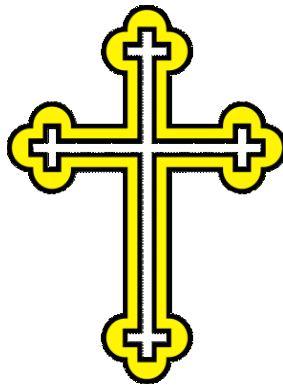


# THE HOLY LITURGY

OF THE

## PRESANCTIFIED HOLY GIFTS



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THE HOLY LITURGY

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PRESANCTIFIED

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GIFTS

# THE LITURGY OF The Presanctified Holy Gifts

**DEACON:** Master, give the blessing.

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

**CANTOR:** Amen.

## THE EVENING PSALM

**READER:** Come, let us worship and bow down before God our king.  
Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ our king.  
Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ himself, our God and king.

Bless the Lord, my soul. Lord my God, how great you are! Clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in a robe of light! You stretch the heavens out like a tent, you build your palace on the waters above; using the clouds as your chariot, you advance on the wings of the wind; you use the winds as messengers and fiery flames as servants. You fixed the earth on its foundations, unshakable forever and ever; you wrapped it with the deep as with a robe, the waters overtopping the mountains. At your reproof the waters took to flight, they fled at the sound of your thunder, cascading over the mountains, into the valleys, down to the reservoir you made for them; you imposed the limits they must never cross again, or they would once more flood the land. You set the springs gushing in ravines, running down between the mountains, supplying water for wild animals, attracting the thirsty wild donkeys; near there the birds of the air make their nests and sing among the branches. From your palace you water the uplands until the ground has had all that your heavens have to offer; you make fresh grass grow for cattle and those plants made use of by man, for them to get food from the soil: wine to make them cheerful, oil to make them happy and bread to make them strong. The trees of the Lord get rain enough, those

**Cedars of Lebanon he plants; here the little birds build their nest and, on the highest branches, the stork has its home. For the wild goats there are the mountains, in the crags rock-badgers hide. You made the moon to tell the seasons, the sun knows when to set: you bring darkness on, night falls; all the forest animals come out: savage lions roaring for their prey, claiming their food from God. The sun rises they go back to lie down in their lairs, and man goes out to work, and to labor until dusk. Lord, what variety you have created, arranging everything so wisely! Earth is completely full of things you have made: among them vast expanse of ocean, teeming with countless creatures, creatures large and small, with the ships going to and for and Leviathan whom you made to amuse you. All creatures depend on you to feed them throughout the year; you provide the food they eat, with generous hand you satisfy their hunger. You turn your face away, they suffer, you stop their breath, they die and revert to dust. You give breath, fresh life begins, you keep renewing the world. Glory forever to the Lord! May the Lord find joy in what he creates, at whose glance the earth trembles, at whose touch the mountains smoke! I mean to sing to the Lord all my life, I mean to play for my God as long as I live. May these reflections of mine give him pleasure, as much as the Lord gives me! May sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked exist no more! Bless the Lord, my soul.**

**Refrain:**

**The sun knows when to set: you bring darkness on, night falls. Lord, what variety you have created, arranging everything so wisely.**

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

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God, our hope, glory to you!**

*[After the psalm has been read, the deacon comes before the Holy Doors and says:]*

## THE GREAT LITANY

**DEACON:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For this holy church and for those who enter it with faith, piety, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For our *(Most)* Blessed *(Arch)* Bishop, *(Metropolitan, Patriarch)*, the venerable priests, the deacons in Christ and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For the *(President/Queen, /Prime Minister)* of our nation, for civil and military authorities, for the armed forces, and for all civil authorities, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For this holy place, for all cities, towns and villages, for the faithful dwelling in them, and for the entire nation, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For travelers on land, on sea and in the air; for the sick, the suffering, for captives and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For our deliverance from all danger, affliction, anger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Remembering our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God, and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**CANTOR:** To you, O, Lord.

### **A PRAYER AFTER THE GREAT LITANY**

**PRIEST:** O Lord, compassionate and merciful, patient and most merciful, hear our prayer and attend to the voice of our supplication. Create with us a good sign; guiding us on your way that we may walk in your truth. Gladden our hearts that we may fear your holy name, for you are great and do wonders. You only are God and there is no other like you: powerful in mercy and good in strength to the help and comfort and saving of all those who hope in your holy name.

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

**CANTOR:** Amen.

## THE FIRST STASIS

**READER:**

Psalm 120 When I am in trouble, I call to the Lord, and he answers me. Lord, save me from these lying lips and these faithless tongues! How will he pay back the false oath of a faithless tongue? With war arrows hardened over red-hot charcoal! This is worse than a life in Meshech, or camping in Kedar! Too long have I lived among people who hate peace, who when I propose peace, are all for war.

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the mountains, where is help to come from? Help comes to me from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. No letting our footsteps slip! This guard of yours, he does not doze! The guardian of Israel does not doze or sleep. The sun cannot strike you down by day, nor the moon at night. The Lord guards you from harm, he guards your lives, he guards your leaving, coming back, now and for always.

Psalm 122

How I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go the house of the Lord!" And now our feet are standing in your gateways, Jerusalem. Jerusalem restored! The city, one united whole! Here the tribes come up, the tribes of the Lord, they come to praise the Lord's name, as he ordered Israel, here where the tribunals of justice are, the royal tribunals of David. Pray for peace in Jerusalem, 'Prosperity to your houses! Peace inside your city walls! Prosperity to your palaces!' Since all are my brothers and friends, I say, 'Peace be with you!' Since the Lord our God lives here, I pray for your happiness.

Psalm 123

I lift my eyes to you, to you who have your home in heaven, eyes like the eyes of slaves fixed on their masters hand; like the eyes of a slave-girl fixed on the hand of her mistress, so our eyes are fixed on the Lord our God, for him to take pity on us; pity us, Lord, take pity on us, we have had more than our share of scorn, more than our share of jeers from the complacent, of scorn from the proud.

## Psalm 124

If the Lord had not been on our side--let Israel repeat it---if the Lord had not been on our side when they attacked us, they would have swallowed us alive and burnt us to death in their rage. The waters would have closed over us, the torrent have swept us away, either would have drowned us in their turbulent waves. Blessed be the Lord who did not let us fall a victim to those teeth, who let us escape like birds from the fowler's net. He tore the net and we escaped, our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God, our hope, glory to you! Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

*[The curtain is opened. The deacon, standing in front of the Holy Doors, says:]*

### THE LITTLE LITANY (1st)

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Remembering our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.



## A PRAYER BEFORE THE SECOND STASIS

**PRIEST:** Lord do not punish us in your rage nor reprove us in the heat of anger, but care for us in your mercy, physician and healer of our souls. Guide us to the haven of your will. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the understanding of your truth; and grant that the remainder of this day and all the days of our life may be peaceful and without sin; through the intercessions of the holy Birthgiver of God and of all your saints.

For the majesty and the kingdom, and the power and glory are yours: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

## SECOND STASIS

**READER:** Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

### Psalm 125

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, unshakable, standing forever. Jerusalem! Encircled by mountains, as the Lord encircles his people now and for always. No wicked scepter shall rule this heritage of the virtuous, or the virtuous in their turn might take to evil. Lord, be good to the good, to those of upright heart. But the perverts, those who follow twisting paths--may the Lord send them to join the evil-doers! Peace to Israel!

### Psalm 126

When the Lord brought Zion's captives home, at first it seemed like a dream; then our mouths filled with laughter and our lips with song. Even the pagans started talking about the marvels the Lord had done for us! What marvels indeed he did for us, and how overjoyed we were! Lord, bring all our captives back again like torrents in the Negeb! Those who went sowing in tears now sing as they reap. They went away, went away weeping, carrying the seed; they come back, come back singing, carrying their sheaves.

### Psalm 127

If the Lord does not build the house, in vain the masons toil; if the Lord does not guard the city, in vain the sentries watch. In vain you get up earlier, and put off going to bed, sweating to make a living, since he

provides for his beloved as they sleep. Sons are a bounty from the Lord, he rewards with descendants: like the arrows in a hero's hand are the sons you father when young. Happy the man who has filled his quiver with arrows of this sort; in dispute with his enemies at the gate, he will not be worsted.

**Psalm 128**

Happy, all those who fear the Lord and follow in his paths. You will eat what your hands have worked for, happiness and prosperity will be yours. Your wife: a fruitful vine on the inner walls of your house. Your sons: round your table like shoots round an olive tree. Such are the blessings that fall on the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! May you see Jerusalem prosperous and live to see your children's children! Peace to Israel!

**Psalm 129**

Hard as they have harried me since I was young---let Israel repeat it---hard as they have harried since I was young, they have not overcome me. Plowmen have ploughed on my back longer and longer furrows, but now the Lord the righteous has shattered the yoke of the wicked. May they all be thrown into confusion, be routed who have hated Zion, be blasted by winds from the east like grass sprouting on the roof! Roof-grass never yet filled reaper's arm or binder's lap---and no one passing them will ever say, "The Lord's blessing on you! We bless you in the name of the Lord."

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God, our hope, glory to you! Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

**THE LITTLE LITANY (2nd)**

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Remembering our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

### A PRAYER BEFORE THE THIRD STASIS

**PRIEST:** Lord our God, remember us sinners, your unworthy servants when we call on your holy name, and do not refute our expectations of your mercy but grant us, Lord, all those requests which serve for our salvation. Make us worthy to love and fear you with our whole heart and to do your will in all things.

For you are good, O God, and the lover of mankind, and we offer glory to you: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

### THE THIRD STASIS

**READER:** Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

### Psalm 130

From the depths I call to you, Lord, Lord, listen to my cry for help! Listen compassionately to my pleading! If you never overlooked our sins, Lord, Lord, could anyone survive! But you do forgive us: and for that we revere you. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him, I rely on his promise, my soul relies on the Lord more than a watchman on the coming of dawn. Let Israel rely on the Lord as much as the watchman on the dawn! For it is with the Lord that mercy is to be found, and a generous redemption; it is he who redeems Israel from all their sins.

### Psalm 131

Lord, my heart has no lofty ambitions; my eyes do not look too high. I am not concerned with great affairs or marvels beyond my scope. Enough for me to keep my soul tranquil and quiet like a child in its mother's arms, as content as a child that has been weaned. Israel, rely on the Lord, now and for always!

### Psalm 132

Lord, remember David and all the hardships he suffered, and the oath he swore to the Lord, his vow to the mighty one of Jacob: not to enter tent or house, not to climb into bed, not to allow himself to sleep, not even to close his eyes, until he had found a place for the Lord, a home for the mighty one of Jacob! Listen: we heard it was in Ephrathah, we found it at Fields-of-the-Forest!

\* Let us go where he is waiting and worship at his footstool.

*[A bell is rung in the altar indicating that the faithful should kneel. At the second ringing of the bell, the faithful rise and the reader continues the stasis.]*

### **READER continues reading:**

Lord, go up to your resting place, you and your ark of power. Your priests are vesting in virtue and your devout are shouting for joy. For the sake of your servant David, do not banish your anointed. The Lord swore to David and will remain true to his word, 'I promise that your own son shall succeed you on the throne. If your sons observe my covenant, the decrees that I have taught them, their sons too shall succeed you on the throne forevermore!' For the Lord has chosen Zion, desiring this to be his home. 'Here I will stay forever; this is the home I have chosen. I will bless her virtuous with riches, provide her poor with food, vest her priests in salvation and her devout shall shout for joy. Here I will make a horn sprout for David, here, I will trim a lamp for my anointed, whose enemies I shall clothe in shame, while his crown bursts into flower.'

### Psalm 133

How good, how delightful it is for all to live together like brothers: fine as oil on the head, running down the beard, running down Aaron's beard to the collar of his robes; copious as a Hermon dew

falling on the heights of Zion, where the Lord confers his blessing, everlasting life.

**Psalm 134**

Come bless the Lord, all you who serve the Lord, serving in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God! Stretch out your hands toward the sanctuary, bless the Lord night after night! May the Lord bless you from Zion, he who made heaven and earth!

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God, our hope, glory to you!

*[The curtain is opened. The deacon, standing in front of the Holy Doors, says:]*

**THE LITTLE LITANY (3RD)**

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Remembering our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

## A PRAYER FROM THE MYSTERY OF CHRISMATION

**PRIEST:** Blessed are you, O Lord God almighty, source of all good things, Sun of righteousness, shining forth on them that were in darkness the light of salvation through the manifestation of your Only-begotten Son and our God; and who have given us, unworthy though we are, blessed purification through the sanctified waters and divine sanctification through life-giving Chrismation. O master, compassionate king of kings, grant that we be worthy of participation of the holy Body and Blood of your Christ. Keep us in your sanctification; confirm us in the Orthodox faith; deliver us from the evil one and from all his schemes. Preserve our souls in purity and uprightness through the saving fear of you, that we may please you in every deed and word and that we may be children and heirs of your heavenly kingdom.

For you are our God who has mercy and saves, and we offer glory to you: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

### "LORD I HAVE CALLED" & Sticheras

Lord, I have called to you, hear me, hear me, O Lord. Lord, I have called to you, hear me, hear the voice of my prayer when I cry to you. Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer come before you like incense, the raising of my hands like an evening sacrifice, hear me, O Lord.

#### 10th Stichera:

Rescue me from persecutors stronger than I am! Free me from this imprisonment.

#### 9th Stichera:

I will thank your name once more in the assembly of the virtuous for the goodness you show me.

#### 8th Stichera:

From the depths I call to you, O Lord, Lord listen to my cry for help!

**7th Stichera:**

Listen compassionately to my pleading!

**6th Stichera:**

If you never overlooked our sins, Lord, O Lord, could anyone survive? But you do forgive us: and for that we revere you.

**5th Stichera:**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him; I rely on his promise.

**4th Stichera:**

My soul relies on the Lord more than a watchman on the coming of dawn. Let Israel rely on the Lord more than a watchman on the coming of dawn.

**3rd Stichera:**

For it is with the Lord that mercy is to be found, and a generous redemption; it is he who redeems Israel from all their sins.

**2nd Stichera:**

Praise the Lord, all nations, extol him, all you people!

**1st Stichera:**

For his love is strong, his faithfulness eternal.

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

**THE EVENING ENTRANCE**

**DEACON:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**PRIEST:** In the evening, in the morning and at noontime we praise and bless you, we thank you and pray to you, master of all, O Lord and lover of mankind. Let our prayers rise like incense. Keep our hearts from evil words and thoughts. Save us from all who would harm our souls. We fix our eyes on you, Lord, and in you we place our hope. Do not refute us, O God.

**PRIEST:** For all glory, honor and worship are proper to you:to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

**DEACON:** Master, bless the entrance.

**PRIEST:** Blessed is the entrance of your holy ones, always, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

**DEACON:** Wisdom! Arise!

### THE EVENING THANKSGIVING HYMN

**CANTOR:** O Jesus Christ, the joyous light of the holy glory of the heavenly Father, the immortal, holy, blessed one. Coming to the setting of the sun, seeing the light of evening, we praise God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is right that you be praised at all times by joyful voices, O Son of God, who gives life and for this all the universe glorifies you.

**DEACON:** Let us be attentive!

**PRIEST:** Peace, be to you all.

**CANTOR:** And to your spirit.

### OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READINGS

**DEACON:** Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

**READER:** [*Chants the Prokimenon and the verse.*]

**DEACON:** Wisdom!

**READER:** The reading is from the Book of Genesis.

**DEACON:** Let us be attentive!



**READER:** *[Facing the people from near the icon of Christ, the First Lesson, from Genesis is read, not chanted.]*

\* \* \*

**DEACON:** Wisdom!

**READER:** *[Chants the Prokimenon and the verse.]*

**DEACON:** Command!

*[At this time, the priest, standing in holy doors, turns to the faithful and blesses them with a lighted candle, saying]*

**PRIEST:** Wisdom! Arise! The light of Christ illumines all!

**DEACON:** Wisdom!

**READER:** The reading is from the Book of Proverbs!

**DEACON:** Let us be attentive!

**READER:** *[Facing the people from near the icon Christ Reads, not chants the Second Lesson, from Proverb.]*

### "LET MY PRAYER COME BEFORE YOU"

*[During the singing of this hymn and the verses the faithful ought to make three prostrations at each refrain: "Let my prayer..." or at least kneel during this time.]*

**PRIEST:** Let my prayer come before you like incense; the raising of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

**CHOIR I:** Let my prayer come before you like incense; the raising of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

**PRIEST:** Lord, I am calling, hurry to me, listen to me, I am invoking you.

**CHOIR II:** Let my prayer come before you like incense; the raising of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

**PRIEST:** Lord, set a guard at my mouth, a watcher at the gate of my lips.

**CHOIR I:** Let my prayer come before you like incense; the raising of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

**PRIEST:** Let me feel no impulse to do evil, to share the godlessness of evil-doers.

**CHOIR II:** Let my prayer come before you like incense; the raising of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

**PRIEST:** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**CHOIR I:** Let my prayer come before you like incense; the raising of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

**PRIEST:** Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen. Let my prayer come before you like incense.

**CHOIRS:** The raising of my hands, like the evening sacrifice.

*[While the choir sings this final refrain, the priest and faithful make three prostrations. If there is no feastday, go to Page 19]*

## NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READINGS

*[If it is a feastday on which the epistle and gospel are read or of a saint with the "Polyeleos" or the patron of the parish, then after the singing of "Let my prayer..." the deacon says:*

*]*  
**DEACON:** Let us be attentive!

**PRIEST:** Peace, be to you all.

**READER:** And to your spirit.

*(The reader stands in the middle of the Church, facing the altar and sings the Prokimenon of the epistle. Then the deacon says:)*

**DEACON:** Wisdom!

**READER:** The reading is from \_\_\_\_\_.

**DEACON:** Let us be attentive!

*[The reader, facing the altar, or turning to the people, and standing so that he is no with his back to the altar, reads the epistle. After the epistle, the priest says:]*

**PRIEST:** Peace, be to you, reader.

**READER:** And to your spirit.

*[The deacon asks the priest's blessing and censes during the Alleluia Verses.]*

**CANTOR:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**READER:** *[Chants the second verse.]*

**CANTOR:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*[During the Alleluia verses, the priest stands at the holy table and says:]*

## **THE PRAYER BEFORE THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL**

**PRIEST:** Enkindle in our hearts the pure light of your divine knowledge, O master, lover of mankind, and open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of your evangelical proclamations. Instill the fear of your blessed commandments in us so that, trampling down all bodily desires, we may practice a spiritual life, thinking and doing all which pleases you. For you are the illumination of our souls and bodies, Christ God, and we offer glory to you, together with your Father who is without beginning and your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

**DEACON:** Father, bless me the proclaimer of the holy (*Apostle and*) Evangelist \_\_\_\_\_.

**PRIEST:** May God, through the intercessions of the holy, all-laudable (*Apostle and*) Evangelist \_\_\_\_\_, grant you that are proclaiming great power of speech for the fulfillment of the gospel of his beloved Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**DEACON:** Amen. Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel!

**PRIEST:** Peace, be to you all.

**CANTOR:** And, to your spirit.

**DEACON:** The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_ .

**CANTOR:** Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

**PRIEST:** Let us be attentive!

*[After the reading of the Gospel, the deacon presents the Gospel Book to the priest, who says:]*

**PRIEST:** Peace, be to you proclaimer of the Gospel.

**CANTOR:** Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

### THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATIONS

**DEACON:** Let us say, from our whole soul and from our whole mind, let us say.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** O Lord, Almighty, God of our fathers, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great goodness, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**DEACON:** Again we pray for our (*Most*) Blessed (*Arch*)Bishop (*Metropolitan, Patriarch*), and for all our brethren in Christ.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**DEACON:** Again we pray for the President (*Queen/Prime Minister*) of our nation, for civil and military authorities and for the armed force and for all authorities.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**DEACON:** Again we pray for hieromonks, priests, hierodeacons, deacons, monks and nuns and for all our brethren in Christ.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**DEACON:** Again we pray for the blessed and ever remembered founders of this holy place and for our fathers and brethren fallen asleep in the Lord, Orthodox Christians, who rest here and elsewhere.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**DEACON:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of the servants of God: members, founders and benefactors of this holy place.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3X)

**DEACON:** Again we pray for those who bring offerings to this holy and all-venerable church, for those who do good works, for those who serve and those who sing and for the people here present awaiting your great and rich mercy.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

## A PRAYER OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

**PRIEST:** O Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication from your servants and have mercy on us according to the multitude of your mercies. Send down your compassion on us and on all the people who are awaiting from you great and rich mercy.

For you are merciful, O God, and the lover of mankind and we offer glory to you: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

## THE LITANY FOR THE CATECHUMENS

*[This litany may be omitted from Mid-Wednesday when the litany for Those Prepared for Illumination is said.]*

**DEACON:** Catechumens, pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he teach the word of truth to them.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he reveal the Gospel of righteousness to them.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he unite them to his holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Save them, have mercy on them, help them and keep them, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Catechumens, bow your heads to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

### A PRAYER FOR THE CATECHUMENS

**PRIEST:** O God, our God, creator and maker of all that exists, who desire all to be saved and come to knowledge of the truth: look on the catechumens, your servants, and deliver them from the ancient deception and from the wiles of the adversary. Call them to unending life; illumine their souls and bodies; and number them among your reason-endowed flock that is called by your holy name.

So that these together with us may glorify your all-honorable and magnificent name: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

*[The following conclusion is omitted from Mid-Wednesday]*

**DEACON:** All catechumens, depart! Catechumens, depart! All catechumens, depart! Let no catechumen remain! Let us, the faithful, again and again in peace pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

*[If the above conclusion is said, continue with the litany on Page 20, "Help and save..."]*

### LITANY FOR THOSE PREPARED FOR ILLUMINATION

**DEACON:** All catechumens, depart! Catechumens, depart! Those preparing for illumination approach! You that are preparing for illumination, pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Let us the faithful, pray to the Lord for these brethren preparing for holy illumination and for their salvation.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That the Lord our God strengthen them and grant them power, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he illumine them with the light of understanding and true faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he make them worthy, in due time, of the bath of rebirth, the forgiveness of sins and the robe of immortality, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he birth them anew with water and the Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he grant them perfection of the Faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That he number them with his holy and chosen flock, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.



**DEACON:** Help them and save them, have mercy on them and keep them, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** You that are preparing for illumination, bow your heads to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

### **A PRAYER FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR ILLUMINATION**

**PRIEST:** Show your face, O master, to those who are preparing for holy illumination and who desire to save themselves from the stain of sin. Enlighten their minds, make them steadfast in faith, strengthen them in hope, perfect them in love, show them to be worthy members of your Christ who gave himself as ransom for our souls.

For you are our illumination and we offer glory to you: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

**DEACON:** Those preparing for illumination, depart! You that are preparing for illumination, depart! All catechumens, depart! Let no catechumen remain! Let us the faithful, again and again, in peace pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

*[Continue here from Page 18 - "the faithful, again and again..."]*

**DEACON:** Help us and save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

## A PRAYER FOR THE FAITHFUL

**PRIEST:** O God, great and all-praised, who through the life-creating death of your Christ have brought us from corruption to incorruption, free all our senses from the insensibility of passions. Set our conscience over them as a good guide; that the eye be clear of any evil sight, the hearing closed to idle words, and the tongue pure of unworthy speech. Cleanse our lips by which we praise you, O Lord and make our hands free of evil deeds and dedicated to work only what is pleasing to you. Strengthen all our limbs and our minds by your grace.

**DEACON:** Wisdom!

**PRIEST;** For to you are due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

*[The following petitions are recited only if a deacon is serving.]*

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For this holy church and for those who enter it with faith, piety and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That we be delivered from all danger, affliction, anger and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

*([If the priest serves alone, he continues here.]*

**DEACON:** Help and save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

#### **ANOTHER PRAYER FOR THE FAITHFUL**

**PRIEST:** O holy master, all-good one rich in mercy, we pray you, be merciful to us sinners and make us worthy to welcome your only-begotten Son and our God, the king of glory. See now, entering at this present time, escorted by a multitude of the heavenly bodiless host, his most pure Body and life-giving Blood are about to be shown forth on this mystical table. Grant us to blamelessly partake of them so that through them the eye of our mind may be illumined thus making us children of light and of day.

**DEACON:** Wisdom!

**PRIEST:** By virtue of the gift of your Christ, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

*[The choir sings the following hymn while the priest in the altar recites it with the deacon.]*

**PRIEST:** Now the powers of heaven invisibly minister with us, for behold the king of glory enters. Behold the accomplished mystical sacrifice escorted by them.

**DEACON:** Let us approach with faith and desire so that we may partake of unending life. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### THE GREAT ENTRANCE OF THE KING OF GLORY

*[The choir has completed the first part of the hymn, the faithful are prostrate or kneel in silence, heads bent low. No sound is heard anywhere from anyone. The procession goes from the side door: candles, ripidia, deacon censing the gifts as he walks backward because of the holy Mysteries that the priest is carrying. The priest, on arriving in the center of the Church, turns and silently lifts the gifts toward the faithful with the holy diskos only. He turns and enters through the holy doors. The bell sounds and the faithful rise as the choir concludes the hymn: "Let us approach..."]*

### THE LITANY FOR THE PRESANCTIFIED HOLY GIFTS BEFORE THE LORD'S PRAYER

**DEACON:** Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** For these precious Presanctified Gifts, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That our God, the lover of mankind, who has accepted them on his holy, heavenly and spiritual altar as a spiritual fragrant offering will send down on us divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That we be delivered from all danger, affliction, anger and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** That the whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful and without sin, let us ask of the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Grant this, O Lord.

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

**CANTOR:** Grant this, O Lord.

**DEACON:** Forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Grant this, O Lord.

**DEACON:** All which is good and useful for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Grant this, O Lord.

**DEACON:** That we may complete the remainder of our lives in peace and penitence, let us ask of the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Grant this, O Lord.

**DEACON:** That the end of our lives be Christian: without torment, blameless and peaceful and for a good account at the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Grant this, O Lord.

**DEACON:** Asking for the unity of the Faith and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us offer ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

## A PRAYER BEFORE THE LORD'S PRAYER

**PRIEST:** O God of unspeakable and invisible mysteries, with whom are concealed the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, you have revealed to us the service of this ministry and in your great love for mankind have appointed us sinners to offer you gifts and sacrifices for our sins and for the sinful errors of the people. O, invisible king, doer of great and inscrutable, glorious, wondrous and innumerable works, look on us your unworthy servants who stand as though as the throne of the cherubim, here before your holy altar on which rests your Only-begotten Son and our God in the fearful mysteries shown forth and free us and your entire believing people from all stain and sanctify our souls and bodies with ineffaceable sanctification. Thus partaking with a pure conscience, with face unashamed and illumined heart, of these divine and holy mysteries and being revived by them may we be united to your Christ himself, our true God, who said: "He that eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him." That by your Word abiding and remaining in us, thus being saved from diabolic wiles done in deed, in word or thought, O Lord, we may be temples of your all-holy and worshipped Spirit. Thus may we attain the good things promised to us, together with all your holy ones who through all the ages are pleasing to you.

And make us worthy, O Master, that with confidence, and without fear of condemnation, we may boldly call you, the God of heaven, Father and say:

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**PEOPLE:** Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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.

**PRIEST:** For yours in 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 the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

**PRIEST:** Peace, be to you all.

**CANTOR:** And to your spirit.

**DEACON:** Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

### A PRAYER AFTER THE LORD'S PRAYER

**PRIEST:** O God, only good and merciful one, who dwell on high and watch over the humble, look with a compassionate eye on all your people and preserve them. Count us all worthy, without condemnation, to partake of these your life-giving mysteries, for we bow our heads to you and from you we await your rich mercy.

Through the grace and compassion and love for mankind of your Only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed together with your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

### A PRAYER BEFORE THE LIFTING OF THE GIFTS

**PRIEST:** O Lord Jesus Christ our God, attend from your holy dwelling place, and from the throne of glory of your kingdom come to sanctify us, you that above sit together with the Father and that here, invisibly present, are together with us. And by your mighty hand, condescend to impart to us your most pure Body and precious Blood and through us to all the people.

*[The priest and the deacon bow three times, saying each time:]*

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

**DEACON:** Let us be attentive!

**PRIEST:** The Presanctified Holy Things are for the holy!

**CANTOR:** One is holy! One is Lord! Jesus Christ to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## THE COMMUNION

**CANTOR:** How good the Lord is---only taste and see! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! (*Psalm 33:8*)

**DEACON:** Father, break the Holy Lamb.

**PRIEST:** The Lamb of God is broken and shared, broken but not divided, ever eaten but not consumed, sanctifying those who partake.

**PRIEST:** Deacon, approach.

*[The formula for receiving is different than at the usual communion for it speaks of receiving both together.]*

**DEACON:** Master, give me the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**PRIEST:** The precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, is given to you, (N) the deacon, for forgiveness of your sins and for everlasting life.

**DEACON:** Amen.

**PRIEST:** The precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, is given to me, (N) the priest, for forgiveness of my sins and for everlasting life.

## SOME PRAYERS BEFORE COMMUNION

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that you are truly the Christ, the Son of the loving God who came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am first. I also believe that this is your own pure Body and this is your own precious Blood. Therefore I pray you; have mercy on me and forgive my voluntary and involuntary trespasses, in word and in deed, in knowledge and in ignorance. Make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of your most pure Mysteries for forgiveness of sins and for everlasting life. Amen.



**O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant of your mystic supper for I will not speak to your enemies of your mystery, nor will I give you a kiss as Judas did. But I will confess you as did the thief: Remember me, O Lord, in your kingdom.**

**May my partaking of your holy Mysteries be not for judgment nor condemnation, O Lord, but for healing of soul and body.**

**DEACON:** Approach, with the fear of God, with faith and with love.

**CANTOR:** I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall be on my lips continually. (*Psalm 33:1*)

**PRIEST:** The servant of God (N) partakes of the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, for forgiveness of his (her) sins and for everlasting life.

*[After all have communed, the priest returns the Holy Cup to the altar table. He then turns to the people and blessed them with his hand saying:]*

**O God, save your people and bless your heritage!**

**CANTOR:** We have seen the true light! We have received the heavenly Spirit! We have found the true Faith! Therefore, let us worship the undivided Trinity who has saved us.

*[The deacon puts together the various articles on the diskos, saying nothing because the Holy Gifts are already in the Holy Cup. The priest censes the Holy Gifts 3 times, saying:]*

**PRIEST:** Rise high above the heavens, God, let your glory be over the earth! Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen. Let our mouths be filled with your praise, O Lord, for you have counted us worthy to partake of your holy, divine, immortal, pure and life-creating Mysteries. Preserve us in holiness so that we may sing of your glory, practicing your righteousness all through the day. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

**DEACON:** Let us be attentive! Having partaken of the divine, holy pure, immortal, heavenly and life-creating, fearful Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**DEACON:** Asking that the whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful and without sin, let us offer ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ, our God.

**CANTOR:** To you, O Lord.

## A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**PRIEST:** We thank you, O Savior, God of all, for every good thing you have given us and for the communion of the holy Body and Blood of you Christ. We pray you, O master, Lover of mankind, shelter us under the cover of your wings. Grant us, to our last breath, to worthily partake of your holy Mysteries, for illumination of soul and body and inheritance of the kingdom of heaven.

For you are our sanctification and we offer glory to you: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

**PRIEST:** Let us go forth in peace.

**CANTOR:** In the name of the Lord.

**DEACON:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**PRIEST:** O Master, almighty one, who so wisely created all things and who in your unspeakable concern and great goodness have brought us to these all-honorable days for cleansing of soul and body, for control of passions and for hope in the resurrection, who after forty days gave the tablets of your divine law into the hands of your servant Moses, O good one, also grant that we may fight the good fight, complete the journey of the fast, preserve the faith whole, crush the heads of unseen enemies, show ourselves victors over sin and reach and worship un-condemned the holy resurrection.

For blessed and glorified is your all-honorable and magnificent name: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (*three times*)

**PRIEST:** O Lord our God who have brought us to these all-honorable days and have made us partakers of your fearful Mysteries; unite us to your rational flock and show us to be heirs of your kingdom, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*[The choir follows the hymn "Blessed be the name..." with the following:]*

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

**Psalm 33** I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall be on my lips continually; my soul glories in the Lord, let the humble hear and rejoice. Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord, together let us extol his name. I seek the Lord, and he answers me and frees me from all my fears. Every face turned to him grows brighter and is never ashamed. A cry goes up from the poor man, and the Lord hears, and helps him in all his troubles. The angel of the Lord pitches camp round those who fear him; and he keeps them safe. How good the Lord is---only taste and see! Happy the man who takes shelter in him. Fear the Lord, you his holy ones: those who fear him want for nothing. The young lion may go empty and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack nothing good.

**DEACON:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**CANTOR:** Lord, have mercy.

**PRIEST:** The blessing of the Lord and his mercy be on you through his grace and love of mankind, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

### THE DISMISSAL

**Priest:** Glory to you, Christ God our hope, glory to you.

**Cantor:** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
In the name of the Lord, Master, give the blessing.

**PRIEST:** May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his most pure Mother, of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles, of the holy N. \_\_\_\_\_ (name of the patron Church, but not a feast) of our holy father among the saints Gregory Author of the Dialogues, of the holy N. \_\_\_\_\_ whom we commemorate today, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for he is good and the lover of mankind.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

**PRIEST:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**CANTOR:** Amen.

Revised March 8, 2019

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

**The litanies and some of the prayers are text of The Liturgy of the Presanctified Holy Gifts follows the translation of the Divine and Holy Liturgy for Orthodox Christians, 2005, Romanian Episcopate of America, Grass Lake, Michigan.**

**It is reproduced for Clergy of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate until a more permanent printing is possible. We have left it without staples, holes or any form of binding so that each priest may employ it in a form with which he is most comfortable.**

**This rendering is according to the Romanian and Byzantine traditions; i.e., it differs from the Slavic text which includes the Prayer of Saint Efrem in various places within the liturgy.**

**This liturgy is celebrated in the evening and thus, the atmosphere of the parish church should be serene, not brightly illuminated.**

**The clergy are vested in vestments of a dark hue but not black. Coverings of the holy table and tetrapods/icon stands are also in dark hue but not black.**

**The altar servers and choir/cantor should review the service with the priest before the day of the service. Readers should be exhorted to enunciate the Psalm readings and Old Testament readings and be loud and clear for all those present to not only hear but to understand.**

**This liturgy is somber but not sad nor morose. It is a liturgy of quiet joy in receiving the holy Body and precious Blood of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**Fasting should be from the morning meal and if possible from the night before.**

**The time for the service should be not too early in the evening nor too late but should be scheduled for the possibility of the faithful to participate and to commune.**

**If the priest makes himself available to hear confessions, it should be kept in mind that the service should begin as scheduled and that the faithful who arrive.**

Revised March 8, 2019

*THE LITURGY OF THE  
PRESANCTIFIED HOLY GIFTS*

*THE  
END  
AND  
THANKS  
BE  
TO GOD*

*Pre-Publication Edition*

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