

The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

As served by a priest, from Hapgood's Service Book (1906)

Parishes differ in wording and customs; follow your parish's books when they're provided.

BEFORE THE LITURGY: THE PREPARATION

Before the Liturgy begins, the priest prepares the bread and wine at the table of oblation. With a small knife called the spear, he cuts out the Lamb and the particles for the Theotokos, the saints, the living and the departed.

THE LITURGY OF THE CATECHUMENS

THE OPENING BLESSING

DEACON

Bless, Master.

PRIEST

(bestowing the blessing, in cross-form, with the book of the Gospels from the Altar).

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

VARIES Eastertide: added in the Paschal season.

And if it be at Eastertide:

(sung by the priest, then repeated by the choir)

PRIEST

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

CHOIR

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
Death by death, and upon those in the tomb
bestowing life.**

THE GREAT LITANY

VARIES If a Bishop serves, he says the Prayer of Oblation quietly during this Litany. It is not included here.

DEACON

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For the peace that is from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For the peace of the whole world; for the welfare of God's holy Churches, and for the union of them all, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For this holy Temple, and for those who with faith, devoutness, and in the fear of God have entered therein, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For our Holy Synod (or Patriarch); for our Bishop (or Archbishop, or Metropolitan), N.; for the honourable Presbytery, the Diaconate in Christ; for all the clergy and the laity, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

VARIES Petitions for the civil authorities: these differ by country and parish.

Here follow petitions for the Ruler of the Land and for all the Authorities (Emperor, or King, and Reigning House, or President, according to the elements and nationalities of which the Parish is constituted).

DEACON That he will aid them and subdue under their feet every foe and adversary, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For this city, for this holy Temple, and for every city and land, and for those who with faith dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For healthful seasons; for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For those who travel by sea or by land; for the sick and the suffering; for those who are in captivity, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That he will deliver us from all tribulation, wrath, peril and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Calling to remembrance our most holy, undefiled, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birth-giver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

CHOIR To thee, O Lord.

Exclamation.

PRIEST For unto thee are due all glory, honour and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR Amen.

And the Deacon, having made a reverence, shall leave his place, and shall go and stand before the holy picture (ikóna) of Christ, holding his stole with three fingers of his right hand.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

VARIES Antiphons: on feasts these change.

Here shall be sung the First Antiphon, Psalm ciii. (or on the Great Feasts its appointed substitute).

CHOIR Bless the Lord, O my soul: Blessed art 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.

**CHOIR,
CONT.**

Who forgiveth all thy sin, and healeth all thine infirmities.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, long-suffering and of great goodness.

He will not alway be chiding, neither keepeth he his wrath forever.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy Name. Blessed art thou, O Lord.

And the Priest saith, secretly, the Prayer of the First Antiphon.

(said during the Psalm)

**PRIEST,
QUIETLY**

O Lord our God, whose might is ineffable, whose glory is inconceivable, whose mercy is infinite, and whose love toward mankind is unutterable: Look down, O Master, in thy tender compassion, upon us and upon this holy Temple; and deal with us and with those people who here pray with us, according to the riches of thy mercies and thy bounties.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

And at the conclusion of the Antiphon, the Deacon shall come and stand again in his accustomed place, and shall say:

DEACON

Again, yet again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Calling to remembrance our most holy, undefiled, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birth-giver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life, unto Christ our God.

CHOIR

To thee, O Lord.

While the Priest (likewise the Bishop) saith, secretly, the Prayer of the Second Antiphon.

(said during the Little Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord our God, save thy people, and bless thine heritage. Preserve the fulness of thy Church: sanctify those who love the beauty of thy house: glorify them by thy divine might in recompense; and forsake not us who put our trust in thee.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

For thine is the majesty, and thine are 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.

CHOIR

Amen.

The Deacon shall do as he hath done at the First Antiphon.

VARIES Antiphons: on feasts these change.

Here shall be sung the Second Antiphon, Psalm cxlvi. (or on the Great Feasts its appointed substitute).

CHOIR

Praise the Lord, O my soul: while I live, will I praise the Lord; yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God.

Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, and whose hope is in the Lord his God; who made the sea, and all that therein is; who keepeth his promise forever.

Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong; who feedeth the hungry.

The Lord looseth men out of prison; the Lord giveth sight to the blind.

The Lord helpeth them that are fallen; the Lord careth for the righteous.

The Lord careth for the strangers; he defendeth the fatherless and widow: as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.

The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King forevermore.

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

Here shall be sung the Anthem.

CHOIR

O Only-begotten Son and Word of God! Thou who art immortal yet didst deign for our salvation to become incarnate of the Holy Birth-giver of God and ever-virgin Mary; and without change of essence wast made man; who also wast crucified for us, O Christ our God, trampling down Death by death; who art one of the Holy Trinity, and art glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us.

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

DEACON

Again, yet again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Calling to remembrance our most holy, undefiled, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birth-giver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

CHOIR

To thee, O Lord.

Then by (the Bishop and) the Priest is said, secretly, the Prayer of the Third Antiphon.

(said during the Little Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O thou, who hast given us grace at this time, with one accord, to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests. Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting them in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

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.

CHOIR

Amen.

VARIES Antiphons: on feasts these change.

The Deacon then entereth the Sanctuary, and the Choir chanteth the Third Antiphon.

CHOIR

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 they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

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

Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

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

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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

THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Then the Priest, taking the book of the Holy Gospels from the Altar, giveth it to the Deacon; and preceded by a light, they both make the Lesser Entrance.

CHOIR

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

The Priest saith the Prayer of the Little Entrance while the last portion of the Beatitudes is being sung.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Master, Lord our God, who hast appointed in heaven ranks and hosts of Angels and Archangels for the ministry of thy glory: Cause that with our entrance may enter also the holy Angels with us serving thee, and with us glorifying thy goodness.

For unto thee are due all glory, honour and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

VARIES If a Bishop serves, the Entrance and what follows it are served differently. That form is not included here.

The Deacon, taking his stand before the Holy Door, saith:

DEACON

Bless, Master, the Holy Entrance.

PRIEST

Blessed is the Entrance of thy Holy Ones always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

Then the Deacon shall go to the Priest, and the Priest shall kiss the book of the Holy Gospels; and the Deacon shall come to the centre of the Holy Door, and there standing in front of the Priest, he shall elevate the Holy Gospels, and shall say, so that all may hear:

DEACON

Wisdom, O believers!

Then shall they go to the Holy Altar; and the Deacon shall lay the Gospels on the Altar, and the Choir shall sing:

CHOIR

**O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
Save, O Son of God, who didst rise again from the
dead, us who sing unto thee: Alleluia.**

VARIES The refrain changes: on a weekday, "...who art wonderful in the Saints"; at feasts, the proper refrain from the Antiphon of the feast.

Then shall be sung the proper Hymn (Tropár) and Collect-Hymn (Kondák) for the Day.

VARIES The troparia and kontakia change with the day; they are not printed here.

THE THRICE-HOLY

The Prayer of the Thrice-Holy. The Priest, secretly.

(said while the troparia are sung)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O holy God, who retest in the Saints; who art hymned by the Seraphim with a thrice-holy cry, and glorified by the Cherubim, and adored by every heavenly Power; who out of nothingness hast brought all things into being; who hast created man after thine own image and likeness, and hast adorned him with every gift of thine; who givest unto those that ask of thee wisdom and understanding; who despisest not the sinner, but hast appointed repentance unto salvation; and hast vouchsafed unto us, thy humble and unworthy servants here, at this hour, to stand before the glory of thy holy Altar, and to render unto thee that adoration and praise which are thy due: Do thou, the same Lord, accept from the mouths of us sinners, the Thrice-Holy song, and visit us with thy beneficence. Pardon us every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary. Sanctify both our souls and bodies, and grant that we may serve thee in uprightness all the days of our life: through the intercessions of the holy Birth-giver of God, and of all the Saints of all the ages who have been well-pleasing unto thee.

And when the Choir come to the last Hymn, the Deacon shall say to the Priest, as both bow their heads, and he holdeth his stole with three fingers:

DEACON

Bless, Master, the time of the Thrice-Holy.

And the Priest shall bless him, with the sign of the cross, and shall say, aloud:

PRIEST

For holy art 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;

And when the Hymn is finished, the Deacon shall come close to the Holy Door, and pointing with his stole, first to the holy picture of Christ, he shall say:

DEACON O Lord, save the God-fearing, and hear us.

Then shall he point, in like manner, to those who stand without, and shall say:

DEACON Even unto ages of ages.

CHOIR **Amen.**

And then the Choir:

CHOIR **O Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.
(Five times.)**

VARIES On certain feasts another hymn replaces the Thrice-Holy. *At Christmas, the Epiphany, on the Eve of Palm Sunday, on Holy Saturday, during Eastertide and at Pentecost, in place of the Thrice-Holy shall be sung:*

CHOIR

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

At the Feast of the Setting-up (Exaltation) of the Holy Cross; and at the third week of the Great Fast (Lent), when is the Feast of the Adoration of the Cross, in place of the Thrice-Holy there shall be sung:

CHOIR

Thy Cross do we worship, O Master, and we glorify thy Resurrection.

And the Deacon shall say to the Priest:

DEACON Command, Master.

Then shall they approach the Holy Throne, and as he approacheth, the Priest shall say

(these three lines are said quietly, in the Sanctuary)

PRIEST Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

DEACON Bless, Master, the seat on high.

PRIEST Blessed art thou on the throne of glory of thy kingdom, who
sittest on the Cherubim always, now, and ever, and unto ages
of ages.

*The Priest doth not ascend the High Place, nor sit upon it, but taketh his
seat beside it, to the south.*

THE EPISTLE

After the Thrice-Holy, the Deacon shall say:

DEACON Let us attend.

PRIEST Peace be with you all.

READER And with thy spirit.

DEACON Wisdom!

READER The Gradual (Prokímen), in the ... Tone.

VARIES The prokeimenon changes with the day and the tone; it is not
printed here. (Hapgood gives the eight Sunday prokeimena.)

DEACON Wisdom!

READER The Lesson from the Epistle of the holy Apostle (N. to the N.).

DEACON Let us attend.

The Reader then readeth the Epistle: Brethren ...

VARIES The Epistle changes with the day; it is not printed here.

*And while the Epistle is being read, the Deacon shall take the censor,
and approaching the Priest shall receive his blessing, and shall cense
the Holy Altar round about, and all the Sanctuary, and the Priest, and
the People.*

And when the Epistle is finished, the Priest shall say:

PRIEST Peace be with thee.

READER And with thy spirit.

DEACON Wisdom!

READER Alleluia.

VARIES The Alleluia verses change with the day; they are not printed here.

THE GOSPEL

The Prayer before the Gospel. The Priest, secretly.

(said while the Alleluia is sung)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Illumine our hearts, O God who lovest mankind, with the pure light of thy divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our understanding to the comprehension of the proclamation of thy Gospel. Implant in us, likewise, the fear of thy blessed commandments; that, trampling down all carnal desires, we may pursue a godly life, both thinking and performing such things as are well-pleasing unto thee.

For thou art the light of our souls, and of our bodies, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, together with thy Father who is from everlasting, and thy holy, and blessed, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

VARIES Served only when a Deacon serves.

All this is omitted, if the Priest serve without a Deacon.

Then the Deacon, having set the censer in its proper place, shall come to the Priest, and bowing his head, and holding his stole and the book of the Holy Gospels with the tips of his fingers, at the Holy Altar, shall say:

DEACON

Bless, Master, him who proclaimeth the good tidings of the holy Apostle and Evangelist, N.

And the Bishop or the Priest, blessing him with the sign of the cross, shall say:

PRIEST

May God, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle and Evangelist, N., grant utterance with great power unto thee, who proclaimest the good tidings; unto the fulfilment of the Gospel of his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

DEACON

Amen.

VARIES,
CONT.

Then the Deacon doeth reverence to the book of the Holy Gospels, and taketh it, and goeth out through the Holy Door, preceded by a taper, and standeth on the tribune, or on the place prepared. And the Priest, standing before the Holy Altar, with his face to the west, proclaimeth:

PRIEST

Wisdom, O believers! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.
Peace be with you all.

CHOIR

And with thy spirit.

DEACON

The Lesson from the Holy Gospel according to N.

CHOIR

Glory to thee, O Lord; glory to thee.

PRIEST

Let us attend.

And the Deacon, or the Priest, if there be no Deacon, readeth the Gospel; and when he hath finished, the Priest shall say:

VARIES The Gospel changes with the day; it is not printed here.

PRIEST

Peace be unto thee, who hast announced the good tidings.

CHOIR

Glory to thee, O Lord; glory to thee.

Then the Deacon shall go to the Holy Door, and shall give the book of the Gospels to the Priest, who placeth it on the Altar, behind the corporal (antimíns).

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

And the Deacon, standing in his accustomed place, shall say.

DEACON

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

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we beseech thee, hearken, and have mercy.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we beseech thee: hearken, and have mercy.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.
(Thrice.)

VARIES Petitions for the civil authorities: these differ by country and parish.

Here follow petitions for the Ruler of the Land and for all the Authorities (Emperor, or King, and Reigning House, or President, according to the elements and nationalities of which the Parish is constituted).

DEACON For our Holy Synod (or Patriarch); for our Bishop (or Archbishop, or Metropolitan), N.; for the honourable Presbytery, the Diaconate in Christ; for all the clergy and the laity.

CHOIR **Lord, have mercy.**
(Thrice.)

DEACON Furthermore we pray for all their Christ-loving Army and Navy.

CHOIR **Lord, have mercy.**
(Thrice.)

DEACON Furthermore we pray for our brethren the Priests; for ordained Monks, and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

CHOIR **Lord, have mercy.**
(Thrice.)

DEACON Furthermore we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable most holy Orthodox Patriarchs, and God-fearing Orthodox rulers; and for the founders of this holy Temple; and for all our devout fathers and brethren, Orthodox believers, departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

(adapted: the 1906 text prays for the Russian Emperor and his house; here and below, those prayers are adapted to our government authorities, our bishop and our synod)

CHOIR **Lord, have mercy.**
(Thrice.)

DEACON Furthermore we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-honourable Temple; for those who labour in its service; for the singers; and for the people here present, who await in firm hope thy great and rich mercies.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

(Thrice.)

The Prayer of the Litany of Fervent Supplication. The Priest, secretly.

(said during the Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord our God, accept this, the fervent supplication of thy servants, and be gracious unto us, according to the multitude of thy mercy; and send down thy bounties upon us, and upon all thy people, who here await the rich mercy which is from thee.

The corporal (antimíns) is now unfolded, except the upper edge.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

For thou art a merciful God, who 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.

CHOIR

Amen.

VARIES The 1906 text adds here, in Russia, a prayer for the Emperor. It is not included here.

THE LITANY FOR THE DEPARTED

VARIES Said only when there are offerings on behalf of the departed.

And if there be offerings on behalf of the dead, the Deacon or the Priest shall say the following Litany:

DEACON

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we beseech thee: hearken, and have mercy.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

(Thrice.)

DEACON

Furthermore we pray for the repose of the souls of the servants of God departed this life, NN.; and that thou wilt pardon all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

(Thrice.)

VARIES,
CONT.

DEACON

That the Lord God will establish their souls where the just repose.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

(Thrice.)

DEACON

The mercies of God, the kingdom of heaven, and the remission of our sins we entreat of Christ, our King Immortal and our God.

CHOIR

Grant it, O Lord.

DEACON

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

The Priest, secretly.

PRIEST, QUIETLY

O God of spirits, and of all flesh, who hast trampled down death, and overthrown the Devil, and given life unto thy world: Do thou, the same Lord, give rest to the souls of thy departed servants, NN., in a place of brightness, a place of verdure, a place of repose, whence all sickness, sorrow and sighing have fled away. Pardon every transgression which 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 liveth and sinneth not; for thou only art without sin, and thy righteousness is to all eternity, and thy word is true.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

For thou art the Resurrection, and the Life, and the Repose of thy departed servants, NN., O Christ our God, and unto thee we ascribe glory, together with thy Father, who is from everlasting, and thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

THE LITANY OF THE CATECHUMENS

DEACON Pray ye unto the Lord, ye Catechumens.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Ye faithful, pray ye unto the Lord for the Catechumens; that the Lord will have mercy upon them.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That he will teach them the word of truth.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That he will reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That he will unite them unto his Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Save them, have mercy upon them, succour them, and keep them, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Bow your heads unto the Lord, ye Catechumens.

CHOIR To thee, O Lord.

The Prayer for the Catechumens. The Priest, secretly.

(said during the Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord our God, who dwellest on high, and dost regard 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. Grant unto them in due season the laver of regeneration, remission of sins, and the robe of incorruption. Unite them unto thy Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, and number them with thy chosen flock.

Here the last edge of the corporal is spread out.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

That with us they may magnify thine all-honourable and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

The Priest maketh the sign of the cross over the corporal with the sponge, which he then kisseth, and layeth on one side.

DEACON

Depart, all ye Catechumens, depart. Depart, all ye Catechumens: let no Catechumen remain: but let us who are in the faith again, yet again, in peace pray unto the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

THE LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITANIES OF THE FAITHFUL

DEACON

Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

The First Prayer of the Faithful. The Priest, secretly.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

We give thanks unto thee, O Lord God of the Powers, who hast graciously vouchsafed unto us to stand now before thy holy Altar, and fall down in adoration before thy compassion toward our sins, and the errors of the people. Accept our supplications, O God; make us worthy to offer unto thee prayers and supplications, and unbloody sacrifices for all thy people. And enable us, whom thou hast appointed to this thy ministry, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, at all times, and in every place, blamelessly, without offence, and in the witness of a pure conscience, to call upon thee; that hearing us thou mayest show mercy upon us, according to the plenitude of thy goodness.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

For unto thee are due all honour, glory and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

DEACON

Again, yet again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

VARIES Served only when a Deacon serves.

When the Priest serveth without a Deacon, the following part of this Litany is omitted as indicated.

DEACON

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

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

For the peace of the whole world; for the welfare of God's holy Churches, and for the union of them all, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

For this holy Temple, and for those who with faith, devoutness, and in the fear of God have entered therein, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

That he will deliver us from all tribulation, wrath, peril and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

The Second Prayer of the Faithful. The Priest, secretly.

(said during the Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Again and oftentimes we fall down before thee, and beseech thee, O Good One who lovest mankind, that, looking down upon our petition, thou wilt purify both our souls and bodies from all defilement of the flesh and of the Spirit; and grant that in blamelessness and without condemnation we may stand here before thy holy Altar. Grant also, O God, unto us and unto those who here with us make their supplications unto thee, prosperity of life and increase of faith, and of spiritual understanding. Grant that they may serve thee continually with love and fear, and that they may partake of thy Holy Mysteries in blamelessness of heart and without condemnation, and be deemed worthy of thy heavenly kingdom.

DEACON

Wisdom!

Then shall the Deacon enter through the north door.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

That being kept always by thy might, we may ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

THE CHERUBIC HYMN

VARIES On some days another hymn replaces the Cherubic Hymn (for example on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday); it is not printed here.

The Cherubimic Hymn.

CHOIR

Let us, the Cherubim mystically representing, and unto the Life-giving Trinity the thrice-holy chant intoning, all cares terrestrial now lay aside.

(Here the Great Entrance, with the Holy Gifts, is made. And after it the Hymn is finished:)

(the end of the hymn, "That we may raise on high the King of all...", follows the Great Entrance below)

The Prayer of the Cherubimic Hymn. The Priest, secretly.

(said while the Cherubic Hymn is sung)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

No one who is in bondage unto carnal desires and sensual pleasures is worthy to approach, or to come near, or to serve thee, O King of Glory: For to serve thee is a great and terrible thing even to the Heavenly Powers. Nevertheless, through thine unutterable and boundless love toward mankind thou didst become man, yet without change, and without transmutation, and art become our High Priest, and hast committed unto us the ministry of this unbloody Sacrifice, in that thou art Lord over all. For thou alone, O Lord our God, rulest over those in heaven and on earth; who art borne on the throne of the Cherubim; who art Lord of the Seraphim and King over Israel; who alone art holy and retest in the Saints. Therefore do I now make my entreaty unto thee, who alone art good and art ready to listen: Look down upon me, a sinner, and thine unprofitable servant, and cleanse my soul and my heart from an evil conscience; and by the might of thy Holy Spirit enable me, who am endued with the grace of the priesthood, to stand before this thy holy Altar, and perform the sacred Mystery of thy Holy and Pure Body and Precious Blood. For unto thee do I draw near, and bowing my neck I implore thee: turn not thy face from me, neither cast me out from among thy children; but graciously vouchsafe that I, a sinner and thine unworthy servant, may offer unto thee these Holy Gifts. For it is thou who offerest and art offered, who receivest and art thyself received, O Christ our God: and unto thee we ascribe glory, together with thy Father, who is from everlasting, and thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Then the Deacon taketh the censer, and having received the Priest's blessing, he censeth the Holy Altar round about, and the Sanctuary, saying, secretly, to himself, Psalm li.: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy great goodness. Then the Priest and Deacon stand before the Altar, and make three reverences, saying:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O God, cleanse thou me, a sinner.

The Priest, elevating his hands, saith in a low voice: Let us, the Cherubim mystically representing ... now lay aside. (Thrice.) Then each

finisheth the Hymn: That we may raise on high ... And they kiss the Altar, and go to the Chapel of Oblation, which the Priest censeth.

THE GREAT ENTRANCE

Then shall the Deacon say to the Priest:

DEACON Take up, Master.

And the Priest, taking the air (vózdukh), shall lay it on the Deacon's left shoulder, and shall say:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY Lift up your hands unto the Holy Things, and bless the Lord.

Then taking the holy paten (dískos), in like manner, he shall set it on the head of the Deacon, with all reverence, the Deacon holding the censer the while on one of his fingers. But the Priest himself shall take in his hand the holy chalice (potír), and they shall go forth through the north door, preceded by a taper, and shall stand facing the People.

DEACON Our government authorities, may the Lord God remember in his kingdom always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.
Our Holy Synod, and our Bishop, N., may the Lord God remember in his kingdom always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PRIEST All you Orthodox Christians, may the Lord God remember in his kingdom always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR **Amen.**

Then the Choir finisheth the Cherubimic Hymn:

CHOIR **That we may raise on high the King of all, like conqueror on shield and spears, by the Angelic Hosts invisibly uponborne.**

Then the Deacon shall enter in through the Holy Door, and shall take his stand on the right, and shall say to the Priest, as the latter entereth:
(said quietly, in the Sanctuary, to the end of this section)

DEACON May the Lord God remember thy priesthood in his kingdom.

And the Priest shall say to him:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY May the Lord God remember thy diaconate in his kingdom always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Then the Priest shall set the holy chalice upon the Holy Altar, to the right; taking the holy paten from the head of the Deacon, he shall place it also upon the Holy Altar, to the left, saying:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Noble Joseph, when he had taken thy pure Body from the tree, did wrap it in fine linen and spices, and sorrowing did lay it in a new sepulchre.

In the Grave with the body, but in Hell with the soul, in that thou art God; in Paradise with the thief, and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, wast thou, O Christ, filling all things, in that thou art infinite.

How life-giving, how than Paradise more fair and, of a truth, more splendid than any king's chamber, O Christ, is shown forth thy tomb, the fountain of our resurrection.

Then shall he take the veils from the holy paten and the holy chalice, and shall lay them on one side of the Holy Altar; and having taken the air from the Deacon's shoulder, and censed it, he shall cover therewith the Holy Gifts, and shall say:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Noble Joseph, when he had taken thy pure Body from the tree, did wrap it in fine linen and spices, and sorrowing did lay it in a new sepulchre.

Then taking the censer from the hands of the Deacon, he shall thrice cense the Holy Gifts, saying:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Exalt thou Zion in thy favour, O Lord, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built. Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with sacrifices and burnt-offerings; then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

Then he shall give the censer to the Deacon, and shall bow his head, saying:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Remember me, O brother, and fellow-minister.

And the Deacon shall say to him:

DEACON

May the Lord God remember thy priesthood in his kingdom.

The Deacon also, bowing his head, and holding his stole with three fingers of his right hand, shall say to the Priest:

DEACON

Pray for me, holy Master.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

May the Holy Spirit come upon thee, and the power of the Most High overshadow thee.

DEACON May the Holy Spirit himself minister together with us, and
with you, all the days of our life.

And again:

DEACON Pray for me, holy Master.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY May the Lord God remember you (thee) in his kingdom always,
now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

DEACON Let us complete our prayer unto the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For these Holy Elements now spread forth, let us pray to the
Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON For this holy Temple, and for all those who with faith,
devoutness, and in the fear of God have entered therein, let
us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That he will deliver us from all tribulation, wrath, peril and
necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God,
by thy grace.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON A day all-perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us beseech of
the Lord.

CHOIR Grant it, O Lord.

DEACON An Angel of Peace, the faithful guide and guardian both of our
souls and bodies, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR Grant it, O Lord.

DEACON The pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let
us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON All things which are profitable to our souls and bodies, and peace to the world, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON That we may pass the residue of our life in peace and penitence, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful; and a good defence before the dread Judgment Seat of Christ, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON Calling to remembrance our most holy, undefiled, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birth-giver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

CHOIR **To thee, O Lord.**

The Bishop, or Priest, secretly.

(said during the Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord God Almighty, who alone art holy; who acceptest 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; and enable us to offer unto thee gifts and spiritual sacrifices for our sins and for the errors which thy people have committed through ignorance. And graciously grant us to obtain grace in thy sight, that our sacrifice may be acceptable unto thee; and that the good spirit of thy grace may rest upon us, and upon these Holy Gifts, now offered up unto thee, and upon all thy people.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

Through the bounties of thine Only-begotten Son, with whom thou art glorified, together with the most holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR **Amen.**

THE KISS OF PEACE AND THE CREED

PRIEST Peace be with you all.

CHOIR **And with thy spirit.**

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

CHOIR **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Trinity, one in Essence and undivided.**

The Priest shall do reverence, and shall say privately, within himself:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY I will love thee, O Lord my strength; the Lord is my firm
foundation, and my deliverer.
(Thrice.)

And he shall kiss the Holy Gifts, they being still covered; first the top of the holy paten, and likewise the top of the holy chalice, and the edge of the Holy Altar before him. If there be several Priests, they shall both kiss all the Holy Things, and each other on the shoulder.

VARIES When several clergy serve, they exchange the kiss of peace in the Sanctuary.

Then the Bishop or Priest shall say:

PRIEST

Christ is in the midst of us.

And having been kissed on the shoulder and on the hand, he is answered:

PRIEST

He is and shall be.

DEACON The Doors! The Doors! Wisdom! Let us attend.

The Symbol of the Faith.

EVERYONE I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

**EVERYONE,
CONT.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds; Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made; Being 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 Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man. And was crucified also 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake 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 Priest shall fan the Holy Elements with the air. If several Priests take part in the service, they shall all fan the Holy Elements with the air, in like manner, and shall repeat, as do the People also, the Symbol of the Faith.

THE HOLY OFFERING (ANAPHORA)

DEACON

Let us stand aright, let us stand with fear, that we may offer in peace the Holy Oblation.

CHOIR

A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.

Then the Priest shall take the air from the Holy Elements, and having kissed it, he shall lay it aside.

PRIEST

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

CHOIR

And with thy spirit.

PRIEST

(pointing upward).

Lift up your hearts.

CHOIR

We lift them up unto the Lord.

PRIEST

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

CHOIR

Meet and right is it that we should adore the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, one in Essence and undivided.

The (Bishop) Priest shall offer this Prayer, secretly.

(said while the choir sings)

**PRIEST,
QUIETLY**

It is meet and right that we should laud thee, bless thee, praise thee, give thanks unto thee, and adore thee in all places of thy dominion: for thou art God ineffable, incomprehensible, invisible, inconceivable; thou art from everlasting and art changeless, thou, and thine Only-begotten Son, and thy Holy Spirit. Thou from nothingness hast called us into being; and when we had fallen away from thee, thou didst raise us up again; and thou hast not ceased to do all things until thou hadst brought us back to heaven, and hadst endowed us with thy kingdom which is to come. For all which things we give thanks unto thee, and thine Only-begotten Son, and thy Holy Spirit; for all the things whereof we know, and whereof we know not; for all thy benefits bestowed upon us, both manifest and unseen. And we render thanks unto thee for this ministry which thou dost deign to accept at our hands, although before thee stand thousands of Archangels and myriads of Angels, with the Cherubim, and Seraphim, six-winged, many-eyed, who soar aloft, borne on their pinions.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

Singing the triumphant song, crying, calling aloud, and saying:

CHOIR

Holy, holy, holy, Lord of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Hosanna in the highest: Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Deacon now taking the holy star-cover from the holy paten, shall make the sign of the cross above it, and shall kiss it, and lay it on one side. He shall then go and stand on the right of the Holy Altar.

The Priest prayeth, secretly.

(said while the choir sings)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

And we also, O Lord who lovest mankind, in company with these blessed Powers do cry aloud and say: Holy art thou, and all-holy thou, and thine Only-begotten Son, and thy Holy Spirit; holy and all-holy and majestic is thy glory. Who hast so loved thy world that thou gavest thine Only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but should have everlasting life; who, when he had come and had performed all the dispensation for us, in the night in which he was given up, — in the which, rather, he did give himself for the life of the world, — took bread in his holy and pure and sinless hands; and when he had given thanks, and blessed it, and so sanctified it, he gave it to his holy disciples and apostles, saying:

Exclamation.

PRIEST

Take, eat, this is my Body which is broken for you, for the remission of sins.

As he saith this, the Deacon shall point out the holy paten to the Priest, holding his stole with three fingers of his right hand.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

And in like manner, after supper he took the cup, saying:

As he saith this, the Deacon pointeth to the holy chalice.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

Drink ye all of this: for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins.

The Priest, secretly.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Bearing in remembrance, therefore, this commandment of salvation, and all those things which came to pass for us; the Cross, the Grave, the Resurrection on the third day, the Ascension into Heaven, the Sitting on the right hand, the Second and glorious Coming-again:

Exclamation.

PRIEST

Thine own, of thine own, we offer unto thee, in behalf of all, and for all.

Here the Deacon, crossing his hands, shall lift up the holy paten and the holy chalice, and making with them the sign of the cross, he shall himself make a humble reverence.

CHOIR

We praise thee, we bless thee, we give thanks unto thee, O Lord, and we pray unto thee, O our God.

The Priest prayeth, secretly.

(said while the choir sings; from here to "Especially" the people often kneel or bow, as their parish does)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Again we offer unto thee this reasonable and unbloody service.
And we beseech and implore thee, and offer our supplications unto thee, that thou wilt send thy Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these Gifts here spread forth.

Then the Deacon shall approach the Priest; and standing side by side, they shall both make three lowly reverences before the Holy Altar, praying silently thus:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord, who at the Third Hour didst send down upon thine Apostles thy Holy Spirit: Take not the same from us, O Good One, but renew it in us who make our supplications unto thee.

DEACON

Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord, who at the Third Hour ...

DEACON

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

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

O Lord, who at the Third Hour ...

Then the Deacon, bowing his head and pointing with his stole to the Holy Bread, shall say:

DEACON

Bless, Master, the Holy Bread.

And the Priest, standing erect, shall sign the Holy Bread with the sign of the cross, and shall say:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

And make this bread the precious Body of thy Christ.

DEACON

Amen. Bless, Master, the holy chalice.

And the Priest shall bless it, and shall say:

PRIEST, And make that which is in this chalice the precious Blood of thy
QUIETLY Christ.

DEACON Amen.

And again, the Deacon, pointing to both the Holy Elements, shall say:

DEACON Master, bless both.

And the Priest, blessing both, shall say:

PRIEST, Transmuting them by thy Holy Spirit.
QUIETLY

DEACON Amen, amen, amen.

And bowing his head to the Priest, the Deacon shall say:

DEACON Bear me in remembrance, holy Master.

And the Priest shall say:

PRIEST, May the Lord God remember thee in his kingdom always, now and
QUIETLY ever, and unto ages of ages.

DEACON Amen.

The Priest prayeth.

PRIEST, That to those who shall partake thereof they may be unto
QUIETLY sobriety of soul, unto the remission of sins, unto the fellowship of
thy Holy Spirit, unto the fulfilling of the kingdom of Heaven, and
unto boldness toward thee; and not unto judgment or unto
condemnation.

And again we offer unto thee this our reasonable service, for all thy
servants departed this life before us in the faith; for our ancestors,
fathers, the Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Preachers, Evangelists,
Martyrs, Confessors, Ascetics; and for every righteous soul who
hath died in the faith:

*And the Deacon shall cense the Holy Altar round about, and shall make
mention of the living and of the dead.*

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

Then the Priest shall say, aloud:

PRIEST Especially our most holy, all-undefiled, most blessed and
glorious Lady, the Birth-giver of God and ever-virgin Mary:

VARIES On the great feasts another hymn to the Birth-giver of God replaces this one; it is not printed here.

CHOIR

Meet is it, in truth, to bless thee, the Birth-giver of God, ever-blessed, and all-undefiled, and the Mother of our God. More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, thou who without defilement barest God the Word, true Birth-giver of God, we magnify thee.

The Priest, secretly.

(said while the hymn is sung)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

And Saint John, the Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist; the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; Saint N.

(the Saint of the day)

, whose memory we commemorate; and all thy Saints: through whose prayers visit thou us, O God, and call to remembrance all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of Resurrection unto life eternal.

(Here he maketh mention of the Names, in the order of their rank.)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Furthermore we beseech thee, O Lord, that thou wilt call to remembrance all Bishoprics of Orthodox Christians, which rightly dispense the word of thy truth; all the Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, and every order of the Clergy.

Furthermore we offer unto thee this our reasonable worship on behalf of the whole universe; of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; of those who continue in chastity and soberness of life; of our government authorities, and all their Council and Army and Navy. Grant unto them, O Lord, a peaceful reign, and that we, through their tranquillity, may pass our time in rest and quietness, in all godliness and soberness of life.

And when the Hymn is finished, the Priest shall say, aloud:

PRIEST

Among the first have in remembrance, O Lord, our Holy Synod

(or Patriarch)

; and grant that they

(or he)

may rightly dispense unto thy Church the word of thy truth, in peace, safety, health, honour and length of days.

And the Choir singeth:

CHOIR

And all the people.

VARIES At a bishop's service the deacon here commemorates the bishop and our government authorities aloud; it is not printed here.

The Deacon then commemorateth the living, while the Priest prayeth, secretly.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Have in remembrance, O Lord, this city in which we dwell; and every city and country, and all those who with faith dwell therein. Have in remembrance, O Lord, all those who journey by sea or by land, all sick persons and sufferers and captives, and their salvation. Have in remembrance, O Lord, those who bear fruit and do good works in thy holy Churches, and those who are mindful of the poor; and send down thy grace upon us all.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

And grant that with one mouth and one heart we may glorify and praise thine all-honourable and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

And turning to the People and blessing them, the Priest saith:

PRIEST

And may the mercy of the great God, and of our Saviour Jesus Christ, be with you all.

CHOIR

And with thy spirit.

THE LITANY BEFORE THE LORD'S PRAYER

And the Deacon shall stand at his accustomed place, and shall say:

DEACON

Calling to remembrance all the Saints, again, yet again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

For the Precious Gifts which have been offered and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That our God, who loveth mankind, will accept them upon his holy, and most heavenly, and supersensual Altar, for an odour of spiritual fragrance; and will send down upon us in return his divine grace and the gift of his Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON That he will deliver us from all tribulation, wrath, peril and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

DEACON A day all-perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR Grant it, O Lord.

DEACON An Angel of Peace, the faithful guide and guardian both of our souls and bodies, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR Grant it, O Lord.

DEACON The pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR Grant it, O Lord.

The Priest prayeth, secretly.

(said during the Litany)

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Unto thee do we commit our whole life and hope, O Lord, who lovest mankind. And we entreat thee, and beseech thee, and implore thee: Vouchsafe that we may partake of thy heavenly and terrible Mysteries, of this sacred and spiritual food, with a pure conscience, unto the remission of our sins, unto the pardon of our transgressions, unto the communion of the Holy Spirit, unto inheritance of the kingdom of Heaven, and unto boldness toward thee; not unto judgment or condemnation.

DEACON All things which are profitable to our souls, and peace to the world, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON That we may pass the residue of our life in peace and
penitence, let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful;
and a good defence before the dread Judgment Seat of Christ,
let us beseech of the Lord.

CHOIR **Grant it, O Lord.**

DEACON Having made our petition for the unity of the faith, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves, and
each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

CHOIR **To thee, O Lord.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Exclamation.

PRIEST And vouchsafe, O Lord, that boldly and without
condemnation we may call upon thee, God the heavenly
Father, and say:

*The People: (Here the Deacon bindeth his stole about him in the form of
a cross.)*

EVERYONE 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 the Evil
One:

Exclamation.

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 ever,
and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR **Amen.**

PRIEST Peace be with you all.

CHOIR **And with thy spirit.**

DEACON

Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

CHOIR

To thee, O Lord.

The Priest prayeth, secretly.

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

We give thanks unto thee, O King invisible, who by thine illimitable power hast made all things, and by the plenitude of thy mercy hast called into being all things from nothingness. Do thou, the same Lord, look down from heaven upon those who have bowed their heads before thee; for they have not bowed down unto flesh and blood, but unto thee, the terrible God. Do thou, therefore, O Lord, render this oblation efficacious to us all, according to the individual need of each. Voyage with those who sail upon the seas; journey with those who travel on dry land. Heal the sick, O thou who art the healer of our souls and bodies.

Exclamation.

PRIEST

Through the grace, and bounties, and love toward mankind of thine Only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

The Priest prayeth, secretly:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Give heed from thy holy dwelling-place, and from the throne of glory of thy kingdom, and come and sanctify us, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, who sittest on high with the Father, and art invisibly here with us. And deign, with thine own mighty hand, to impart thine all-pure Body and most precious Blood unto us, and through us unto all the people.

Then the Priest shall do homage, and the Deacon, standing before the Holy Door, shall repeat, secretly, thrice:

DEACON

O God, cleanse thou me, a sinner.

When the Deacon seeth the Priest stretch out his hand and touch the Holy Bread in the act of making the Holy Oblation, he shall say, loudly:

DEACON

Let us attend.

Here the Holy Door is closed, and the curtain is drawn.

HOLY THINGS UNTO THE HOLY

And the Priest, as he elevateth the Holy Bread, shall say:

PRIEST

Holy things unto the Holy.

CHOIR

**One only is holy, one only is the Lord, Jesus Christ,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

VARIES The communion hymn (kinonikon) changes with the day, the saint or the feast. Sunday's is given here.

Then shall the Choir chant the Anthem for the Day (or of the Saint, or of the Feast):

CHOIR

**Praise ye the Lord from heaven: praise him in the
height. Alleluia.**

THE COMMUNION OF THE CLERGY

(Behind the closed doors, the clergy now receive Communion.)

THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Then the Holy Door is opened, and the Deacon, making a reverence, shall approach the Holy Door; and he taketh from the Bishop or the Priest the holy chalice, and elevating it, he saith.

DEACON

In the fear of God and with faith draw near.

CHOIR

**Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord;
God is the Lord and hath revealed himself unto us.**

VARIES Eastertide: added in the Paschal season.

CHOIR

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
Death by death, and upon those in the tomb
bestowing life.**

VARIES If there are communicants. Holy Communion is given to Orthodox Christians who have prepared for it; customs (confession, fasting) differ by parish. If you are visiting, please ask the priest before you come forward.

Those who desire to communicate shall then approach. They shall come singly, and shall do reverence, with all devoutness and awe, with their hands crossed on their breasts: and in this manner shall they receive the Holy Mysteries, after the Priest hath said aloud the Prayer:

(In most parishes the priest leads and everyone says these prayers together.)

EVERYONE

I believe, O Lord, and I confess, that thou art, in very truth, the Christ, the Son of the living God, who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is, of a truth, thine all-pure Body, and that this is thine own precious Blood. Wherefore, I beseech thee, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, whether voluntary or involuntary; whether of word or of deed; whether committed with knowledge or in ignorance. And vouchsafe that I may partake without condemnation of thine all-pure Mysteries, unto the remission of my sins, and unto life eternal.

EVERYONE

Of thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me to-day 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.

EVERYONE

And let not this participation in thy Holy Mysteries be unto judgment upon me, or unto condemnation, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body.

VARIES,
CONT.

And as he communicateth each one, the Priest shall say:

PRIEST

The servant of God, N., partaketh of the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord, and God, and Saviour, Jesus Christ, unto the remission of his

(or her)

sins, and unto life everlasting.

And as each person is communicated, the Choir singeth:

CHOIR

Receive ye the Body of Christ; taste ye of the Fountain of Life.

Then the communicant's mouth shall be wiped with the holy veil, and he shall kiss the holy chalice, and making a reverence, he shall go aside, where he is given the antidóron and the holy warm water.

And when all have finished, the Choir singeth.

CHOIR

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

And the Priest shall set the chalice on the Altar, and shall bless the People, saying:

PRIEST

O God, save thy people, and bless thine inheritance.

WE HAVE BEHELD THE TRUE LIGHT

CHOIR

We have beheld the true Light; we have received the heavenly Spirit; we have found the true faith. Let us bow down in worship to the Trinity Undivided, for it hath saved us.

VARIES Eastertide: in the Paschal season this is sung instead.

CHOIR

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life.

Then the Priest and the Deacon shall turn to the Holy Altar; and the Priest shall cense it, saying thrice, to himself:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Be thou exalted in heaven, O God, and thy glory above all the earth.

The Priest, taking the holy paten, shall then set it upon the head of the Deacon; and the Deacon, holding it reverently, shall go to the Table of Oblation, and set it down there.

The Priest, having done reverence also, shall take the holy chalice; and turning to face the Holy Door, he shall look upon the People, while he saith, secretly:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Blessed is our God!

Then, aloud:

PRIEST

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

CHOIR

Amen.

CHOIR

Let our mouths be filled with thy praise, O Lord, that we may extol thy glory, for that thou hast deigned to make us partakers of thy holy, divine, immortal and life-giving Mysteries. Establish us in thy Sanctification, that all the day long we may meditate upon thy righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

VARIES Eastertide: added in the Paschal season.

CHOIR

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
Death by death, and upon those in the tomb
bestowing life.**

THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

And the Deacon, coming forth through the north door, and standing in his accustomed place, saith:

DEACON

Having received the divine, holy, pure, immortal, heavenly, life-giving and terrible Mysteries of Christ, O believers, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON

Succour us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

DEACON Beseeching that this whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

CHOIR To thee, O Lord.

Then the Priest, folding the corporal (antimins), shall make over it, with the book of the Holy Gospels, the sign of the cross.

Exclamation.

PRIEST 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.

CHOIR Amen.

THE PRAYER BEFORE THE AMBO

PRIEST Let us depart in peace.

CHOIR In the Name of the Lord.

DEACON Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR Lord, have mercy.

Then the Junior Priest cometh forth, and, standing at the foot of the Tribune, readeth the Prayer before the Tribune.

PRIEST O Lord, who blessest those who bless thee, and sanctifiest those who put their trust in thee: Save thy people and bless thine inheritance. Preserve the fulness of thy Church; sanctify those who love the beauty of thy house; glorify them in recompense with thy divine might, and forsake not us who set our hope on thee. Give peace to thy world, and to thy Churches, and to thy Priests, to our government authorities, to the Army and Navy, and to all thy people. For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh from thee, the Father of Lights. And unto thee we ascribe glory, and thanksgiving, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR Amen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord henceforth and forever.
(Thrice.)

Reader: Psalm xxxiv.

READER

I will alway give thanks unto the Lord: Come, ye children, and hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is he that lusteth to live, and would fain see good days? Keep thy tongue from evil, and do good: seek peace, and ensue it. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers. The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil, to root out the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and will save such as be of an humble spirit. Great are the troubles of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of all. He keepeth all his bones, so that not one of them is broken. But misfortune shall slay the ungodly, and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate. The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants, and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

VARIES Eastertide: added in the Paschal season.

CHOIR

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
Death by death, and upon those in the tomb
bestowing life.**

The Deacon shall stand at the right side of the image-screen (ikonostás), before the holy picture (ikóna) of our Lord Christ, holding his stole in his hand, and with bowed head, until the conclusion of the Prayer before the Tribune. And when this hath been said, the Priest shall enter through the Holy Door, and going to the Table of Oblation, he shall say, secretly, the following Prayer:

PRIEST,
QUIETLY

Thou who art the fulfilling of the Law and the Prophets, O Christ our God, and hast accomplished all the dispensation of the Father: Fill thou our hearts with joy and gladness always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

And the Deacon, entering through the north door, shall consume the Holy Gifts, with all reverence and awe.

When the Deacon hath consumed the Holy Elements, so that no smallest morsel of the broken Bread is allowed to fall or remain; and

hath poured into the holy chalice of the water and the wine, and hath wiped away with the sponge all the moisture, he shall lay the holy vessels together, and set them in their accustomed place, saying: Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart: ...

THE DISMISSAL

And when the Psalm hath been read, the Priest shall say:

PRIEST

The blessing of the Lord, through his grace and love towards mankind, be upon you always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

PRIEST

Glory to thee, O Christ our God; glory to thee.

CHOIR

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

(Thrice.)

Master, bless.

VARIES Eastertide: added in the Paschal season.

CHOIR

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
Death by death, and upon those in the tomb
bestowing life.**

VARIES The dismissal names the day's saints and changes with the weekday and the feast. Hapgood gives this form; the feasts have their own.

(The Bishop or) the Priest saith the Benediction.

PRIEST

May

(Sunday: he who rose from the dead)

Christ, our true God, through the prayers of his all-holy

Mother

(Wednesday and Friday: through the might of the precious and life-giving Cross)

,

(Monday: through the intercessions of the honourable Bodiless Powers of Heaven)

,

(Tuesday: of the honourable and glorious Prophet and Forerunner and Baptist, John)

, of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles

(Saturday: of the holy, glorious and right victorious Martyrs; of our reverend and God-bearing Fathers)

; of our Father among the Saints, John Chrysostom,

(Thursday: of our Father among the Saints, Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, the Wonder-worker)

, of Saint N.

(of the Temple)

, of Saint N.

(of the day)

, of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and

Anna, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save us,

for he is good and loveth mankind.

VARIES The "Many years" names your parish's own bishop and authorities.

CHOIR

Preserve, O Lord, our government authorities, our Master, the Right Reverend N., Bishop of N., and all Orthodox Christians, for many years.

VARIES At the end of the Liturgy, the faithful come forward to venerate the cross and receive a piece of the blessed bread (antidoron). If you're visiting, a parishioner may well notice and bring you a piece; it's a sign of welcome.

The Priest holdeth the cross for the People to kiss, and distributeth the antidóron, after which he withdraweth to the Sanctuary, and the Holy Door is closed.

Here the Divine Liturgy ends. The prayers of thanksgiving after Holy Communion are on our Thanksgiving after Communion page.

Text: Isabel F. Hapgood, *Service Book of the Holy Orthodox-Catholic Apostolic (Greco-Russian) Church* (Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1906), pages 80–126. Public domain. Scan: archive.org/details/cu31924029363128

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Text: Isabel F. Hapgood, *Service Book of the Holy Orthodox-Catholic Apostolic Church* (1906), public domain in the United States. Adaptations are marked.

Layout and notes © 2026 Simply Orthodox · simplyorthodox.com

Free for personal and parish use; not for sale.

A reading aid, not an official service book. It carries no bishop's blessing. Follow your parish's books and your priest.