dead, the servant(s) of God (name), for whom this Holy Sacrifice is offered, together with all of you faithful Christians, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

Hymn of the Entrance of the Gifts



That we may now re-ceive-- the King, the King of--- all, that we----- re-ceive the King of--- all,



the King who--- is sur-ound---ed by the an--gel--ic hosts. Al-----le---lu-----ia.

The Priest places The Gifts upon the altar, incenses them, and prays silently:

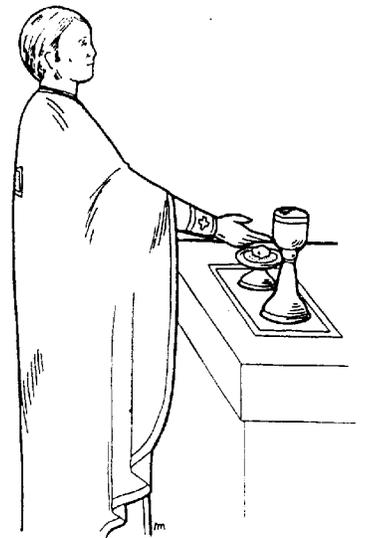
The venerable Joseph, taking thy pure body down from the wood and wrapping it in fine linen and sweet spices, laid it in a new tomb; yet the third day thou didst rise again, O Christ our Lord, granting the world unbounded mercy.

In the tomb with the body, and in hell with the spirit, like a God, and in heaven with the good thief, on thy throne wert thou, O Christ with the Father and with the Holy Spirit, filling all things, thou who art unbounded.

Bearer of life, truly more beautiful than heaven and more glorious than all the king's bridal chambers, O Christ, did thy tomb show itself, the source of our resurrection.

Deal favorably, O Lord, in thy good will, with Sion: and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.

Then wilt thou accept the sacrifice of justice, oblations and whole burnt offerings; then shall they place calves upon thy altar.



After the Entrance

Priest: Let us complete our prayers to the Lord.



Response: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For the precious gifts offered here, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and in the fear of God enter it, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: That we may be delivered from all distress, wrath, tribulation and want, let us pray to the Lord.

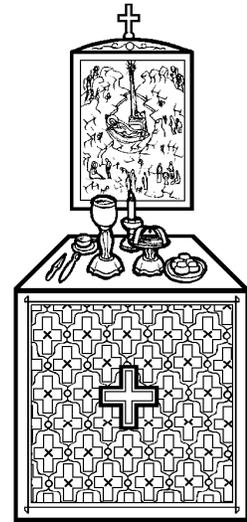


R: Lord, have mer---cy.

P: Preserve, help, save and have mercy on us, O God, by thy grace.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.



P: The entire day, perfect, holy, peaceful and without sin, an angel of peace, the faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask from the Lord.



Grant us, O Lord.

P: Mercy, and forgiveness of our sins and trespasses, that which is good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask from the Lord.



Grant us, O Lord.

P: That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and in penance, and for a Christian end to our lives, without pain, unashamed, and peaceful, and a good defense at the fearsome judgment of Christ, let us ask from the Lord.



Grant us, O Lord.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary, together with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and our entire lives, to Christ our God.



Response: To----- thee, O Lord.



Priest: *(quietly)* Lord God Almighty, who alone art holy and receivest the sacrifice of praise from those who call upon thee with their whole heart: receives also this prayer for us sinners, and carry it to thy holy altar; make us worthy to bring thee gifts and spiritual sacrifices for our sins and for the ignorance of the people; make us worthy, also, to find grace before thee, that our sacrifice may be pleasing to thee, and that the good Spirit of thy grace may descend upon us, and upon these gifts placed before thee, and upon all thy people.

(aloud) Through the mercies of thy only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed together with thy most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

Priest: Peace be to all.



Response: And with thy spir-----it.

Priest: Let us love one another, that with one accord we may confess



The Fath-----er, and the Son, and the Ho--ly Spir-----rit,



one in es-----sence, and un---div---i----ded Trin---it-----y.



The Priest makes three reverences saying each time:

I shall love thee, O Lord, my strength, the Lord is my might and my refuge. (three times)

The priest kisses the holy things, which are covered. If there are two priests or more, they greet each other with a kiss, saying “Christ is in our midst,” and responding “He both is and will always be.”

Proclamation of Faith

Priest: The doors, the doors! Let us attend with wisdom!

The priest lifts the aer from the gifts, and holds it over them, waving it, and reciting the creed along with the people.

Response:

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 only begotten Son of God,
born 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 by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary: and was made man.
He was crucified also for us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead;
of whose kingdom there shall be no end.
And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father,
Who together with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets.
And in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
I expect the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

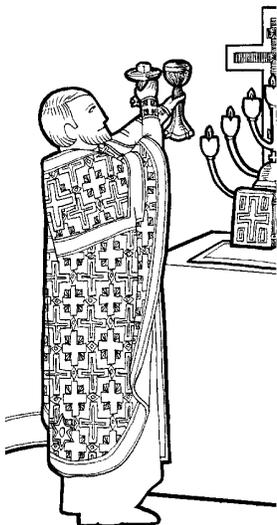
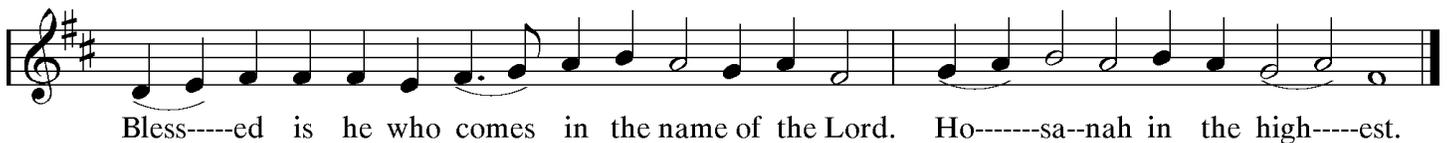
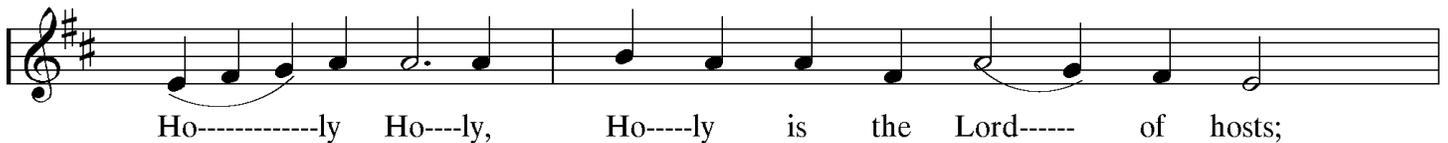


Prayer to God the Father

The Priest prays aloud:

It is fitting and just to sing to thee, to bless thee, to praise thee, to thank thee and adore thee in every place of thy dominion; for thou art God ineffable, incomprehensible, invisible, illimitable, thou and thy only-begotten Son, and thy Holy Spirit. Thou didst bring us out of nothingness into being, and didst again raise up the fallen, neglecting nothing until thou didst bring us to heaven, and didst grant us the kingdom to come. For all this we thank thee, and thy only-begotten Son, and thy Holy Spirit, for all the mercies, visible and invisible, which have been granted us, those of which we know and those of which we do not know. We thank thee, likewise, for this liturgy, which thou hast deigned to accept from our hands, even though there stand before thee thousands of Archangels, and hundreds of thousands of Angels, Cherubim and Seraphim, those with six wings and many eyes, who soar aloft,

singing the song of triumph, crying aloud, raising their voices and saying:



Prayer to God the Son

The Priest prays aloud:

With these blessed powers, Lord lover of mankind, do we also cry out and say: Holy art thou and most holy, thou, and thy only-begotten Son, and thy Holy Spirit. Holy art thou and most holy, and most fitting is thy glory; thou who didst so love the world, that thou gavest even thy only-begotten Son, that every one who believes in him may not perish, but have life eternal. Who, coming and fulfilling the entire mission for us, on the night on which he was betrayed, or rather, gave himself for the life of the world, taking bread in his holy, most pure, and immaculate hands, giving thanks, blessing, breaking, gave to his holy disciples and apostles saying:



P: Take, eat, this is my body, which is broken for you, for the remission of sins.



Response: Am-----men.

The Priest continues aloud:

Similarly the chalice after the supper, saying:

P: Drink you all from this, this is my blood of the new law, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins.



Response: Am-----men.

Anamnesis

The Priest continues aloud:

Remembering this saving commandment and all that was done for us: the cross, the grave, the resurrection on the third day, the ascension into Heaven, the sitting at the right hand, and the second and glorious coming,

P: Thine own, of thine own, we offer Thee, of all and for all.



The Priest prays aloud:

Again do we bring thee this rational and unbloody sacrifice, and we beseech, pray and implore thee: send thy Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts which are placed before thee.

Prayer to God the Holy Spirit Epiclesis

P: Lord, thou who at the third hour didst send thy Holy Spirit upon thy Apostles, do not take him from us, O merciful One, but renew him in us who pray to thee. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew within me a spirit of righteousness.

P: Lord, thou who at the third hour didst send thy Holy Spirit upon thy Apostles, do not take him from us, O merciful One, but renew him in us who pray to thee. Cast me not away from thy face, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

P: Lord, thou who at the third hour didst send thy Holy Spirit upon thy Apostles, do not take him from us, O merciful One, but renew him in us who pray to thee.

P: Make this bread, indeed, the honored Body of thy Christ. Amen.

P: And what is in this chalice the honored Blood of thy Christ. Amen. Transforming them with thy Holy Spirit. Amen. Amen. Amen.



The Priest continues to pray aloud:

That they may be, for those who will partake thereof, unto the awakening of the soul, unto the forgiveness of sins, unto the imparting of the Holy Spirit, unto the attainment of the heavenly kingdom, unto complete trust in thee, but not unto judgment or condemnation.

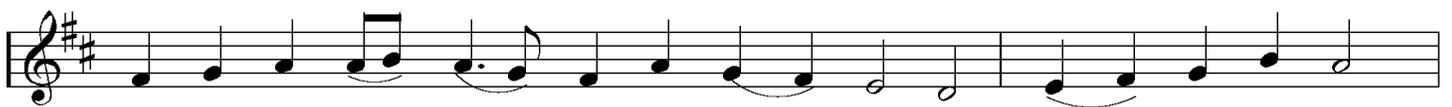
Again, we bring thee this rational service for those asleep in the faith, Ancestors, Fathers, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Preachers, Evangelists, Martyrs, Confessors, Teachers, and for every soul that has slept in the faith.

The priest takes the censer and incenses three times the holy table before him and continues:

Hymn to the Bearer of God

(Other appropriate hymns may be substituted.)

P: Especially for our most holy, pure, most blessed, glorious Lady and Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary.



It is tru---ly--- fit-----ting that we----- bless thee, Bear-----er of God,



who--- art for--ev---er--- bless-ed and most in--no--cent--- and the Moth--er of our God.



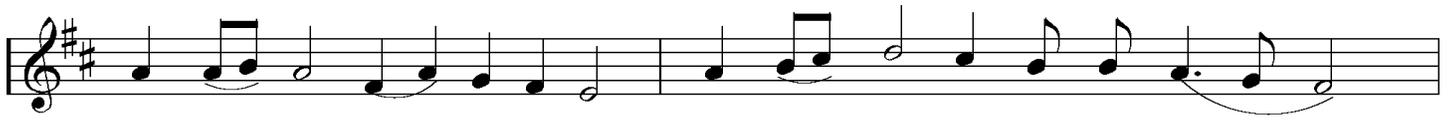
Thou who-- art----- more----- hon--or'd than the Cher-----ru---bim,



and more glor-----ri--ous be-----yond com---par--is---on---- than the Ser-----aph-im,



thou---- who---- un----de-----fil'd----, ga---vest birth to--- God the Word:



thee, the-- true Moth-----er of God, thee the-- true Moth--er of God-----,



Moth--er of God---, do we praise.

During the Hirmos the priest incense the holy table all around and remembers by name those whom he commemorates.

Commemorations

The priest prays silently:

For Saint John, the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist; for the glorious, holy and praiseworthy Apostles; for Saint (Name), whose commemoration we make; and for all thy Saints: by whose prayers mayst thou preserve us, O God, and remember all those who have slept in the hope of resurrection unto eternal life.

For the salvation, preservation and forgiveness of sins of thy servant (Name).

For the rest and forgiveness of the soul of thy servant (Name), in a place of light from whence all sorrow and weeping have fled. Grant him(her) rest, our God, in that place where the light of thy countenance shines.



Again we pray thee: remember, O Lord, thy faithful Bishopry, those who faithfully teach the word of thy truth, the entire Priesthood, the Diaconate of the Lord, and the entire priestly order.

Again we bring thee this rational service for the whole world: for the Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church; for those who live in innocence and justice, for our country, for its President and government. Grant them, O Lord, peaceful exercise of authority, that we also, in their tranquility, may live a peaceful life without trouble, in the fear of God and in all worthiness.

The Priest prays aloud:

Priest: Be mindful first, O Lord, of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict, for his Beatitude, our Archbishop Lucian, for our Most Reverend Bishop John Michael, for the Most Reverend Bishop of this place, Robert, for the Right Reverend Father Gregory, abbot of this holy monastery and of its monks, granting them to thy holy churches in peace, safety, honor, health, and length of days, faithfully teaching the word of thy truth.



R: And of all---- thy---- peo----ple.

The Priest prays silently:

Be mindful, O Lord, of this town in which we live, and of all the towns and villages, with those who in faith dwell in them. Be mindful, O Lord, of those who travel, of those who are sick, of those who labor, of those in prison, and of their salvation. Be mindful, O Lord, of those who bring gifts and do good unto thy holy churches, and who are solicitous of the poor, and over us all shed thine abundant mercies,

The Priest prays aloud:

Priest: And grant us, with one mouth and with one heart, to praise and glorify thy most honored and most worthy name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

P: And may the grace of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.



Response: And with thy spir-----it.



Before the Our Father

Priest: Commemorating all the saints, again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.



Response: Lord, have mer----cy.

P: For the honored gifts which have been brought and have been sanctified, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer----cy.

P: That our God, who loves mankind - who received them in his holy and most heavenly and comprehensive altar, in an odor of sweet spiritual aroma - may grant us his divine mercy and the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer----cy.

P: That we may be delivered from all distress, wrath, tribulation and want, let us pray to the Lord.



R: Lord, have mer----cy.

The Priest prays silently:

Unto thee do we commit our whole life and all our hope, Master and lover of mankind, beseeching thee to make us worthy to partake of thy heavenly and fearsome mysteries from this holy and spiritual table, in a pure conscience, unto the forsaking of sins, unto the forgiveness of transgressions, unto the partaking of the Holy Spirit, unto the inheritance of the heavenly kingdom, unto hope in thee, but not unto judgment or condemnation.

P: Preserve, help, save and have mercy on us, O God, by thy grace.



R: Lord, have mer----cy.



Priest: The entire day, perfect, holy, peaceful and without sin, an angel of peace, the faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask from the Lord.



Grant us, O Lord.

P: Mercy, and forgiveness of our sins and trespasses, that which is good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask from the Lord.



Grant us, O Lord.

P: That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and in penance, and for a Christian end to our lives, without pain, unashamed, and peaceful, and a good defense at the fearsome judgment of Christ, let us ask from the Lord.



Grant us, O Lord.



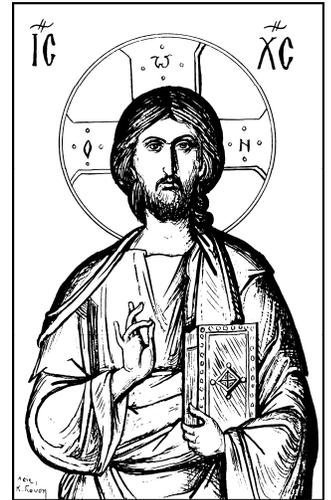
Priest: Beseeching a union of faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us offer ourselves and each other, and our entire lives to Christ our God.



Response: To----- thee, O Lord.

The Priest says the prayer before Our Father:

We entrust our whole life and hope to thee, O Master, Lover of Mankind, and we ask and pray and prostrate humbly before thee: Count us worthy to partake with a pure conscience of thy heavenly and awesome Mysteries of this holy and spiritual table, for remission of sins, for forgiveness of transgressions, for communion of the Holy Spirit, for inheritance of the heavenly kingdom, for confidence toward thee but not for judgment nor for condemnation:



Our Father

Priest: And make us worthy, O Master, with hope and without condemnation to dare to call thee, the God of Heaven, Father and to say:

Response:

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.

Priest: 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 always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

Priest: Peace be to all.



Response: And with thy spir-----it.

Prayer of the Bowing of the Heads

Priest: Bow your heads unto the Lord.



R: Un--to--- thee, O----- Lord.

The Priest prays:

We thank thee, unseen King, who in thine unmeasured power didst make all things, and by the multitude of thy mercies didst bring all from nothingness into being. Do thou, O Master, look down from heaven upon those who have bowed their heads unto thee: for they did not bow them before flesh and blood, but unto thee, O fearsome God. Do thou, therefore, O Master, ordain these gifts, placed before thee, unto the good of us all, and for the particular need of each: accompany those who sail upon the water, journey with those who travel on land and in the air, heal the sick, thou who art the physician of souls and bodies.

Priest: With the grace and mercies and love of mankind of thy only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thy most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am-----men.

The Priest prays silently:

Remember us, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, from the holy dwelling-place, and from the throne of thy glorious kingdom, and come, sanctify us, thou who sittest on high together with the Father, and with us art here invisibly present; and graciously vouchsafe, by thy mighty hand, to impart unto us thy most pure Body and precious Blood, and through us to all the people.

The priest makes three reverences, saying each time:

Lord, have mercy on me a sinner. (3X)

Priest: Let us attend. The holy things unto the holy!

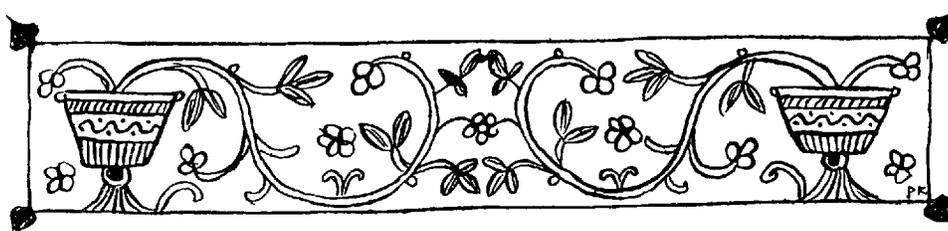


One is ho-----ly, One is Lord--- Je-----sus Christ,



in the--- glo-ry, the glo-----ry of God the Fath--er. Am-----en.

The faithful begin reciting aloud the Prayers before Communion found on page 40.



The Priest carefully breaks the Holy Bread into four segments, saying:

Priest: The Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, is broken and distributed, broken but not divided, consumed yet never ended: sanctifying all who partake thereof.

With one of the segments the Priest makes the sign of the cross over the chalice saying:

Priest: The plenitude of faith of the Holy Spirit.

The Priest drops the segment into the chalice.

And taking the zeon (warm water) the Priest blesses the hot water saying:

Priest: Blessed is the fervor of thy holy ones, now, and always, and forever and ever.



The Priest pours enough hot water in the sign of the cross to heat the Holy Gifts, saying:

Priest: The fervor of faith completed by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer before Communion

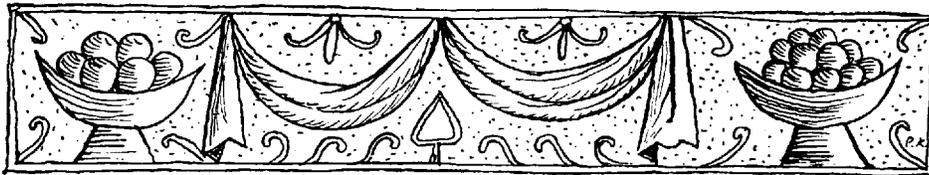
The people say the Prayer before Communion.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit:

I believe, O Lord, and confess, that thou art Christ, the Son of the living God, who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the greatest. I believe that what I receive is indeed thy very own pure Body and precious Blood. Therefore I beseech thee: have mercy on me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, which I have committed by word or by deed, knowingly and unknowingly: and make me worthy without condemnation to partake of thy most pure Mysteries, unto the remission of sins, and unto life eternal. Amen.

O Son of God, receive me today as a partaker at thy mystical banquet: for I will not tell thy enemies thy secrets, nor will I kiss thee as did Judas: but like the thief do I confess to thee: Remember me, O Lord, in thy kingdom.

Let the partaking of thy Holy Mysteries be for me not unto judgment or condemnation, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body together.



While the priest continues these prayers, the people sing a Communion Hymn for the day, found on the top of page 41.

Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof; yet as thou didst consent to lie in a stable, in a manger of beasts, and in the house of Simon the leper to receive even the wanton, a sinner like myself, who approached thee: deign thou to enter the manger of my unreasoning soul, and my wretched body, leprous and dead: and as thou didst not abhor the lips of the wanton, who kissed thy most pure feet: even so, O Lord, my God, do not shun me, the sinner; but as a gentle lover of mankind, make me worthy to partake of thy most precious Body and Blood.

Our God, weaken, cast off, and forgive my sins, as many as I have committed, knowingly and unknowingly, whether by word or by deed: forgive them all, kind lover of man; and by the prayers of thy most pure and ever Virgin Mother, make me worthy, without condemnation, to receive thy blessed and most pure Body, unto the healing of soul and body alike. 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 always, and forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymn:



Praise-- ye the Lord from the heav-----ens, praise ye him in the high pla-ces.



Al--le--lu---ia, Al--le--lu-----ia, Al--le--lu-----ia.

Communion of the Celebrants

The priest takes a particle of the holy bread and says:

Priest: The precious, holy, and most pure body of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is given to me, the Priest (Name), for the remission of my sins and for eternal life. Amen.

Picking up the chalice, the priest silently prays:

Priest: I, servant of God, the Priest (Name), partake of the precious, holy, and most pure Blood of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, for the remission of my sins, and for eternal life.

He sips three times, and silently prays.

Priest: Behold, this has touched my lips, and will wipe away my transgressions, and will cleanse my sins.

After he has received communion, the priest prays the following prayer:

We thank thee, Lord, lover of mankind, benefactor of our souls, that thou hast made us worthy today to partake of thy heavenly and undying Sacraments. Straighten our path; strengthen us in thy fear; protect our lives; give strength to our steps, through the prayers and intercession of the glorious Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary, and of all thy Saints.



Before Communion

(Other appropriate hymns may be substituted or added.)

Priest: In the fear of God, with faith and with love draw near.



Am-en----- Am-----en.



Bless-----ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;

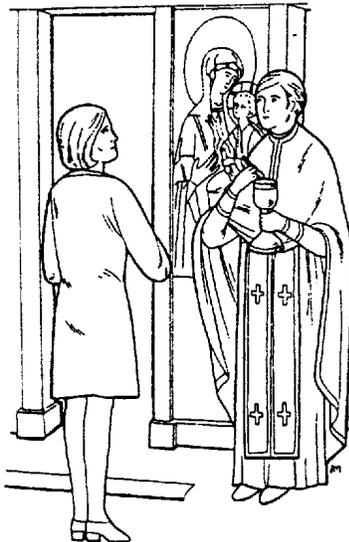


God is the Lord, and--- has--- showed him--self to us.

Those who wish to receive approach.

The priest, giving communion to each says:

Priest: The servant of God (Name) receives the precious, holy, and most pure body and blood of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ for the remission of his (her) sins, and for eternal life. Amen.



Hymn during Communion



O Son of God, re-ceive me to----day, as a par--tak--er at thy myst-ic---al ban---quet:



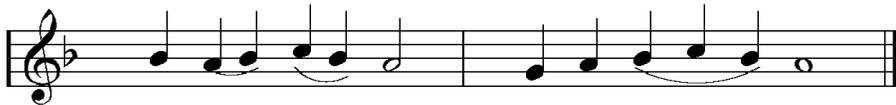
for I will not---- tell, for I will not---- tell, for I will not---- tell thy en--em--ies thy se-----crets,



nor will I kiss thee as did Ju--das: but like the thief do I con-fess to thee:



Re-mem-ber me, O----- Lord, Re-mem-ber me, O Lord, Re-mem-ber me, O----- Lord,



in thy-- king---dom. Al---le---lu-----ia.

The priest blesses the people with the holy chalice in the form of a cross intoning:

After Communion

(Other appropriate hymns may be substituted or added.)

Priest: Save, O God, thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.



We have seen the true light, we have re-ceived the heav-en-ly Spir---it, we have found the true faith



we ad-----ore the un--div---i--ded Trin-----it---y, for it has saved--- us.

At the holy table, the priest wipes the commemorative particles into the Holy Chalice, replaces the asterisk, small veils, and folded aer on the discos. The priest incenses the holy table three times saying:

*Priest: Be thou exalted in Heaven, O God, and over the whole earth by thy glory.
(three times)*

Let Our Mouths Be Filled

The priest takes the holy discos and the chalice and turning toward the People, the Priest says:

Priest: Blessed is our God now and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.



The Priest goes to the Table of Preparation and places there the holy gifts.



Let our mouths be filled-- with thy praise, O Lord, that--- we may ex--tol thy glo-----ry.



for thou hast made us worth--y to par--take of thy ho---ly and death---less,



and most hon-ored and life--giv-ing mys-ter-ies. Strength-en us--- in thy sanc-tif---ic---a-----tion,



that--- all the day--- long we may learn thy jus-----tice.



Al--le--lu---ia, Al--le--lu-----ia, Al--le--lu-----ia.

Standing Litany

Priest: Attend! Having partaken of the divine, holy, most pure, deathless, heavenly and life-giving fearful mysteries of Christ, O faithful, let us worthily give thanks to the Lord.



Response: Lord, have mer---cy.

Priest: Preserve, help, save, and have mercy on us, O God, by thy grace.



R: Lord, have mer---cy.

Priest: Asking that this entire day be perfectly holy, peaceful and without sin, let us commend ourselves and each other, and our entire lives, to Christ, our God.



Response: To----- thee, O Lord.

Priest: We thank you, Master who love mankind, Benefactor of our souls, for having today made us worthy of your heavenly and immortal mysteries. Make straight our paths, establish us in your fear, guard our life, steady our footsteps, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary and of all your saints.

For thou art our sanctification, and to thee do we give glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.

At the Ambon

Priest: Let us depart in peace.



In the name-- of the Lord.

P: Let us pray to the Lord.



Response: Lord, have mer----cy.

(Alternate versions of the Ambon prayer may be taken.)

P: O Lord, who dost bless those who bless thee, and sanctifiest those who hope 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 by thy divine power and do not forsake us who hope in thee. Grant peace to thy world, thy churches, priests, and all thy people. For every good gift, and every perfect grace is from above, from thee, Father of lights: and to thee do we offer glory, and thanks, and adoration, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and always, and forever and ever.



Response: Am--en.



Bless-ed--- be the---- ho-ly name of----- the Lord, hence-forth and for--ev-----er.

(three times)

The priest prays silently:

O Christ our God, who art the fulfillment of the Law and of the Prophets, who hast accomplished the entire dispensation of the Father, fill our hearts with joy and happiness at all times, now, and always, and forever and ever. Amen.

St. George Byzantine Catholic Church

Commemoration of the Three Holy Hierarchs and Great Teachers
Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom
 January 30th, 2009



The celebration of the Synaxis of the three great Doctors of the Church, or “Three Satellites,” as they were called, originated in the year 1100 in the days of Emperor Alexis Comnenus. A great quarrel as to which one of these three theologians was the greatest then divided the people of Constantinople. Patriarch John, appointed as arbitrator, being a learned and holy man, resorted to fervent prayer and asked God to help him find a solution. Basil, Gregory, and Chrysostom appeared to him in a dream and told him they were equal before God, and that each one of them had his own personality, genius and value. They asked him to institute a feast honoring all three of them together. John chose January 30th for the feast and composed for it a beautiful office. Peace and unity come back to the church of Constantinople.

