

EUCHOLOGION

Book of Needs

Compiled and Edited

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Let all things be done properly and in order.
(1 Cor. 14:40)

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THE BEGINNING PRAYERS

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, Who art everywhere and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O good One.

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

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

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the glory unto ages. Amen.

THE TROPARIA

Have Mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for, being devoid of all defence, we sinners offer to Thee, as Master this supplication: Have mercy on us.

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

O Lord, have mercy on us, for in Thee have we trusted. Be not very angry with us, neither remember our iniquities, but as one of tender heart, look down upon us even now and deliver us from our enemies; for Thou art our God,

and we are Thy people, all being the work of Thy hands,
and we call upon Thy name.

Both, now and ever, and unto ages. Amen.

Open unto us the door of Thy loving kindness, O Blessed
birthgiver of God, so that hoping in Thee we may not
perish, but through Thee may be delivered from
adversities, for Thou art the salvation of Christian people.

PRAYER FOR A WOMAN IN HARD LABOR AT CHILD-
BIRTH

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD God Almighty, the Creator of all things and the Giver of knowledge to mankind: who didst fashion the body of man from the earth, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and granted him thy blessing, that he might increase and multiply by means of the birth of children: We beseech thee now, thou who lovest mankind, to bless this thy handmaid, **N.**, who is with child, granting her help and comfort at this trying time; ease her labor, and bring her to safe delivery. Yea, O Lord, open thou the treasury of thy mercies, and thy compassion unto her, and let her give birth to a fruitful vine, to be a cause of joy to her all the days of her life: For blessed art thou, and thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen

PRAYERS FOR A WOMAN ON THE FIRST DAY AFTER
CHILD-BIRTH

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

Reader: Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us (**Thrice**).

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, be gracious to our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for thy Name's sake.

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

Glory: Both now.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ Then the following Theotokion (Tone 5) shall be said:

Hail, O impassable Gate of the Lord! Hail, O Wall and Protection of those who flee unto thee! Hail, thou untroubled Haven and Unwedded One who gavest birth in flesh to thy Maker and God; abate not thine intercessions for those who praise and worship Him of thy Nativity.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord Almighty, who healest every infirmity and every weakness: Do thou heal now also this thy handmaid, **N.**, who this day hath given birth and raise her up from the bed whereon she lieth. For, according to the words of the Prophet David, in sin are we conceived, and we are all unclean in thy sight. Preserve her and this child which she hath borne. Cover her with the shelter of thy wings from this day even unto her last end; through the intercessions of the immaculate Theotokos, and of all the Saints: For blessed art thou, unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord our God, who wast born of our immaculate Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and as a babe didst lie in a manger, and as a little child was held in arms: Do thou have mercy also upon this thy handmaid, who today hath borne this infant; and forgive her every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary, and preserve her from every diabolical wile; and preserve the child which hath been born of her from every spell and perplexity, and from every storm of adversity, and from evil spirits, whether of the day or of the night. Keep this thy handmaid under thy mighty hand, and grant that she may speedily arise, and purify her from every stain, and heal her suffering; and grant unto her health and strength both of soul and body; and surround her with radiant and shining Angels; and guard her from every assault of unseen spirits. Yea, Lord, and from malady and infirmity, from jealousy and envy, and from every jealous eye; and have mercy on her and upon her child, according to thy great mercy; and purify her from bodily uncleanness, and from the various visceral trouble assailing her. And,

through thy plenteous mercy, lift her up in her humbled body unto recovery. And vouchsafe that the child that hath been born of her may reverence the earthly temple which thou hast prepared for the glorification of thy holy Name:

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

R/: Amen

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD our God, who didst deign to come down from heaven, and to be born of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary for the salvation of us sinners, and who knowest the frailty of man's nature: Forgive thy handmaid, **N.**, who today hath given birth, according to thy great loving-kindness. For thou hast said, O Lord: "Increase, and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it." Therefore do we, thy servants, pray unto thee, and emboldened by thy benign love towards mankind, with fear do cry out to the kingdom of thy holy Name: Look down from heaven and behold the weakness of us who are condemned; and pardon this thy handmaid, **N.**, and all the house wherein the child hath been born, and all who came in contact with her, and all those who are here present; forgive them all inasmuch as thou art a good God and lovest mankind; for thou alone hast power to remit sins; through the intercessions of the all-holy Theotokos and of all the Saints.

R/: Amen

¶ After the prayers, the Priest shall give the woman who has given birth three sips of Holy Water, saying: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

¶ And the Dismissal of the day is pronounced.

PRAYER AT THE NAMING OF A CHILD

¶ On the eighth day after birth the sponsor shall bring the child to the vestibule of the Temple and stand before the doors, or the Priest shall come to the home.

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity.
Our Father: For thine is the kingdom:

¶ Then the Apolytikion of the day or of the Patron Saint of the Temple is said.

¶ The Priest shall say this prayer, making the sign of the cross upon the forehead, lips and breast of the Infant where indicated:

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD our God, we pray thee, and we beseech thee, that the light of thy countenance may be shown upon this thy **servant, N.**, and that the Cross of thine Only-begotten Son may be graven in **his** + heart, and in **his** + thoughts: that **he** may flee from the vainly of the world and from every evil snare of the enemy, and may follow after thy commandments. And grant O Lord, that thy holy Name may remain unrejected by **him**; [and that **he** may be united, in due time, to thy holy Church; and that the dread Mysteries of thy Christ may be administered unto **him**:] *That, having lived according to thy commandments, and preserved the Seal unbroken, **he** may receive the bliss of the elect in thy kingdom; through the grace and love towards mankind of thine Only-begotten Son, with whom also thou art blessed, with thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ Taking the Infant in his arms, the Priest shall stand before the doors of the Temple, or before an icon of the most holy Theotokos, and make the sign of the cross with the Infant, saying:

* If the child be already Baptized, the part enclosed in brackets is omitted.

Hail, thou full of grace, Virgin Theotokos; for from thee is risen the Son of Righteousness, Christ our God,

who enlighteneth those in darkness. Be glad also, thou righteous Elder, who didst receive in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who bestoweth on us Resurrection!

The Dismissal

May he who deigned to be held in the arms of the Righteous Simeon, for the sake of our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of Saint **N.**;^{**} and of all his Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

^{**}Here the Saint is mentioned whose name the child has received.

PRAYER FOR A WOMAN AFTER A MISCARRIAGE

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the Apolytikion of the day**.

Let us pray to the Lord.
R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord our God, who wast born of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and as a babe didst lie in a manger: Do thou thyself, according to thy great mercy, have mercy on this thy handmaid, **N.**, who hath miscarried that which was conceived in her. And forgive her every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary, and preserve her from every diabolical wile, and purify her stain, heal her sufferings, and grant unto her, O thou who lovest mankind, health and strength of soul and body, and guard her through a radiant Angel from every assault of unseen enemies: Yea, O Lord, from malady and infirmity. And purify her from bodily uncleanness, and from the various visceral troubles assailing her; and, through thy plenteous mercy, lift her up in her humbled body, and raise her from the bed whereon she lieth. For we are conceived in sin and iniquity, and we are all unclean in thy sight, O Lord; and with fear we cry out and say: Look down from heaven and behold the weakness of us who are condemned; and pardon this thy handmaid, **N.**, who is in sin, having miscarried that which was conceived in her. And, according to thy great mercy, as a good God who

loveth mankind, have mercy upon and forgive all those who are here present and all who came in contact with her; for thou alone hast power to remit sins and transgressions, through the intercessions of thine all-holy Mother, and of all the Saints:

For unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship, with the Father, and thy Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ And the Dismissal of the day is pronounced.

PRAYER FOR A WOMAN TWENTY DAYS AFTER CHILD-BIRTH

¶ Said in the home.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD OUR GOD, the true Bread of our Life, who hast cleansed and regenerated us through thine incarnate dispensation, and hast commanded us, thine unworthy servants, to bless and to sanctify those who approach thy holy Name: Do thou thyself, O Lord our God, purify also thy handmaid, **N.**, from the bodily pollution which has come upon her, through the purification of twenty days, and bless her and guard her and the infant to which she has given birth, and the leaven of her hands and all the works of her hands, that she may without hindrance nurture all in her house according to thy holy Will, that we may glorify and worship thine infinite goodness in the Father, and the Son, and the Holy spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

II.

A BRIEF FORM OF BAPTISM IN CASE OF NECESSITY

Blessed is the Kingdom: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity.

Our Father: For thine is the kingdom . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, Maker of all creation both visible and invisible, who hast made heaven and earth, the sea and all that therein is, who didst gather the waters into one gathering, who didst lock the abyss and seal it by thy dread and glorious Name, and hast hung the waters higher than the heavens: Thou hast founded the earth upon the waters, thou hast established the sea by thy power, thou hast crushed the heads of the serpents in the waters: Dread art thou, and who shall oppose thee? Look down, O Lord, upon this thy creature, and upon this water, and grant unto it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan: make it the fount of incorruption, the gift of sanctification, the loosing of sins, the remedy of infirmities, the destruction of demons, unassailable by hostile powers, filled with angelic strength. Let those who would ensnare thy creature flee from it: for we have invoked thy Name, O Lord, which is wondrous, and glorious, and terrible unto adversaries.

¶ And the Priest shall pour oil into the water in the form of the cross.

¶ Then he baptizes, saying:

The servant of God **N.**, is baptized in the Name of the Father.

R/: Amen.

And of the Son.

R/: Amen.

And of the Holy Spirit.

R/: Amen.

¶ After this he shall vest him, and anoint him with Holy Chrism, saying:

The Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

¶ Then he circles the font with the child three times, singing:

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

The Dismissal

May he who deigned to be baptized of John, in Jordan, for the sake of our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of Saint **N., (of the temple)**; of **Saint N., (of the day)**; and of all his Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

CONDITIONAL BAPTISM: If any doubt exists as to whether or not Holy Baptism has previously been administered, the following formula is used: The servant of God, N., if not already baptized, is baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A BRIEF FORM FOR THE RECEPTION OF CONVERTS

¶ To be used when the convert is mortally ill.

¶ If the convert is extremely weak and at the point of death, this first prayer may be omitted.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, who alone art holy, and retest in the Saints; who because of thy great and incalculable love toward man, dost always offer unto those who have sinned many pathways to repentance, and dost show unto those who have wandered from the truth the right way unto knowledge of thee, the only true God, who art glorified and adored in the Trinity, that not one of them should perish, but that all may be saved, and come to the understanding of the truth: We thank thee, we glorify and magnify thee, for that thou hast kindled in the heart of this, thy reason-endowed creature, **N.**, the light of knowledge of thy truth, and hast vouchsafed **him** to have recourse unto thy Holy Apostolic Orthodox Catholic Church. Illuminate **his** heart, O Master, we humbly beseech thee, with the perfect light of the grace of thy Holy spirit unto the enlightening of **his** mind in the truth of thy Holy Gospel. Grant that he may unfeignedly, irrevocably and without hypocrisy unite

himself unto thy Holy Catholic Church, and truly accept and confess the Orthodox Catholic faith. Number **him** with thy chosen flock, and unite **him** to the body of thy Holy Church. Make **him** a vessel of honor, and the temple of thy Holy Spirit; that, being ever nourished and guided by the Same, **he** may keep thy saving commandments; and that doing thy gracious, acceptable and perfect will, **he** may be vouchsafed to receive thy heavenly good things, together with all those who are well-pleasing unto thee:

For thou art the God of mercy and compassion and love toward mankind, and willest that all men should be saved, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ Let the Priest now hear the general confession of the person who is embracing Orthodoxy, after which he shall pronounce the Absolution from Excommunication:

MAY our Lord and God Jesus Christ, the Same who committed unto his Apostles the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and gave them full power through his grace to bind and to loose men from sins upon earth, pardon and absolve thee. And I, though an unworthy priest, by his omnipotent power given unto me through his holy Apostles and their successors, do pardon and absolve thee, my child, **N.**, from bonds of oath or interdict, and from all thy sins: and do conjoin thee to the unity of the faithful, and the body of Christ's Church: and do communicate thee with the Divine Mysteries of the Church: In the Name + of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

¶ And the convert is immediately administered the Holy Mysteries from the Reserved Sacrament according to the Order of Communion of the Sick.

OFFICE AT THE ADOPTION OF CHILDREN

¶ Let the child who desires to be born again as a son or daughter stand within the doors of the Holy Sanctuary, * and he who wishes to receive him as such shall stand outside. Both hold lighted candles in their hands.

* If the child be a girl, she shall stand in the threshold.

¶ The Priest vested in his sacerdotal vestments, begins:

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity.
Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the Apolytikion of the day, and the Kontakion of the Temple**.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD OUR GOD, who by thy beloved child, our Lord Jesus Christ, didst call us children of God through adoption and the grace of thine omnipotent and Holy spirit, and didst say, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son: Do thou, the Same King, who lovest mankind, look down from thy holy dwelling place upon these thy servants and unite their natures, which thou hast begotten separate one from another according to the flesh, through thy Holy Spirit into father and **son**; confirm them in thy love; bind them through thy benediction; bless them to thy glory; strengthen them in thy faith, preserving them always, and renounce them not for what proceedeth from out of their lips. Be the mediator for their promises, that their love which they have confessed to thee be not torn asunder even to the end of their lives, and be kept sincerely, alive in thee our only living and true God, and vouchsafe them heirs of thy kingdom:

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

R/: Amen.

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

O Master and Lord, who art the Maker of all creatures, who by the first Adam didst make the bonds of

kinship according to the natural flesh, and through Christ Jesus, thy beloved Son and our God, by grace didst show us also as kin of thine; these thy servants bow their heads unto thee, who alone knowest all things even before they happen, and ask of thee a blessing, and that in thee they may receive that for which they hope: the bond, inscribed in each other, of father and **son**; and that living worthily in thee in adoption to sonship, they may keep themselves in due constancy, that like as in all things, so in this may be glorified thy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ And let the father receive his son from the Sanctuary, and the son shall fall down at the feet of the father, who shall place his foot upon the son's neck, and say:

Today thou art my **son**, this day I have begotten thee.

¶ And he shall raise him up, and they shall kiss each other.

¶ And the Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal of the day, and bless them, and instruct them.

III.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

i.

ALMIGHTY MASTER, Physician of souls and bodies, who makest humble and raisest up, who chastenest and again healest: Do thou visit with thy mercy our ailing **brother, N.:** stretch forth thine arm that is full of health and healing, and heal **him**, raising **him** up from **his** bed and infirmity. Restrain the spirit of weakness, cast off from **him** every soreness, every ailment, every wound, every fever and seizure: And if **he** hath iniquities or transgressions, loose, remit and forgive them for the sake of thy love towards man. Yea, O Lord, pity thy creature, through Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

ii.

ALMIGHTY MASTER, Holy King, who chastenest and yet slayest not; who raisest up those who fall, and restorest those who are cast down; who relievest the bodily afflictions of men: We beseech thee, our God, visit with thy mercy thy ailing **servant, N.:** forgive **him** every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary. Yea, O Lord, send down from heaven thy healing power; touch the body; quench the fever; soothe the suffering, and banish every hidden ailment. Be thou the physician of thy **servant, N.:** raise **him** up from the bed of ailment and from **his** couch of vexation whole and perfectly restored, granting **him**, through thy Church, to be well-pleasing unto thee, and to work thy will:

For thine it is to show mercy and to save us, 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 unto ages of ages. Amen.

iii.

O LORD OUR GOD, who by thy word alone didst heal chronic and temporal diseases; who also didst cure the kinswoman of Peter of fever; thou who chastenest with pity and healest according to thy goodness, and canst put aside every malady and infirmity: Do thou, the same Lord, now also relieve thy **servant, N.** and cure **him** of the sickness with which **he** is grieved, and get **him** up from

his bed of pain, sending upon **him** thy mercy; and grant **him** health and complete cure.

For thou art the Physician of our souls and bodies, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

IN FEVER

O LORD JESUS CHRIST our God, who art a River of Water in a dry place, and the Shadow of a great Rock in a weary land, who at the prayer of thine Apostle Peter didst rebuke the fever of his mother-in-law: Hear, we beseech thee, our supplications for this thy **servant, N.**, unto the remission of **his** sins. And inasmuch as thou art compassionate grant **him** ease and refreshment, and refuge with thee from the heat and pain of **his** illness. Quench with thine omnipotent right hand the fire possessing him, alleviate the pain, and mercifully raise **him** up from **his** bed of sickness:

For thou art a merciful God, who lovest mankind, and unto thee do we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

FOR A SICK CHILD

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who camest into this world as a little Child, and who although Very God, was subject unto thine earthly parents: Grant unto this, thy child, **N.**, to bear cheerfully what thou art pleased to lay upon **him**, and readily to obey those set over **him** by thee. Look mercifully, we beseech thee, upon **him**, and in they great love grant **him** relief from **his** pain. Yea, O Lord, Son of God, vouchsafe to send thy holy Angel from heaven, to guard, cherish, protect, visit and defend this thy child, **N.**, sick in **his** tender age. Stretch forth thy holy right hand upon **him**, that restored to the vigour of health **he** may attain to fullness of years, and serve thee faithfully and gratefully all **his** life long and become an heir of thy kingdom.

For thou art the Physician of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

WHEN SICKNESS INCREASES

O LORD JESUS CHRIST our Saviour, for our sakes wast thou born, for our sakes didst thou hunger and thirst, for our sakes didst thou suffer, and give thy life over unto death; and as thou dost make thy **servant, N.**, to share in thy sufferings, make **him** to share also in thy grace; May thy precious Blood wash away the stains of **his** sins; May thy righteousness cleanse away **his** unrighteousness; Look rather upon **his** faith in thee than upon **his** works when **he** stands before thee as Judge; As sickness increases on **him**, so do thou increase unto **him** thy plenteous grace; Let not **his** faith waver, nor **his** hope fail, nor **his** love wax cold; Let not the dread of death cause **him** to cast away **his** trust in thee, or to place it anywhere but in thee, but looking steadfastly unto thee to the last let **him** say, Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, and so enter into thine everlasting kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

BEFORE AN OPERATION

O LORD JESUS CHRIST our God, who didst patiently endure the scourging and wounding of thy sacred Body, that thou mightest save the souls and bodies of thy people: Do thou look graciously upon the suffering body of this thy **servant N.**, and strengthen **him** to bear patiently whatsoever thou shalt see fit to lay upon **him**. Bless the means employed for working out **his** cure, and grant that **he** may so endure his sufferings in the flesh that the wounding of **his** body may avail for the correcting and salvation of **his** soul:

For thine it is to show mercy and to save us, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

AFTER AN ACCIDENT Or for one injured in body

O LORD God our Saviour, who rulest over all, thou who art the Physician and Helper in sickness, the Deliverer from pain, who didst stretch out thine hand to save thine Apostle Peter, when sinking in the water: Mercifully grant thy help and healing to this thy **servant, N.**, who hath fallen into affliction and hath suffered grievous injury of

body, and vouchsafe that **he**, calling upon thee in faith, may be restored by thy loving-kindness. Yea, long-suffering Lord, show thy compassion and mercy upon **him** that he may glorify thy divine power, and bless thy holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

AFTER AN ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Creator and Redeemer of mankind, who givest us our life in this world that we may prepare for the life to come, who hast delivered thy **servant, N.**, from blood-guiltiness: Have pity, we beseech thee, upon **him**, who would rashly have thrown away thy gift, and as thou hast in mercy defeated **his** designs, so do thou grant unto **him** time and grace for repentance. Graciously look upon **him**, and in thy compassion forgive **him** what **he** hath done amiss through the malice of the Enemy. Restore **him** by thy grace, strengthen **him** with thy might, and bring forth from **his** heart tears of sorrow, that **he** may bewail **his** sins committed against thee, and by thy mercy obtain pardon for them:

For thou art the God of the penitent, 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. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR RELIEF THROUGH AN OPERATION

ALMIGHTY GOD, who castest down that thou mayest lift up, and woundest unto healing, who smitest and again dost bind up: We thank thee that thou hast not see fit to give thy **servant, N.**, over unto death, but hast shown thy compassion upon **him** and hast preserved and corrected **him** and helped **him** in **his** misery. Mercifully look down we beseech thee, upon this thy **servant, N.**, to whom thou hast granted ease and relief, and vouchsafe that the chastisement of **his** body may avail for the purifying of **his** soul, and that the good work begun in **him** may be fulfilled in thy good pleasure, and that **he** may be brought to everlasting life through the grace of thine Only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy Spirit: unto ages of ages. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, the Life and Strength of all who put their trust in thee, whose mercies are without number, and the treasury of whose goodness is infinite: We give thee thanks for the blessings which thou hast bestowed upon thy **servant, N.**, and we humbly beseech thee to continue thy goodness towards us. And as thou hast been pleased to restore thy **servant** to **his** bodily health, so do thou endue **his** soul with all heavenly graces, and perseverance in good works, and prepare us by thy blessings in this life for the enjoyment of eternal happiness in the life to come.

For unto thee are due all glory, thanksgiving and worship, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

IV.

A BRIEF FORM OF CONFESSION

¶ The Priest, vested in an Epitrachelion, shall say:
Blessed is our God: **and if he desires, the**
Trisagion. All-holy Trinity, **and after** Our Father, **these**
Troparia:

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for we sinners, void of all defense, offer unto thee as Master, this supplication: have mercy on us.

Glorify to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

Lord, have mercy on us, for in thee have we put our trust; be not very wroth against us, neither remember our iniquities; but look upon us even now, since thou art compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies. For thou art our God, and we are thy people; all the works of thy hand, and we call upon thy Name.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Open the doors of mercy unto us, O Blessed Theotokos; in that we have set our hope in thee, may we not perish, but through thee be delivered from peril; for thou art the salvation of the Christian race.

¶ After this let the Priest carefully examine the penitent, and give him his penance.

¶ And if he desires, let him say this prayer:

O LORD GOD of the salvation of thy servants, merciful, bountiful and long-suffering, who art grieved because of our wickedness, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but that he should return and live: Do thou thyself now show thy mercy upon thy **servant, N.**, and grant unto **him** an image of repentance, forgiveness and remission of sins, pardoning **his** every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary. Reconcile and unite **him** unto thy holy Church; through Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom with thee are due dominion and majesty: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

¶ The Priest shall then say the Prayer of Absolution:
(Greek Form)

GOD it was who pardoned David through Nathan the Prophet, when he confessed his sins, and Peter weeping bitterly for his denial, and the harlot in tears at his feet, and the Publican and the Prodigal; May that same God forgive thee all things, through me a sinner, both in this world, and in that to come, and set thee uncondemned before his dread Judgment Seat; and now, having no further care for the sins which thou hast confessed, depart in peace.

¶ As the Priest concludes the Prayer of Absolution, he shall sign the penitent cross-wise with his right hand.

¶ After all have been confessed, he shall say:

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, who art ever-blessed and all-blameless, and the mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

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

The Dismissal

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his most holy Mother; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

¶ If the person confessing is mortally ill and death is imminent, the Priest shall say only the Prayer of Absolution.

THE OFFICE OF HOLY UNCTION

An abridged form for use over those in danger of immediate death.

¶ Let a small table be prepared, upon which there shall be placed a vessel containing wheat, and on the wheat another smaller empty vessel. Lighted candles are thrust into the wheat around the smaller vessel. Wands wrapped with cotton for the Anointing shall be prepared. The Holy Gospel and Cross are placed on the table. Lighted candles are held by all present. The Priest shall be vested in an Epitrachelion and Phelonion. Taking the censer containing incense, the Priest shall cense the table cross-wise and the people and the whole room: and, then, standing before the table, facing the east, he shall begin:

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the Troparion (Tone 4)**:

Do thou, O Christ, who alone dost speed to help, manifest thy speedy visitation from on high upon thy suffering **servant**; deliver **him** from **his** infirmities, and bitter pain; and raise **him** up again to praise and glorify thee unceasingly: through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O thou who alone lovest man.

¶ Then the Ektenia shall be said:

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy (after each petition).

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

For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy Churches of God, and the union of all the faithful, let us pray to the Lord. R/:

That this oil may be blessed by the power, and operation and indwelling of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord. R/:

For the **servant** of God **N.**, and for the visitation of God upon **him**; and that the grace of the Holy Spirit may come upon **him**, let us pray to the Lord. R/:

For **his** and our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord. R/:

Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by thy grace. R/:

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

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ The Priest shall pour wine and pure olive oil into the vessel; and then read the Prayer for the Sanctification of Oil.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD, who through thy mercies and bounties healest the disorders of our souls and bodies: Do thou thyself, O Master, sanctify + also this oil, that it may be effectual for those who are anointed therewith, unto healing and unto relief from every passion, of defilement of flesh and spirit, and every ill; and that thereby may be glorified thine all-holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

The Lections

The Prokeimenon, Tone I: Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have put our trust in thee.

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise becometh the upright.

THE EPISTLE, Sec. 57 [James 5:10-17]

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (Tone 8).

V. I will sing unto thee of mercy and judgment, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL, Sec. 53 [Luke 10:25-38]

Ektenia

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

R/: Lord, have mercy (Thrice after each petition).

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation and remission of sins for the **servant** of God, **N**. R/:

That **he** may be pardoned **his** every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary, let us pray to the Lord. R/:

For thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the

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

R/: Amen.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

THOU who art Unoriginate, Eternal, the Holy of Holies, who didst send down thine Only-begotten Son to heal every infirmity and all manner of disease, both of our souls and bodies: Send down thy Holy Spirit, and sanctify this oil; and cause it to be for thy **servant, N.**, who is anointed therewith, unto perfect deliverance from **his** sins, unto inheritance of the kingdom of heaven:

For thine it is to show mercy on us and save us, O our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ After the Prayer, the Priest shall take one of the wands, dip it in the Holy Oil, and anoint the sick person, in cross-form; on the forehead, the nostrils, the cheeks, the lips, the breast, and on both sides of the hands, saying this Prayer:

O HOLY FATHER, Physician of souls and bodies, who didst send thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to heal every malady, and to deliver from death: Heal thou, also, thy **servant, N.**, from the ills of body and soul which do fetter **him**, and quicken **him** by the grace of thy Christ; through the intercessions of our most holy Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; [by the protection of the honorable, heavenly Bodiless Hosts; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the intercessions of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our hallowed and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and unmercenary Physicians, Cosmas and Damian, Cyrus and John, Panteleimon and Hermolaus, Sampson and Diomedes, Photius, Mocius and Anicetas, Thalelaeus and Trypho; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna;] and of all the Saints:

For thou art the Source of healing, O our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, together with thine Only-

begotten Son, and thy consubstantial Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ At the conclusion of the Anointing, the sick person, if he be able, shall himself stand, or, supported by someone, he shall stand or sit. But if he be not able, the Priest shall approach him, as he lies on his couch. And the Priest, taking the Holy Gospel and opening it, shall lay it with the writing down on the head of the sick person, the Book being held by other Priests if there are any present.

¶ The principal Priest shall not lay on his hand, but shall say, aloud, this Prayer:

O HOLY KING, compassionate and multi-merciful Lord Jesus Christ, Son and Word of the living God, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but that he should return and live: I lay not my sinful hand upon the head of **him** who approacheth thee in sins, and entreateth from thee through us pardon of **his** sins, but thy strong and powerful hand, which is in this Holy Gospel [**held upon the head of thy servant, N., by my co-ministers. And with them**] I, also, beseech and entreat thy merciful and evil-forgetting love for mankind, O God our Saviour, who through thy prophet Nathan didst grant remission unto David when he repented of his transgressions, and didst accept Manasses' prayer of penitence: Do thou receive also, with thy wonted love for man, this thy **servant, N.**, who repenteth **him** of **his** iniquities, overlooking all **his** transgressions:

For thou art our God, who hast commanded us to forgive those who fall in sin, even unto seventy times seven; for as is thy majesty, so also is thy mercy: and unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ Taking the Holy Gospel from the head of the sick person, the Priest shall give it to him to kis.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy (**Thrice**).
[Father, Bless!]

The Dismissal

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle James, first hierarch of Jerusalem and the brother of God; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

¶ If death is imminent and there is no time to say the complete Office of Holy Unction over one who is sick, the Priest may say only the Prayer for the Sanctification of Oil: "O Lord, who through thy mercies . . ." (see page 27).

¶ Then shall the Priest anoint the sick person, saying the Prayer of Anointing: "O Holy Father, Physician of souls and bodies . . ." (see page 28), and pronounce the above Dismissal.

THE ORDER FOR COMMUNION OF THE SICK

¶ A small table shall be placed near the bed of the sick person. It shall be covered with a clean white cloth and on it there should be an Icon of Christ, two lighted candles, a glass of warm water, a spoon, Holy Water and a paper napkin.

¶ The Priest shall take a part of the Holy Reserved Sacrament, put it into the Chalice, and pour therein a little wine, as much as may be sufficient for the sick person to receive.

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity.
Our Father: For thine is the kingdom:

Reader. Amen

Lord, have mercy (**Twelve times**).

Glory: Both now:

Come, let us worship God our King. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God. Come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ, our King and our God.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, Begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father by whom all things were made:

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; And 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 at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge the quick and the dead, and his kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy spirit, the Lord, the 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.

O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant of thy Mystic Supper: for I will not speak of thy Mystery to thine enemies, neither will I give thee a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief will I confess thee: Remember me, O Lord, in thy kingdom.

Glory:

O heavenly King, the Comforter, Spirit of Truth, who art everywhere present, and fillest all things; Treasury of goodness and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us and cleanse us from every stain; and save our souls, O Good one.

Both now:

We have acknowledged God, who was incarnate of thee, O Virgin Theotokos: do thou intercede with him, to save our souls.

Lord, have mercy (**Forty times**).

¶ Then shall the Priest say these prayers:

i.

O MASTER, Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who alone hast power to forgive sins, and art a good God who lovest mankind: Do thou overlook every transgression of thy **servant**, N., whether of knowledge or of ignorance, and vouchsafe **him** to partake without condemnation of thine immaculate mysteries, not unto torment, nor to the increase of sins, but to the cleansing of soul and body, and to the inheritance of thy kingdom; for thou art **his** help and firm wall and bulwark against the adversary, and the purification of his iniquities:

For thou art a merciful God who lovest mankind, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: unto ages of ages. Amen.

ii.

LORD, I know that I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof, into the house of my soul, which is all waste and in ruin; and thou hast in me no worthy place to lay thy head; but since thou wishest to abide with me, I come to thee, trusting in thy bounties. Bid the doors of mine unworthy lips to open, that I may be satisfied with thee alone; enter into me, and cleanse me from every bodily and spiritual defilement; be thou my helper and defender, and vouchsafe me to stand at thy right hand; through the intercessions and supplications of our immaculate Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and of all the Saints, who have always been pleasing unto thee: For blessed art thou unto the ages. Amen.

iii.

THE LORD GOD most merciful, be gracious unto thee; The Lord Jesus Christ grant thee every good petition; The Lord Almighty deliver thee from every calamity; The Lord teach thee; The Lord give thee understanding; The Lord help thee; The Lord save thee; The Lord protect thee; The Lord preserve thee; The Lord purify thee; The Lord fill thee with spiritual joy; The Lord be the defender of thy soul and body; The merciful Lord who loveth mankind, grant thee forgiveness of sins; The Lord God Jesus Christ be merciful to thee in the Judgment Day, and bless thee all the days of thy life: For unto him are due all glory, honor and worship, with his unoriginate Father, and his all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

¶ If the sick person has already confessed, he is now communicated with the Holy Mysteries. But if not, the Priest shall bid those present to withdraw temporarily, and shall question the sick person concerning his various transgressions, being careful that nothing shall be concealed, or unconfessed because of shame.

¶ After the confession, the Priest shall say this prayer:

O LORD our God, who didst remit the sins of Peter and the harlot through their tears, and didst justify the Publican who acknowledged his transgressions: Accept thou the confession of thy **servant, N.**, and forasmuch as thou art good, overlook **his** sins, whether voluntary or involuntary, by word or by deed or thought, wherein **he** hath sinned

against thee: For thou alone hast power to remit sins, and thou art a God of mercies and bounties, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

¶ Then shall the Priest say the Prayer of Absolution (See page 25).

¶ In the presence of the whole household, the Priest shall take up the Chalice, and say the Prayers before Communion:

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is truly thine immaculate Body, and that this is truly thine own precious Blood. Wherefore I beseech thee, have mercy on me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance; and make me worthy to partake uncondemned of thine immaculate Mysteries, unto remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant of thy Mystic Supper: for I will not speak of thy Mystery to thine enemies, neither will I give thee a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief will I confess thee: Remember me, O Lord, in thy kingdom.

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

¶ Then shall the Priest communicate the sick person, saying:

The **servant** of God, **N.**, partakes of the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ unto remission of **his** sins and unto life everlasting.

¶ Then the following is said by the Reader or Priest:

Now dismiss thy servant in peace, O Master, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: a Light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel.

¶ The, the **Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the Apolytikion of the day**, followed by:

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

Through the intercessions, O Lord, of all the Saints, and of the Theotokos, grant us thy peace, and have mercy on us, for thou alone art bountiful.

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

[Father, Bless!]

¶ And the Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal of the day.

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Glory to thee, O God (**Thrice**).

I thank thee, O Lord my God, that thou hast vouchsafed me, though unworthy, to receive thine immaculate and heavenly Gifts. May thy holy Body profit me unto life everlasting, and thy precious Blood unto remission of my sins. May this Eucharist be unto me for joy, health and gladness; and at thy dread second Advent, render me, a sinner, worthy to stand at the right hand of thy glory; through the intercessions of thine immaculate Mother, and of all the Saints. Amen.

V.

PRAYERS FOR THE DYING

At the parting of the soul from the body.

i.

O MASTER and Lord Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who willest that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth; who desirest not the death of a sinner, but that he should turn again and live: We pray thee and implore thee, absolve thou the soul of thy servant, N., from every bond, and free him from every oath. Remit **his** transgressions, both of knowledge and of ignorance, both of deed and of word, which **he** hath committed from **his** youth up, and hath sincerely confessed or hath concealed, either through forgetfulness or through shame. For thou alone loosest bonds, and restorest the contrite, and art the hope of the despairing, and canst remit the sins of every man who putteth his trust in thee. Yea, Lord who lovest mankind, command thou that **he** be released from the bonds of the flesh and of sin. Receive thou in peace the soul of this thy **servant, N.**, and give it rest in that place where all thy Saints do dwell; through the grace of thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ, with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

ii.

O MASTER, Lord our God Almighty, who willest that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth; who desirest not the death of a sinner, but that he should return and be saved: We beseech thee and entreat thee, absolve thou the soul of thy **servant, N.**, from every bond, free it from every oath. For thou art he who looseth those who are bound, and restoreth those who are cast down, and art the Hope of the hopeless. Wherefore, O Master, command that the soul of thy servant, N., be set free in peace, to rest in thine eternal habitations with all thy Saints; through thine Only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

iii.

For One Who Has Suffered Long

O LORD OUR GOD, in thine ineffable wisdom thou hast created man, fashioning him out of the dust, and adorning him with comeliness and goodness, as an honorable and heavenly acquisition, to the praise and magnificence of thy glory and kingdom, that thou mightest bring him into thine image and likeness; yet forasmuch as he transgressed the command of thy statute, having accepted the image but preserved it not, and because, also, that evil be not eternal, thou hast ordained, through thy love for mankind, dissolution of the same; and as God of our Fathers, through thy Divine Will, thou hast cleft and dissolved this insoluble bond, that the body should be dissolved into the elements of which it was fashioned, and that the soul should be translated to that place whence it was taken, even until the general Resurrection. Therefore we beseech thee, the Father unoriginate and immortal, and thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy Spirit, that thou wilt loose **N.**, from the body unto repose; entreating also forgiveness of thine ineffable goodness if **he** is any wise, whether of knowledge or in ignorance, hath offended thee, or is under the ban of a priest, or hath embittered **his** parents, or hath broken a vow, or hath fallen into any evil doing through the malice of the Devil: Yea, Master, Lord our God, hearken unto me a sinner and thine unworthy servant in this hour, and loose thy **servant, N.**, from this intolerable sickness and the bitter impotency which holdeth **him**, and give **him** rest where the souls of the righteous dwell:

For thou art the repose of our souls and bodies, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION OF A DYING PERSON

MAY our Lord and God Jesus Christ, through the grace and bounties of his love towards mankind, forgive thee, my child, **N.**, all the transgressions of thy whole life; And I, an unworthy priest, through the power given unto me by Him, do forgive and absolve thee from all thy sins committed throughout thy life, that thou be forgiven and absolved in this world and in that to come: In the Name + of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER FOR A PERSON CONDEMNED TO DEATH

MOST merciful, all-bountiful, all-good Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, our Saviour: Thou didst graciously deign, because of thy love toward sinful man, to accept condemnation unto death; to be crucified for the sake of our salvation, and upon the Cross to give up thy righteous Spirit into the hands of God the Father: We beseech thee, most gracious Master, look also with thy compassion upon this thy servant condemned to death by the judgment of men: remit unto him his mortal fault, inspire in his heart true repentance, that he may, if even in this hour before death, also confess thee, his God and Saviour, as once did the wise thief, and be vouchsafed mercy from thee. Yea, Lord, long-suffering and of many mercies, condemn not by thy just judgment this condemned sinner, **N.**; pardon him his transgressions; deliver him, by this penalty of death, from death everlasting prepared for unrepentant sinners, that he may glorify thee with all the sinners who have repented and been justified through thee; because thou alone art sinless, and unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship, together with thine unoriginate Father, and the all-holy and life-creating Spirit: always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

VI.

PRAYER AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE SOUL FROM THE BODY

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

REMEMBER, O Lord our God, thy **servant** our **brother N.**, deceased in the faith and hope of life everlasting; and inasmuch as thou art good and lovest mankind, loose, remit and forgive **his** every voluntary and involuntary transgression, releasing the sins, and destroying the unrighteousness. Deliver **him** from eternal torment and the fires of Gehenna. Grant **him** to enjoy and partake of thine eternal bliss prepared for those who love thee: for though **he** hath sinned, yet hath **he** not rejected thee, and hath believed without misgiving in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, God glorified in the Trinity, and hath confessed in orthodox wise, even to **his** last breath, oneness in the Trinity and Trinity in unity. Be thou therefore merciful unto **him**, looking rather upon **his** faith in thee than upon **his** works, and since thou art bountiful, give **him** rest with all thy Saints: for there is no man who liveth and sinneth not, but thou alone are without sin, and thy righteousness is righteousness forever; and thou art the only God of mercy, and bounty and love for mankind, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: how and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

THE LITANY FOR THE DECEASED

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the following Troparia (Tone 4)**:

With the spirits of the Righteous made perfect, give rest to the soul of thy servant, O Saviour; preserving it in the blessed life which is with thee, who lovest mankind.

In the place of thy rest, O Lord, where all thy Saints repose, give rest also to the soul of thy servant; for thou alone art immortal.

Glory:

Thou art God who descended into hades, and loosed the bonds of the fettered; thyself give rest also, O Saviour, to the soul of thy servant.

Both now:

O Virgin, alone pure and blameless, who didst bear God without seed, intercede that the soul of thy servant may be saved.

The Ektenia

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

R/: Lord, have mercy (Thrice).

Again we pray for the repose of the soul of the servant of God, **N.**, who is fallen asleep; and that **he** may be pardoned **his** every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary.

R/: Lord, have mercy (Thrice).

That the Lord God will establish his soul where the Just repose.

R/: Lord, have mercy (Thrice).

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

R/: Grant this, O Lord.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

¶ And the Priest shall say this prayer:

O GOD of spirits and of all flesh, who hast trodden down death, and destroyed the Devil, and granted life to thy world: Do thou thyself, O Lord, give rest to the soul of thy **servant, N.**, who is fallen asleep, in a place of brightness, a place of verdure, a place of repose, whence all pain, grief and mourning are fled away. Pardon every sin which **he** hath committed, whether by word, deed, or thought; since thou art a good God and lovest mankind: because there is not a man who shall live and sin not: Thou alone art without sin: thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is truth:

For thou art the Resurrection, and the Life, and the Repose of thy **servant, N.**, who is fallen asleep, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
R/: Amen.

The Dismissal

Priest: Wisdom!

R/: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Priest: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our hope; glory to thee!

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

Lord, have mercy (Thrice).

Father, bless!

Priest: May he who arose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of our hallowed and God-bearing Fathers; and of all the Saints; establish the soul of his **servant, N.**, who hath been translated from us, in the mansions of the Righteous; give **him** rest in Abraham's Bosom, and number **him** among the Just; and have mercy on us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

¶ And the Priest shall proclaim:

Grant rest eternal in blessed repose, O Lord, to thy **servant, N.**, who is fallen asleep, and make his memory to be eternal!

R/: Memory eternal! (Thrice).

¶ Then all shall say slowly and quietly:

May God beatify and give **him** rest, and be merciful unto us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

¶ At the Litany, from St. Thomas Sunday until the Ascension of Christ, we sing: Blessed is our God: Christ is risen from the dead: trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life: **Thrice**. Then **the Trisagion** and the rest.

At the Dismissal, instead of More honorable than the Cherubim, we say: Illume, illumine, O thou new Jerusalem: for the glory of the Lord hath risen on thee! Rejoice and exult now, O Sion; And thou, O Pure Theotokos, be glad in the rising of thy Son.

After: Glory to thee, O Christ our God: we sing: Christ is risen and all the rest as usual.

PRAYER FOR A DECEASED CHILD

¶ Said instead of O God of spirits in the Litany for the Deceased.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST our God, who hast promised to bestow the kingdom of heaven upon those who have been born of water and of the Spirit, and in a blameless life are translated unto thee, and hast said, "Let the children come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven": We humbly beseech thee to grant, according to thine unfailing promise, the inheritance of thy kingdom unto thy **servant**, the blameless child, **N.**, now removed from us. And vouchsafe that we also may blamelessly traverse and make a Christian ending of our life, and be established in the heavenly mansions with all thy Saints:

For thou art the Resurrection, and the Life, and the Repose of all thy servants, and of thy **servant**, this child, **N.**, now departed from us, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

PARTING PRAYER AFTER DEATH

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST our God, who gave divine commandments unto his holy Disciples and Apostles to bind and loose the sins of the fallen, and from whom we have in turn received authority to do the same, forgive thee, spiritual child, whatsoever thou hast done amiss in this life, voluntarily or involuntarily: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

PARTING PRAYER AFTER THE DEATH OF A CHILD

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD, who guardest children in this life, and in the world to come has prepared for them the amplitude of Abraham's bosom, and, because of their purity, radiant angelic abodes wherein the spirits of the Righteous dwell: Do thou, O Christ, the same Master, receive in peace the soul of thy **servant**, the child, **N**. For thou hast said, "Let the children come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven":

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

R/: Amen.

COMMENDATION OF THE DEAD

¶Prayer for one who is to be carried forth for burial.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O GOD, who hast authority of life and death, God of spirits and Master of all flesh, God who killest and makest alive, who bringest down to the gates of Hades and bringest up, who createst the spirit of man within him and takest to thyself the souls of the Saints and givest rest, who alterest and changest and transformest thy creatures, as is right and expedient, being thyself alone incorruptible, unalterable and eternal: We beseech thee for the repose

and rest of this thy **servant, N.:** give rest to **his** soul, **his** spirit, in places of verdure, in chambers of rest with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all thy Saints: and raise up his body in the day which thou hast ordained, according to thy promises which cannot lie, that thou mayest render to it also the heritage of which it is worthy in thy holy pastures. Remember not **his** transgressions and sins: and cause his going forth to be peaceable and blessed. Heal the griefs of those who pertain to **him** with the spirit of consolation, and grant us all a good end through the grace of thine Only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

INTERMENT OF THE DEAD

¶ The Trisagion shall be sung while the coffin is taken from the hearse to the grave, and the rest of the Litany for the Dead shall be said while the remains are placed in the grave. After Memory eternal, the Priest, taking earth upon a shovel, shall cast it cross-wise over the coffin, saying:

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world and all they that dwell therein.

¶ Then the Priest pours oil from the sanctuary lamp (into which the oil remaining from Holy Unction is poured) or if the deceased has received the Sacrament of Holy Unction, what remains is used, or he scatters ashes out of the censer, and the coffin is lowered and the grave filled up as usual, while the following Troparion (Tone 8) is sung:

O gaping earth, receive that which was made from thee before by the hand of God, and is returning again to thee who begot it: for that which in his image is, the Creator has taken unto himself; do thou receive the body as thine own.

VII.

THE SANCTIFICATION OF WATER IN BRIEF

¶ This form for the blessing of water may be said in the home and elsewhere. It shall never replace the Great and Lesser Orders for the Sanctification of Water said in the Temple.

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the following Troparion is sung thrice (Tone 6)**:

Send down grace from heaven, O Giver of Life, and sanctify this water, and make it to be a purification of all impurity.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O GOD greatly-exalted, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who doest wonders alone which cannot be numbered; whose voice is upon the many seas, and beholding whom the waters are afraid, and the deeps agitated, and the water roareth greatly; whose way is in the sea and paths in the vasty deep, and whose footsteps cannot be known; Who, through the baptism of thine Only-begotten Son incarnate, and the descent upon him of the all-holy Spirit in the form of a dove, and by thy paternal voice, didst sanctify the streams of Jordan: We, thine unworthy servants, now humbly beseech and entreat thee: Send thou the grace of the all-holy spirit upon this water, and + bless, + purify and + sanctify it with thy heavenly benediction, and grant unto it the grace and blessing of Jordan, and the power of purification of all impurity, and of expelling demons and all their assaults and snares. And by the power, operation and grace of the all-holy spirit, manifest it to be unto all thy servants who with faith shall drink thereof, receive it and be sprinkled therewith, for the remission of sins, release from passions, the expelling of every evil, and increase of virtue, the healing of infirmities, the blessing and sanctification of homes and of every place, the expelling of hurtful and all pernicious breezes, and the acquisition of thy grace:

For thou dost bless and sanctify all things, O our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ And the Priest shall say, silently, this prayer:

O LORD who didst sanctify the waters of Jordan by the manifestation of thy Christ: Incline thine ear and hear me, and bless all us who by the bending of our necks express obedience unto thee; and enable us to be filled with thy sanctification by the reception of this water; and may the same be unto us for health to our souls and bodies:

Exclamation: For thou art our sanctification, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ And taking the cross, the Priest shall immerse it in the water, in cross-form, singing the Troparion (Tone 1):

O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine inheritance; granting victory over adversaries, and through thy Cross preserving thine estate (**Thrice**).

Notes written -- to p. 54 say 1 2 3 & 4 and then:

¶ And the Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal.

A PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF WATER

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O GOD greatly-exalted, who doest wonders which cannot be numbered: Come now to thy servants beseeching thee, O Master, and send thy Holy Spirit, and sanctify this water (**the Priest blesses the water thrice with his right hand**); and grant thy **servant** who shall drink thereof, receive it and be sprinkled therewith, release from passions, remission of sins, healing of infirmities, and freedom from every evil thing; grant **him** also the confirmation and sanctification of **his** home, and the purification of all impurity, and the expelling of devilish

snares: For blessed and glorified is thine all-honorable and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

A FORM FOR BLESSING HOMES AT THEOPHANY

Blessed is our God: Amen, **and the Troparion (Tone 1):**

When thou, O Lord, wast baptized in Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bare witness to thee, naming thee his beloved Son: and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of that word. O Christ our god, who didst manifest thyself and enlighten the world, glory to thee.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O GOD our Saviour, the True Light, who wast baptized in Jordan by John to renew all men by the laver of regeneration, and who didst deign to enter under the roof of Zacchaeus, and broughtest salvation unto him and unto all his house: Do thou, the same Lord, keep safe also from all harm those who dwell here; grant them thy blessing, purification and bodily health, and all their petitions which are unto salvation and life everlasting: For blessed art thou, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit: unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ And the Priest shall sprinkle the dwelling with Holy Water.

¶ Meanwhile, the Kontakion (Tone 4) may be sung:

Thou hast revealed thyself today to the universe, and thy Light, O Lord, is signed upon us, who with knowledge praise thee: Thou art come and art manifest, O Light inaccessible.

The Dismissal

May he who deigned to be baptized of John, in Jordan, for the sake of our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

¶ And the Priest proclaims the Many Years:

Grant, O Lord, a prosperous and peaceful life, health and salvation, and furtherance in all things, to thy servants, NN., who dwell here; and preserve them for many years!

R/: Many years! (Thrice.)

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF CANDLES

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, the true light that illumineth every man that cometh into the world: Do thou bestow thy blessing upon these candles, and sanctify them with the light of thy grace; that as they, kindled with visible fire, do dispel the shadows of night, so may also our hearts, lighted by the invisible flame of the Holy Spirit, cast out the darkness of sin; to the end that with the eye of a cleansed soul, we may see that which is well-pleasing unto thee and necessary for our salvation; so that having triumphed over the dark afflictions of this world we may at the last attain unto the Light Everlasting:

For thou art our Saviour, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The candles shall be sprinkled with Holy Water.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF PALMS ON PALM SUNDAY

¶ The Priest shall cense the palms cross-wise, and say the prayer:

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD our God, who sittest upon the Cherubim, and who didst restore the might of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that through his Cross and Burial and Resurrection he might save the world; who, also, when today he was come into Jerusalem, unto his voluntary Passion, was met

by the people who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, bearing the symbols of victory, boughs of trees and branches of palms, emblematical of the Resurrection: Do thou, the same Master, keep and preserve us also who on this pre-festal day in imitation of them do bear in our hands palms and **tree/boughs**. And like unto those nations and children who offered thee Hosanna! May be likewise in hymns and spiritual songs, attain unto the life-creating Resurrection of the third day; through the same Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The palms shall be sprinkled with Holy Water.

PRAYERS AT THE BLESSING OF FOOD ON THE HOLY
AND
GREAT SUNDAY OF PASCHA

Blessed is our God: Amen, **and the Paschal Troparion:**

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

¶ If the Paschal food is blessed before Easter midnight services, i.e., on Holy Saturday, the following Troparion shall be sung instead (Tone 2):

When thou didst condescend unto death, O Life Immortal, thou didst slay Hades by the lightning of thy Divinity; but when thou didst also raise the dead from the nethermost abodes, all the heavenly powers cried: Thou Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to thee.

i. Flesh-meat

Let us pray to the Lord.
R/: Lord, have mercy.

LOOK down, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, upon this flesh-meat, and sanctify it, as thou didst sanctify the ram

which faithful Abraham brought unto thee, and the lamb which Abel offered unto thee as a holocaust; likewise the fatted calf which thou didst command to be slain for thy prodigal son, when he had returned again to thee; that even as he was vouchsafed to enjoy thy grace, so may we also enjoy these things which are sanctified and blessed by thee, to the nourishment of us all:

For thou art the true Nourishment, and the Giver of good things, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

ii. Cheese and eggs and other foods.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord our God, the Creator and Maker of all things: Bless thou this curdled milk, and likewise these eggs, and other foods; and preserve us in thy loving-kindness: That like as we partake of them, we may be filled with thy gifts, which ungrudgingly thou bestowest, and with thine unspeakable goodness:

For thine is the might, 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.

R/: Amen.

¶ The foods shall be sprinkled with Holy Water.

¶ The Dismissal of the day is pronounced.

PRAYER AT THE PARTAKING OF GRAPES

¶ This prayer is said over grapes which are brought into the Temple to be blessed on the Feast of the Transfiguration at places where there are vineyards. But in some countries, where there are no vineyards, apples are brought into the Temple on that day, and the prayer for those who offer first-fruits is said. Each fruit is brought in its season to the Temple for a blessing.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

BLESS, O Lord, this new fruit of the vine, which through the salubrity of the air, and drops of rain and temperate weather, thou hast graciously been pleased to let attain at this time unto maturity. May our partaking of this offspring of the vine be unto gladness for us, and may we offer it as a gift to thee unto the purification of sins, through the sacred and holy Body of thy Christ: with whom thou art blessed, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO OFFER FIRST-FRUITS

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord our God, who hast directed that every man offer unto thee thine own of thine own according to his purpose, and who dost recompense for these with the bestowal of thine ever-lasting gifts; who didst graciously accept the offering made by the widow according to her means: Accept the offerings now made to thee by thy **servant, N.**, and vouchsafe to place the same among thine eternal treasures; grant also unto **him** an abundant harvest of thy temporal goods, together with all things profitable unto **him**: For blessed is thy Name, and glorified is thy kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

PRAYER AT THE PARTAKING OF THE FIRST-FRUITS OF SUMMER

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD our God, who in thy great compassion hast led us to this season, who hast blessed the cycle of the year and hast crowned it with fruit-bearing; thou who in thy great patience hast commanded the earth to bring forth for us fruits for nourishment: Do thou, adorable Lord, grant that the partaking of the first-fruits and the harvest of summer be unto peace and health and concord for thy servants, and grant unto us the plenteous increase of every kind of good thing:

For thou art the Bestower of goodness, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

PRAYER AT THE SANCTIFICATION OF ANY FRAGRANT HERBAGE

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity.
Our Father: For thine is the kingdom . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, who fillest all things with thy word, and didst command the earth to bring forth every fruit in its season, and to give it unto man for joy and for life: Do thou thyself, most gracious Master, bless and sanctify also by thy Holy Spirit, this seed and various herbage brought into this holy temple, and purify from every defilement these thy servants who receive this herbage and seed, and fill their houses with every fragrance. May it be effectual for all who keep it with faith, and who cense therewith, unto preservation and deliverance from every adverse snare; unto the banishment of every illusion, whether of the day or of the night, proceeding from the operation of the Devil; for blessing of the souls and bodies of thy faithful people and of their cattle, of houses and of every place. May all who receive this herbage obtain protection of soul and body, and may the mystery of thy grace be a remedy unto our salvation; and in whatsoever place it be put, or by whomsoever it be employed, may it be for the attainment of salvation; and may thy right hand shelter all things from which the adverse powers have been dispelled; to the glory of thine all-holy, majestic and all-adorable Name: unto him are due all glory, honor and worship, with the Father and the Holy spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the herbage thrice with Holy Water pronouncing the usual formula of sprinkling and sanctification.

¶ Then shall he pronounce the Dismissal of the day.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF NEW WINE

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD our God who art good and lovest mankind, look upon this wine, and upon those who partake thereof, and bless it as thou didst bless Jacob's well, and the pool of Siloam, and the chalice of thy holy Apostles. And as thou didst bless six water pots and change water into wine, when thou camest into Cana of Galilee, and manifested thy glory to thy holy Disciples and Apostles: So do thou, the same Lord, now send down thy Holy Spirit upon this wine and bless it in thy holy Name:

For thou dost bless and sanctify and increase all things, O Christ our God, and unto thee we ascribe glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF SALT

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O GOD our Saviour, who didst come into Jericho to the Prophet Eliseus, and didst heal the injurious water with salt: Do thou now bless this salt, and change it into the sacrifice of gladness:

For thou art our God, 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.

R/: Amen.

VIII.

THE ORDER FOR THE BLESSING OF A NEW HOUSE

¶ The Priest having come into the house which is to be blessed, has with him Holy Water and an aspergillum (a brush to sprinkle), and oil in a small vessel, which he places on a table covered with a clean white cloth and upon which is also placed a small Gospel and Cross and two lighted candles. On each of the four walls inside the house a cross shall be traced. The Priest, vested in an epitrachelion (and phelonion if he desires), faces the East, and begins:

Blessed is our God: O heavenly King (see p. 31):
The Trisagion. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: Lord, have mercy. (**Twelve times.**) Glory: both now: come, let us worship (see p. 30), and **Psalm 90:**

He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven.

He shall say unto the Lord: Thou art my helper and my refuge. He is my God, and I will hope in Him.

For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters and from every troubling word.

With His shoulders will He overshadow thee, and under His wings shalt thou have hope.

With a shield will His truth encompass thee; thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day,

Nor for the thing that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and demon of noonday.

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but unto thee shall it not come nigh.

Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and thou shalt see the reward of sinners.

For Thou, O Lord, art my hope. Thou madest the Most High thy refuge;

No evils shall come nigh thee, and no scourge shall draw nigh unto thy dwelling.

For He shall given His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

On their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Upon the asp and basilisk shalt thou tread, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon.

For he hath set his hope on Me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him because he hath known My name.

He shall cry unto Me, and I will hearken unto him. I am with him in affliction, and I will rescue him and glorify him.

With length of days will I satisfy him, and I will show him My salvation.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to thee, O God
(**Thrice**).

¶ After the Psalm, this Troparion is sung (Tone 8):

As salvation came to the house of Zacchaeus by thy entrance, O Christ, likewise now by the entrance of thy sacred ministers, and thy holy angels with them, grant thy peace to this house and mercifully bless it, saving and illuminating all desiring to live herein.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

i.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST our God, who didst deign to enter under the roof of Zacchaeus the Publican and thereby broughtest him and all his house salvation: Do thou, thyself, now keep unharmed from all evil those who have desired to dwell (work) here, through our unworthy offering of prayer and supplication, blessing them and this habitation and ever preserving their lives from snares, bestowing an abundance of all thy goodness upon them for profit through thy benediction:

For unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ And the Priest shall, read, silently, this prayer:

ii.

O MASTER, Lord our God, who dwellest on high and dost regard the humble; who didst bless the house of Laban at the entrance of Jacob, and the house of Pentephri by the coming of Joseph, who didst bless the house of Abeddara with the bearing-in of the ark; and in the days of the advent in the flesh of Christ our God, didst grant salvation to the house of Zacchaeus: Do thou, the same Lord, bless also this house (building) and encompass with thy fear those who desire to live (work) herein, and preserve them unharmed from adversaries, and send down upon them thy benediction from the heights of thy habitation, and bless and increase all good things in this house (of work):

Exclamation: For thine it is to show mercy on us and save us, O our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ Then shall he bless the oil thrice with his right hand, saying:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

¶ And he shall say this prayer:

O LORD our God, mercifully behold the prayer of me, thy humble and unworthy servant, and send down the grace of thine all-holy Spirit upon this oil, and sanctify it, that it be for the sanctification of this place and the house erected upon it, and for the expelling of every adverse power and satanic snare:

For thou dost bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ Then shall the Priest take Holy Water and sprinkle all the walls of the house cross-wise, and every room, saying:

Let every operation of the spirits of evil be put to flight through the sprinkling of this holy water: In the

Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

¶ Having sprinkled the whole house, the Priest shall take the oil and anoint with it the walls of the house in the places where the sign of the Cross was traced, beginning at the Eastern wall of the house, then the Western, then the Northern, and finally the Southern wall, saying at each:

This house is blessed through anointment with this holy oil: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

¶ After completion of the anointing, lighted candles shall be placed before each anointed cross on each wall.

¶ Meanwhile, the Choir shall sing this Troparion (Tone 5):

iii.

Bless, O Lord, this house, and fill it with thine earthly gifts, and preserve unharmed from every evil circumstance those who desire piously to dwell (work) herein, and bestow upon them every heavenly abundance and thy temporal blessings, and forasmuch as thou art bountiful, show mercy according to thy great mercy.

¶ After the Troparion shall have been sung and the anointing completed, the Priest shall stand facing the East, and if he so desires, he may read this Gospel lection:

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

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

R/: Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.

iv.

THE GOSPEL: Luke, Sec. 94.

Let us attend! At that time Jesus entered and was passing through Jericho. And behold there was a man named Zacchaeus; and he was a chief publican, and he was rich. ; And he was trying to see Jesus, who he was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was going that way. ; And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay in thy house today." And he made haste and came down, and welcomed him joyfully. And upon seeing it all began to murmur, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, I give one-half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." Jesus said unto him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

R/: Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.

¶ Then shall be said Psalm 100:

Of mercy and judgment will I sing unto Thee, O Lord; I will chant and have understanding in a blameless path. When wilt Thou come unto me?

I have walked in the innocence of my heart in the midst of my house.

I have no unlawful thing before mine eyes; the workers of transgressions I have hated.

A crooked heart hath not cleaved unto me; as for the wicked man who turned from me, I knew him not.

Him that privily talked against his neighbor did I drive away from me.

With him whose eye was proud and his heart insatiate, I did not eat.

Mine eyes were upon the faithful of the land, that they might sit with me; that man that walked in the blameless path, he ministered unto me.

The proud doer dwelt not in the midst of my house; the speaker of unjust things prospered not before mine eyes.

In the morning I slew all the sinners of the land, utterly to destroy out of the city of the Lord all them that work iniquity.

¶ While the Psalm is being said, if the Priest so desires, let him cense the whole house.

¶ Then shall he say this Ektenia:

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

R/: Lord, have mercy (Thrice).

Again we pray that thou wilt send down thy benediction upon this house and upon thy servants, **NN.**, and upon all who shall piously dwell herein; and that thou wilt send them thine angel of mercy, keeping and preserving them from every evil, and guiding them to the doing of all virtue, and to the fulfilling of Christ's hold commandments; and that they may be preserved from famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword and invasion of enemies, and all mortal wounds; and that thou wilt grant them health, and encompass them with long life, and endow them with all things, let us say; O Lord, hearken and have mercy.

R/: Lord, have mercy (Thrice).

Hear us, O God our Saviour, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of those who are far off upon the sea; and show mercy, show mercy, O Master, upon us sinners, and be merciful unto us:

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

R/: Amen.

¶ And the Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal of the day.

¶ And he shall proclaim the "Many Years" to the inhabitants of the new house (see page 47).

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF VEHICLES OF TRAVEL

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion.** All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord our God, hearken to the prayer which we now address unto thee, and bless this vehicle with thy holy right hand. Send down upon it thy Guardian Angel, that all who desire to journey in it may be preserved safely and shielded from every evil end. And as the Ethiopian man, riding in the chariot and reading of thy holy prophecy, was granted faith and grace through thine Apostle, so now do thou manifest the path of salvation to thy servants who shall travel by this vehicle, that with thy helping grace they may be clothed upon with good works, and after the completion of this life, may be vouchsafed ever-lasting joy in thy heavenly kingdom:

For thine is the might, and the kingdom, and the power, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the vehicle with Holy Water.

The Dismissal

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; by the protection of the honorable heavenly Bodiless Hosts; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy Martyr Christopher; of Saint **N., (of the day)**; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF A GRAVE IN AN UNCONSECRATED CEMETERY

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord our God, through whose mercy faithful souls are given rest, bless the grave of this thy **servant, N.**, and send down thy holy Angel to guard it; that the body which shall herein be buried may receive an habitation of repose even unto thy Second Coming, the Resurrection of this thy **servant**; while the soul, loosed from every sinful bond, may be vouchsafed everlasting joy in thy heavenly and holy Courts:

For thou art the King of peace, and the Saviour of our souls, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father,

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

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the grave or tomb with Holy Water.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF A CEMETERY MONUMENT

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD GOD, the Creator and Maker of the race of men, and the bestower of eternal salvation upon our souls: Do thou, the same Lord, send down thy Holy Spirit with a blessing from on high upon this monument erected upon the place of rest of thy **servant, N.**, that it be manifest testimony of faith in thee who lovest mankind, and of pure love toward thee. Be merciful, O Master, also, in the Dread Judgment, to **this** thy deceased **servant**, and forgive **his** sins, that an everlasting habitation be apportioned **him** in thy kingdom, that with us who prostrate ourselves before thy love toward mankind, he may also glorify, praise and magnify thine all-holy Name: unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the monument with Holy Water.

ORDER FOR THE BLESSING AND SANCTIFICATION OF ICONS

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion.** ; All-holy Trinity, Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: Lord, have mercy (**Twelve times**). Glory: both now: come, let us worship (**see p. 30**), and **Psalm 88**:

Of Thy mercies, O Lord, will I sing for ever.

Unto generation and generation will I declare Thy truth with my mouth.

For Thou hast said: Mercy shall be built up for ever. In the heavens shall Thy truth be established.

I have made a covenant with My chosen ones, I have sworn unto David My servant: I will establish thy seed until

eternity, and build up thy throne unto generation and generation.

The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of saints.

For who in the clouds shall be compared unto the Lord? And who shall be likened to the Lord among the sons of God?

God Who is glorified in the council of the saints is great and terrible towards all that are round about Him.

O Lord God of hosts, who is like unto Thee? Mighty art Thou, O Lord, and Thy truth is round about Thee.

Thou art sovereign over the strength of the sea, and the tumult of her waves Thou makest calm.

Thou hast brought the proud man low as the corpse of one slain, and with the arm of Thy power hast Thou scattered Thine enemies.

Thine are the heavens, and Thine is the earth; the world and the fullness thereof hast Thou founded; the north and the sea hast Thou created.

Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in Thy name. Thine is the arm that hath might.

Let Thy hand be strengthened, let Thy right hand be lifted up on high; righteousness and judgment are the establishment of Thy throne.

Mercy and truth shall go before Thy face. Blessed is the people that knoweth jubilation.

O Lord, in the light of Thy face shall they walk, and in Thy name shall they rejoice all the day long, and in Thy righteousness shall they be exalted.

For the boast of their strength art Thou, and in Thy good pleasure shall our horn be lifted high.

For from the Lord is our defense, yea, from the holy One of Israel, our King.

At that time Thou spakest in a vision to Thy sons, and Thou didst say: I have bestowed help on one that is mighty, I have raised up one chosen out of My people.

I have found David My servant, with My holy oil have I anointed him.

For My hand shall be unto him an ally, and Mine arm shall strengthen him.

No advantage shall his enemy have over him, nor shall the son of iniquity avail to hurt him any more.

And I will hew down his enemies before his face, and them that hate him shall I put to flight.

And My truth and My mercy shall be with him, and in My name shall his horn be lifted high.

And I will set his hand in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

He shall call upon Me and shall say: My Father art Thou, my God, and the helper of my salvation.

And as for Me, I will make him My firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.

For ever shall I keep for him My mercy, and My covenant shall be faithful unto him.

And I will establish his seed unto ages of ages, and his throne shall be as the days of heaven.

If his sons forsake My law, and if they walk not in My judgments,

If My statutes they profane, and keep not My commandments,

I will visit their iniquities with a rod, and their injustices with scourges.

But my mercy will I not disperse away from them, nor will I wrong them in My truth.

Nor will I profane My covenant, nor the things that proceed from My lips will I make void.

Once have I sworn by My holiness that to David I will not lie; his seed for ever shall abide.

And his throne shall be as the sun before Me, and as the moon that is established for ever, and is a faithful witness in the sky. (*Diapsalm*)

But Thou hast cast off and brought to nought, Thou hast been wroth with Thine anointed.

Thou hast destroyed the covenant of Thy servant, Thou hast profaned his sanctuary unto the earth.

Thou hast broken down all his hedges, Thou hast made his strongholds to be his terror.

All have despoiled him that pass along the way, he is become a reproach unto his neighbors.

Thou hast exalted the right hand of them that afflict him, Thou hast gladdened all his enemies.

Thou hast turned away the help of his sword, and hast not helped him in the battle.

Thou hast made an end of his purification, his throne unto the earth hast Thou cast down.

Thou hast shortened the days of his time, Thou hast poured down shame upon him.

How long, O Lord, dost Thou turn away unto the end? Shall Thy wrath burn like fire?

Remember what my substance is. Nay, hast Thou created all the sons of man in vain?

Who is the man that shall live and not see death? Can he deliver his soul out of the hand of hades?

Where are Thine ancient mercies, O Lord, which Thou swarest unto David in Thy truth?

Remember, O Lord, the reproach of Thy servants, which I have endured in my bosom from many nations,

Wherewith Thine enemies have reproached, O Lord, wherewith they have reproached the recompense of Thine anointed.

Blessed is the Lord for ever. So be it. So be it.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD ALMIGHTY, the God of our fathers, who art glorified and worshipped in the Holy Trinity; whom neither the mind can comprehend, nor word describe; whom no man hath seen in any place; of whom only Holy Writ has taught us: in which we believe and for which we confess thee to be, God the Father unoriginate, and thine Only-begotten Son, and thine equally sovereign Spirit. Thou it was who, in a vision to thy Patriarch Abraham, didst manifest thyself in the Old Covenant in the form of three angels, and in these latter days, after the Incarnation of the Only-begotten Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, from the ever-virgin Mary, at the Baptism of John in Jordan, in the most radiant Transfiguration on Tabor, and in the most glorious Ascension on the Mount of Olives, and didst thereby show unto us the image of the all-holy Trinity. Thou didst also teach us to revere the image of our Lord Jesus Christ not-made-with-hands, miraculously reproduced by him upon a handkerchief, and sent to Abgar the prince of Edessa, which didst heal him and many others who suffered from various maladies. Thou likewise dost not reject the images and likenesses of thy holy Saints, but receivest them: Do thou thyself, even now look upon this icon (**these icons**) which thy servants have made in honor and glory of thee (**one God praised in the Holy Trinity**) and thine **Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ**) (**and thine immaculate and most blessed Mother, our Lady the most holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary**) (**and in memory of thy Saints, NN.,**) and bless and sanctify it (**them**), and endow it (**them**) with the power of healing, and of dispelling every diabolical snare, that all who pray earnestly before it (**them**) may be heard, and gain the mercies of thy love toward man, and be recipients of thy grace:

For thou art our Sanctification, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ The Priest shall bow his head and, silently, say this prayer:

O UNORIGINATE, invisible and incomprehensible Lord, who in antiquity in the Old Covenant didst command likenesses of Cherubim to be made of wood, and gold, and embroidery in the Ark of the Testimony and in Solomon's temple; and even now receivest images made not only in remembrance of thy salutary benefactions and divine manifestations unto the race of men, in honor and glory of thine all-holy Name, but also dost not reject those made in memory and in imitation of thy holy ones, pleasing unto thee: Hear our humble prayer; bless this icon (**these icons**) and sanctify it (**them**), and grant it (**them**) grace and power to repel demons, and to heal every infirmity:

Exclamation: For thou dost bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the icon(s) with Holy Water, saying:

This icon is (**these icons are**) sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen (**Thrice**).

¶ And having sprinkled it, the Priest shall cense it and venerate and kiss it. The choir shall sing the Troparia of the Saint or event depicted by the icon, and the Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal mentioning the Feast or Saint.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF A CROSS WORN ON
THE BREAST

¶ The cross is placed upon the Holy Altar, and after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, or Matins, or the Hours, or Vespers, before the Dismissal, the Priest shall say: O heavenly King, etc. If the cross is blessed at any other time, the Priest shall begin:

Blessed is our God: O heavenly King (**see p. 31**).
The Trisagion. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the Troparion (Tone 1):**

O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine inheritance; granting victory over adversaries, and through thy Cross preserving thine estate.

Glory: (Kontakion, Tone 3)

O Christ our God, who wast of thine own will lifted up on the Cross, grant thy bounties to thy new estate named after thee; make us glad in thy power, giving us victory over enemies, who have as thine aid the armour of peace, a trophy invincible.

Both now: (Theotokion, Tone 6)

O protection of Christians undisgraceable, immutable mediation with the Creator, despise not the entreating voices of sinners; but of thy goodness come beforehand to the aid of us who faithfully cry to thee: Hasten to intercession, and make speed to supplication, O Theotokos, who ever protectest those who honor thee.

Let us pray to the Lord.
R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD Jesus Christ our God, who of thine own good will, for the sake of our salvation, didst deign to be nailed upon the tree of the Cross and sanctify the same by thy most precious Blood, and didst redeem the world from the work of our ancient enemy the Devil, and free from his torment the race of man: We humbly beseech thee mercifully to look upon this image of the cross, and send down upon it thy divine benediction and grace, and grant unto it power and strength, that all who shall wear it in

remembrance of thy salutary passion and thy life-giving death, and for the preservation and protection of soul and body, may be vouchsafed thy heavenly benediction and assistance. And as thou didst bless the staff of Aaron for repulsion of hostile unbelief and destruction of sorcerous illusions, so do thou now bless also this image of the cross, and pour upon it the aid of thy protection against all wiles of the Devil; that it may be for those who wear it salutary protection and preservation from all harm to soul and body, and unto the increase in them through thy grace of thy spiritual gifts and Christian virtues:

For thou dost bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, thanksgiving and worship, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ The Priest shall bow his head and, silently, say this prayer:

O LORD Jesus Christ our God, who dwellest on high and beholdest the humble; we thine unworthy servants have bended the necks of our heart and body unto thee, and humbly beseech thee: Send thy heavenly benediction upon this image of the cross, and through the sprinkling of holy water, endow it with thy power and might, unto the dispelling and destruction of every wile of the Devil. Grant it to be a guardian of soul and body from the face of enemies visible and invisible and from every evil, and that it be unto the increase of thy grace for all thy faithful servants who wear it:

Exclamation: For thou art our Sanctification, O Christ our God, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the cross with Holy Water, saying:

This image of the cross is blessed and sanctified through the sprinkling of this holy water: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen (**Thrice**).

¶ And the Priest shall pronounce the usual Dismissal, and give the cross to whomever it belongs.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF A MEDAL

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD our King, Sovereign of all, Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who didst command Moses, thy servant, to place the images of the Cherubim in the holy Tabernacle upon either side of the Mercy-seat: Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, O our King, to send down the grace of thy Holy Spirit and thine Angel upon this medal, and of thy fatherly goodness to bless and sanctify it, and grant that whosoever wears it, mindful of the mystery which it represents, may be kindled with devout affections and increase in holiness of life; endow it with the aid of thy protection against all snares of the Enemy, and make it to be a guardian of soul and body; through the grace, and compassion, and love of thine Only-begotten Son, and our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ who lovest mankind:

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

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the medal with Holy Water, saying:

This image is sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (**Thrice**.)

¶ The Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal of the day, mentioning the Saint represented by the medal.

PRAYER AT THE BLESSING OF A PRAYER BOOK OR BIBLE

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O HOLY MASTER, Father omnipotent, God from all eternity, who didst give thy servant Moses the Tablets on which thou wast graciously pleased to inscribe the statutes of the Law, that all living beings might keep them: do thou thyself, now bless and sanctify this book, which contains within it thy holy law and the glorification of thy Name, and of the all-blessed Virgin Theotokos, and all thy Saints. Grant us, through thine abundant compassion, so to use it, that it may serve for the healing and salvation of our souls:

For thou art a God of mercies and bounties, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ And the Priest shall sprinkle the book with Holy Water.

PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF ANY OBJECT

Blessed is our God: **The Trisagion**. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom . . .

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord have mercy.

O CREATOR and Author of the human race, Giver of spiritual grace and Bestower of eternal salvation: Do thou, the same Lord, send down thy Holy Spirit with a blessing from on high upon this **object**; / that fortified by the power of heavenly protection, it may be a help unto bodily salvation and defense and aid, unto those who shall desire to use it;

For thou dost bless and sanctify all things, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall sprinkle the object thrice with Holy Water, pronouncing the usual formula of blessing.

¶ Then he shall pronounce the Dismissal of the day.

IX.

OFFICE AT THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MARRIAGE OF DIVORCED PERSONS

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

R/: Amen.

¶ And the Priest shall say these verses:

Blessed is the man who feareth the Lord. For great
and dread is God over all who are about him.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

The Lord shall guard his mercy for ever, and his
covenant is sure. Glory and wealth shall be in his house.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

For the hand of the Lord will help him, and his arm
shall strengthen him.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the sides of thy
house.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

Thy children like newly-planted olive-plants round
about thy table.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

May the Lord bless thee out of Sion, and mayest
thou see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy
life.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, henceforth and for
ever.

R/: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

¶ And he shall say the Ektenia:

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord have mercy.

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

R/: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of
the holy Churches of God, and the union of all the faithful,
let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

For our Most Reverend Metropolitan (or Archbishop or Bishop), **N.**, the honorable Presbytery, the Diaconate in Christ; for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

For the servants of God, **N.** and **N.**, who are now being rejoined in marriage; that there may be granted unto them an undisgraced life and a blameless state and conduct uncondemned, let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

That there may be granted unto them a cohabitation of concord and love, of progress in good works, and of length of days, let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

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

R/: To thee, O Lord.

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

R/: Amen.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER who lovest mankind, King of the ages and Creator of all things, who hast destroyed the partition-wall of hatred and hast granted peace to the race of men: We beseech thee and we entreat thee, behold these thy servants, **N.** and **N.**, and pour down upon them thy blessing. Restore the peace which has been disturbed, and implant love towards one another in their hearts. Bestow richly upon them spiritual peace and a life without plots, that continuing in spiritual tranquility, they may enjoy their blessings and glorify thee, the only God of love:

For thou dost bless and sanctify all things, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

The Dismissal

May he who by his presence in Cana of Galilee showed marriage to be honorable, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of the holy, God-crowned sovereigns and equals-to-the-Apostles, Constantine and Helen; of the holy Great-martyr Procopius; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

THE BENEDICTION AND CONFIRMATION OF THE
HETERODOX
MARRIAGE OF A COUPLE EMBRACING ORTHODOXY

¶ The Priest shall inquire publicly of the man, saying:

Hast thou, **N.**, a good, free and unconstrained will and a firm intention to keep unto thyself to wife this woman, **N.**, whom thou seest here before thee?

¶ And he shall answer:

I have.

¶ And the Priest shall inquire of the woman, saying:

Hast thou, **N.**, a good, free and unconstrained will and a firm intention to keep unto thyself to husband this man, **N.**, whom thou seest here before thee?

¶ And she shall answer:

I have.

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ And the Priest shall add this Blessing:

MAY the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the all-holy, consubstantial and life-originating Trinity, one Godhead and Kingdom, bless you; and grant unto you long life, fair children, prosperity of life and faith: and fill you with all the good things of the earth, and vouchsafe unto you the attainment of the promised blessings;

through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos, and of all the Saints. Amen.

¶ And the Priest shall pronounce the Dismissal as above (see p. 72).

X.

PRAYER SAID IN TIME OF WAR

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O LORD GOD of hosts, God of our salvation, God who doest wonders alone; look upon thy humble servants in mercy and bounty, and in thy love for mankind hearken unto us and have mercy on us: for our foes are gathered against us, to destroy us and to bring ruin to our sanctuaries. Help us, O God our Saviour, and deliver us, for the glory of thy Name's sake, and let the words spoken by Moses to the Israelite people be applied to us: 'Be bold, stand fast and see the salvation which is from the Lord. The Lord shall fight for you.' Yea, Lord God, our Saviour, our strength, and hope and protection, remember not the lawlessness and unrighteousness of thy people, and turn not away from us in thy wrath; but in thy mercies and bounties visit thy humble servants who prostrate themselves before thy loving-kindness: rise to our aid and grant our warriors to triumph in thy Name; and forgive the transgressions of those whom thou hast called to lay down their lives in battle, and on the day of thy just retribution bestow upon them crowns of incorruption:

For thou art the Protection and Victory and Salvation of those who hope on thee, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

THE BLESSING OF WARRIORS GOING INTO COMBAT

Blessed is our God: O heavenly King (**see p. 31**).

The Trisagion. All-holy Trinity. Our Father: For thine is the kingdom: **and the Troparion (Tone 1)**:

O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine inheritance; granting victory over adversaries, and through thy Cross preserving thine estate.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R/: Lord, have mercy.

O MASTER, Lord God of our fathers, we beseech thee and we humbly implore thee: Behold mercifully the

supplication of us, thine unworthy servants, and as of yore thou didst deign to ascent with Moses, thy well-pleasing servant, leading thy people Israel from Egypt to the promised land: so do thou now go with these thy servants, **NN.**, and with these warriors, and thyself be their Helper and Defender, and preserve them both at day and at night inviolate and unharmed from every evil circumstance, malady, famine and flood, and every fear. And as thou didst strengthen Joshua the son of Nun by the cross-wise raising of Moses' hands upon Amalek and upon the Canaanite kingdom warring against them, that they might be prevailed against, and thus laid waste to Zeb, and Zebbee and Salmana, and all their princes; and as thou didst aid Gideon with three hundred chosen men to vanquish the multitudes of Midian: so do thou grant these thy faithful servants, strength, power and a courageous heart, aid and protection. And like as thou didst assist the first among Christian sovereigns, Constantine, to conquer thy defiant foes by a heavenly manifestation: so do thou now mercifully grant triumph and vigorous vanquishment over enemies to these thy faithful servants; and encompass them in warfare from all directions with thine Angel; and arm them with the power and defense of the precious and life-giving Cross, in the Name of thee, God the Father, and thy beloved Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and thy most holy and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ The Priest shall turn to face the fighting men, and blessing them with his right hand, he shall say:

Peace be to all.

R/: And to thy spirit.

Bow your heads unto the Lord.

R/: To thee, O Lord.

¶ Still facing the men, the Priest shall say this prayer:

O LORD our God, who didst hearken unto Moses who raised his hands unto thee, and strengthened the people of Israel against Amalek, and didst allow the sun to stop as a sign of vanquishment for embattled Joshua the son of Nun: Do thou now hearken to our entreaty for these warriors gathered here, and bless and strengthen them; grant them a heart of courage against the opposing foes;

send unto them a radiant Angel; remove from thy servants now going out to battle, and from everyone of us, all famine and destruction, and deliver us from fire, the sword and invasion of enemies, and from every adverse uprising. Be thou their co-traveller and grant them all their petitions which are unto salvation: teach them and make them to comprehend. Save, defend, protect, purify and fill them with spiritual joy; be thou the protector and defender of their souls and bodies, and forasmuch as thou art good and merciful and lovest mankind, grant them forgiveness of sins in the day of judgment. Be merciful unto them and unto us all, and bless us all the days of our life: that receiving aid and protection and deliverance from thee, we may ever render, without hindrance, glory and thanksgiving unto thee:

For thou art a Fortress and Firm Foundation unto thy people, and unto thee do we ascribe glory, with thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy, and good and life-creating Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

R/: Amen.

¶ And the Priest shall bless them, saying:

The blessing of the Lord be upon you all: do ye take courage and let your hearts be strengthened, and place your trust in the Lord, for he shall vanquish our foes. Amen.

¶ And he shall sprinkle them all with Holy Water cross-wise while the Choir sings the following Troparion (Tone 4):

Thou didst aid, O Lord, meek David to vanquish the foreigner, so do thou assist thy faithful people; and with the armour of the Cross, crush down our enemies; show upon us, O Merciful One, thy mercy of old, that they may truly know that thou art God; and that we who trust in Thee may triumph: diligently entreating thine immaculate Mother to grant us peace and great mercy.

The Dismissal

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother, by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the holy and great angelic leaders Michael and Gabriel, and of all the heavenly Bodiless Hosts; of the holy Great-martyrs George, Dimitri, Procopius, Theodore Stratelatis and

Theodore of Tyro; and of all his Saints, have mercy on you and strengthen you in the day of battle, and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

SUPPLEMENT

ORDER FOR SANCTIFICATION AND BLESSING OF SERVICE VESSELS:

Chalice, paten, star and spoon with their three coverings when brought forth together.

A table appropriately covered is placed before the Royal Doors and on it are set the vessels. ; The Priest, vested with epitrahil and Phelonion proceeds through the Holly Gates with the censer, and having censed cross-wise, begins as usual.

Blessed is our God: *The Cantor reads:* O Heavenly King; Thrice Holy; *through* Our Father.

The Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom . . . ;

Cantor: Amen. Lord have mercy (*12 times*): Glory, both now and ever.

COME, let us worship God our King. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God. Come, let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and our God.

Psalm 22

The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want.

In a place of green pasture, there hath He made me to dwell; beside the water of rest hath He nurtured me.

He hath converted my soul, He hath led me on the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

For though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they have comforted me.

Thou hast prepared a table before me in the presence of them that afflict me.

Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and Thy cup which filleth me, how excellent it is!

And Thy mercy shall pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord unto length of days.

Glory, . . . Both now and ever. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest shall read this prayer:

Our Master, Lord God Almighty! Having given to thy servant Moses the law, the statutes and rituals, thou didst command that vessels of gold and silver be fashioned and sanctified in the sanctuary which was erected to the glory of thine all-holy name, for the bringing forth of various sacrifices to Thee, our true God (since these were the shadow and image of our present true bloodless sacrifice). ; Do Thou, the same man-loving Lord, bless at this present time this paten, chalice, star and spoon with their coverings, and sanctify them with power, action and grace of thine, all-holy and life-giving Spirit, so that on them may be brought forth the true, living, bloodless and verbal sacrifice, the all-holy Flesh of our Great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who for our sake and for the sake of our salvation did offer Himself once unto Thee, His God and Father, as a Sacrifice upon the altar of the Cross.

For unto Thee with Him and Thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, is due all glory, honor and worship, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with you all!

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest, bowing his head, reads this prayer silently:

O Lord our God, look down upon the prayer of me, thine unworthy servant, and send down the abundance of thy blessings on these vessels, and sanctify them by Thy Holy Spirit in the sprinkling of this holy water, making them worthy receptacles of the most-pure Body and most cherished Blood of Thy Christ.

Exclamation: For Thou art the fountain of sanctification, and unto Thee do we ascribe all glory, honor and worship, together with Thine Only-begotten Son and Thy all-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest, sprinkling the vessels with holy water, says:

These vessels are sanctified by the grace of the All-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen. (*Thrice*)

If he now intends to celebrate, the Priest, himself, takes up the vessels, carries them into the Sanctuary and, setting them on the Preparation Table, begins the service. If he is not to celebrate, the Priest pronounces the usual daily dismissal, and carries the vessels into the Sanctuary.

#####

PRAYER OVER THE PATEN ALONE

When blessing only the Paten, the beginning is ordinary: Psalm 22, the reading of the preceding prayer omitting the naming of the other vessels, the silent prayer with bowed head, and the sprinkling with holy water as indicated in the preceding rubric.

PRAYER OVER THE CHALICE ALONE *that is: A New Chalice.*

The ordinary beginning, and Psalm 22 (on page 78), and then:

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads this prayer:

O Almighty Master, Lord God of our fathers, we pray Thee, we appeal to Thee, and diligently ask Thee to send down the grace of thine all-sanctifying and lifegiving Spirit upon this chalice, (*if there be covers and spoon, say this:* and upon all its garnishment) and bless, purify and sanctify the cup of thy priest Melchisedek, and the cup of the holy apostles at the mystical supper of Thy Christ causing it to be worthy of thy sacrificial offering, unto the bringing forth in it to Thee, the God and Father, of the most propitious bloodless sacrifice of our Lord, God and Saviour, Jesus Christ: with Whom to Thee, and to Thy most-holy and life-giving Spirit is due all glory, honor, and worship, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The rest, as in the preceding rubric.

PRAYER FOR BLESSING A NEW PATEN STAR
SEPARATELY

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads this prayer:

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who was born in a cavern from a Virgin, and having guided the Magi to worship Thee by a star: we humbly ask Thee, to send now Thy heavenly blessing upon this star, and bless and sanctify it, so that it may be a worthy armament serving thy holy mysteries, and a remembrance and glorification of thy God-incarnate birth from the Virgin.

For Thou art He Who blesses and sanctifies all things, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we send up the glory with Thy Father Who has no beginning, and Thy all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

After the prayer with bowed head, the Priest sprinkles the star with holy water, saying:

This star is sanctified by the grace of the All-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. (*Thrice*)

#####

PRAYER WHEN BLESSING A NEW SPOON FOR THE
DIVINE MYSTERIES

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads this prayer:

Lord God Almighty, Who did purify the prophet with coal taken from the seraphim with pincers and applied to the lips, prefiguring at one time the power of the Divine

Mysteries of the Flesh and Blood of Thy Christ, which is given at this present time by a spoon to thy faithful people unto cleansing from defilement of sins: mercifully look down now on our prayers, and send down thy heavenly blessing upon this spoon, and bless and sanctify it, making it a worthy vessel to receive and to serve up the most-pure Body and precious Blood of Thy Christ.

For Thou art the fountain of sanctification, and the bestower of all good things, and unto Thee do we send up glory, thanksgiving and worship, together with Thine Only-begotten Son, and Thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

And after this prayer with bowed head the Priest shall sprinkle the spoon with holy water, saying:

This spoon is sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
(Thrice)

And then it is placed together with the other sacred vessels.

Let it be known, if and when these service vessels must be renewed, re-gilded or restored by hands other than of the priest, after that they must be blessed and sanctified by the same forgoing ritual. If thou doest otherwise, O Priest, thou committest mortal sin, for thou degradest Christ's Mysteries.

BLESSING OF NEW COVERS FOR THE HOLY SACRAMENT

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest reads this prayer:

Lord, God Almighty Who clothest Thyself with light as with a robe, Who investest the heavens with clouds and coverest thy sublimity with the waters: we humbly beseech Thee to look down upon our diligent prayer and send down thy heavenly blessing upon these coverings (or, this covering) and bless, purify and sanctify them (it),

to make them (it) worthy to cover the Holy and Divine Mysteries of the Flesh and Blood of Thy Christ, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, gracious, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest, sprinkling the covers, says:

Sanctified are these coverings by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (*Thrice*)

BLESSING OF A NEW TABERNACLE

or any vessel intended to contain the Divine Mysteries of Christ.

On a table appropriately covered and placed before the Royal Doors, the new tabernacle (vessel, pyxis) is set. The Priest, vested in epitrahil and phelon, exits through the Holy Gates and censes the tabernacle cross-wise, beginning as usual.

Blessed is our God:

Cantor: O Heavenly King; Thrice Holy; *through* Our Father.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom:

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Psalm 131

Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness.

How he made an oath unto the Lord, and vowed unto the God of Jacob:

I shall not go into the dwelling of my house, I shall not ascend upon the bed of my couch,

I shall not give sleep to mine eyes, nor slumber to mine eyelids, nor rest to my temples,

Until I find a place for the Lord, a habitation for the God of Jacob.

Lo, we have heard of it in Ephratha, we have found it in the plains of the wood.

Let us go forth into His tabernacles, let us worship at the place where His feet have stood.

Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness.

Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy righteous shall rejoice.

For the sake of David Thy servant, turn not Thy face away from Thine anointed one.

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not annul it: Of the fruit of thy womb will I set upon thy throne.

If thy sons keep My covenant and these testimonies which I will teach them,

 Their sons also shall sit for ever on thy throne.

For the Lord hath elected Sion, He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself.

This is My rest for ever and ever; here will I dwell, for I have chosen her.

Blessing, I will bless her pursuit; her beggars will I satisfy with bread.

Her priests will I clothe with salvation, and her saints with rejoicing shall rejoice.

There will I make to spring forth a horn for David, I have prepared a lamp for My Christ.

His enemies will I clothe with shame, but upon Him shall My sanctification flourish.

Glory: both now and ever . . .

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: glory to Thee, O God! (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads this prayer:

O Lord our God, Who hast the heavens as a throne and the earth for a footstool, even though all the universe cannot contain thee, neither can the minds of Angels or men comprehend the magnitude of thy glory nor worthily tell of thee: however, for the sake of merciful compassion and love for mankind, Thou didst permit Thyself unspeakable to be contained within a Virgin's womb and became man, remaining true God, to appropriate man to thyself under the visible guise of bread and wine, giving thine own Flesh and Blood to the faithful. But since Thou art God, existing everywhere and fulfilling all, yet as God and as man, in heaven on the right hand of the Father, and on earth desiring truly to be present in the most-pure mysteries only by thy Flesh and Blood: therefore, I now humbly pray Thee, look down mercifully upon our prayer

and upon this vessel which was made to thy glory, and send down upon it thy heavenly blessing; bless, purify and sanctify it so that it may be a worthy receptacle, even a new tomb and treasure box for thy holy and life-giving mysteries of thy most pure Body and sacred Blood.

For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee do we send up glory with thy Father Who has no beginning, and thy most holy, gracious, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest with bowed head reads:

O Lord our God, incline thine ear and hear me, as Thou didst promise for the sake of mercy and love for mankind to be with us without interruption till the end of time, and send the grace of thy most pure Spirit; and through the sprinkling of this holy water, bless and sanctify this vessel, which was made to be a repository for the divine mysteries of thy Flesh and Blood.

Exclamation: For Thou art He Who blesses and sanctifies all things, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, with thy Father Who hast no beginning, and thine all-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest sprinkles the vessel with holy water, saying:

This tabernacle is sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (*Thrice*)

Pronouncing the usual daily dismissal, the Priest places the Holy Tabernacle on the Holy Altar, and places into it the Divine Sacrament.

#####

BLESSING OF THE ILITON

The Iliton is made of delicate and fine material, linen or silk, somewhat larger than the Antimins. Spreading the Iliton on the Holy Altar, the Priest, vested in epitrahil and Phelon, censing the Holy Altar crosswise, shall then stand in front of the Altar and begin as usual:

Blessed is our God: *Cantor*: O Heavenly King; Thrice Holy, *through* Our Father:

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom:

Amen, Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Psalm 110

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my heart, in the council of the upright and in the congregation.

Great are the works of the Lord, sought out in all the things that He hath willed.

Confession and majesty are His work, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages.

He made a remembrance of His wondrous deeds; merciful and compassionate is the Lord; He hath given food to them that fear Him.

He will be mindful for ever of His covenant; the power of His works hath He declared unto His people,

That He may give them the inheritance of the nations; the works of His hands are truth and judgment.

Faithful are all His commandments, confirmed unto ages of ages, made in truth and uprightness.

He hath sent redemption unto His people, He hath enjoined His covenant for ever; holy and terrible is His name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and all they that foster this have a good understanding.

His praise abideth unto ages of ages.

Glory: both, now and ever

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads this prayer:

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Son and Word of the living God, Who didst deign for the sake of our salvation to

be incarnate of the all-pure Virgin, and after birth to be wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid within a manger: Who, after death on the Cross, which Thou didst endure voluntarily for our sake, didst deign to be wrapped with a pure shroud and head-covering and placed within the tomb: We now ask Thee, and humbly pray, that Thou wilt send the divine blessing and grace of Thine Holy Spirit upon this Iliton, and bless, purify and sanctify it, making it worthy to consecrate upon it the divine mysteries of thine all-pure Body and honorable Blood, to thy glory and of thine unoriginate Father, the Only-begotten One and thy life-giving Spirit, and for the salvation of thy people.

For Thou art our sanctification and to Thee do we ascribe glory, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

The Priest with bowed head reads this prayer silently:

Lord Jesus Christ our God, accept this diligent prayer from us thine unworthy servants, and as Thou art good and lovest mankind, deign now to send down thy holy blessing on this Iliton, and bless and sanctify it by Thy Holy Spirit in the sprinkling of this holy water, as Thou didst bless Thy holy burial shroud. Make it to be a new head-napkin and shroud for Thy Most-pure Body and Precious Blood.

Exclamation: For Thou art he Who blesses and sanctifies all things, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest sprinkles the Iliton with holy water, saying:

This Iliton is sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling with this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
(*Thrice*)

Then, the usual daily dismissal.

#####

BLESSING OF NEW PRIEST'S VESTMENTS

Stihar, epitrahil, belt, cuffs, and phelon:

On an appropriate table set before the Royal Doors the new vestments intended to be blessed are place. The Priest proceeds through the Holy Gates with the censer, and having censured the vestments crosswise, begins as usual:

Blessed is our God: *Reader:* O Heavenly King; Thrice Holy, *through* Our Father:

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom:

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

Glory: Both, now and ever

Come, let us worship God our King. Come let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God. Come let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and our God.

Psalm 132

Behold now, what is so good or so joyous as for brethren to dwell together in unity?

It is like the oil of myrrh upon the head, which runneth down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, which runneth down to the fringe of his raiment.

It is like the dew of Aermon, which cometh down upon the mountains of Sion.

For there the Lord commanded the blessing, life for evermore.

Glory: Both, now and ever

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: glory to Thee, O God! (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads the following prayer:

O Lord God Almighty, Who set in motion from the beginning all things which are beneficial for mankind; Who willed that temples should be erected by the hands of men unto Thy Holy name, and that the same should be

consecrated to Thy glory, and that these places should be called the abode of Thy glory; Who through Thy servant Moses directed that vestments of the high priest, the priests and the Levites, and other beautifying objects should be made for the grandeur and beauty of thy sanctuary and altar: mercifully hear Thou now our prayer and these vestments (*name them: stihar, epitrahil, belt, cuffs, phelon*) which have been prepared in honor and to the glory of thine all-holy name, for the adornment and grandeur of the servants of thy holy altar and thy sacred mysteries, do Thou bless, purify and sanctify by the hand of me, thy humble and unworthy servant, so that they may become worthy of every doxology to thine all-holy name; and, for thy priestly servants who shall vest in them, may be a deliverance and protection from all wiles and temptations of evil, a means of pleasing Thee and worthily serving Thy Holy Mysteries, and a provider of thy grace and mercies: Through the grace and compassion and love for 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.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest with bowed head reads this prayer:

Master God Almighty, Giver of all good things and the fountain of blessings! Look down now and behold our prayers, and these vestments (*name them: stihar, epitrahil, belt, cuffs, phelon*) which have been prepared for the adornment and grandeur of thy priestly servants, cause to be, by the grace of thine all-holy Spirit, in the sprinkling of this holy water, blessed, holy and sanctified, and all who vest themselves therewith to be worthy to minister to thy holy mysteries and to please Thee at all times.

Exclamation: For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thine Only-begotten Son and thy all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest sprinkles with holy water, saying:

These vestments (*stihar, epitrahil, belt, cuffs, phelon*) are sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (*Thrice*)

There is no dismissal if the Priest is to liturgize. He shall carry the vestments into the sanctuary, vest in them and proceed with the service. If no service is to follow, the usual daily dismissal is pronounced and the vestments are taken into the sanctuary and placed on the Altar.

#####

BLESSING OF ALTAR COVERINGS

INDITIA: vestments for the Altar (Prestol) and the Altar of Oblations (Sacrificial Table)

Placing these vestments upon an appropriate table before the Royal Doors, the Priest, vested in epitrahil and phelon, proceeds through the Holy Gates with the censer, and having censured the vestments crosswise, begins as usual:

Blessed is our God: *Reader:* O Heavenly King; Thrice Holy, *through* Our Father:

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom:

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Glory: Both, now and ever

Come, let us worship God our King. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God. Come, let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and our God.

Psalm 92

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.

For He established the world which shall not be shaken.

Thy throne is prepared of old; Thou art from everlasting.

The rivers have lifted up, O Lord, the rivers have lifted up their voices.

The rivers will lift up their waves, at the voices of many waters.

Wonderful are the surgings of the sea, wonderful on high is the Lord.

Thy testimonies are made very sure. Holiness
becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.

Glory: Both, now and ever . . .

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest reads this prayer:

Lord God, Father Almighty, Who didst command thy servant and lawgiver Moses on Mount Sinai to prepare various adornments, coverings and vestments to be used at services at the ark of the covenant and at thy lawful sanctuary: do Thou even now, we diligently pray Thee, as Thou didst then compassionately accept those things and didst sanctify by the hand of Aaron, mercifully accept even these things and by the hand of me, a sinful servant, through thy Holy Spirit, bless, purify and sanctify and make them worthy to cover and adorn the divine altar and sacrificial table of Thy Beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. For from Thee on high is given all good, and ever perfect gift descends; and unto Thee do we ascribe glory together with thine Only-begotten Son, and Thy all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest with bowed head reads silently:

Incline Thine ear, O Lord, and hear me, Thine unworthy servant, and bless, purify and sanctify these covering vestments to be used for the holy altar and sacrificial table of Thy Christ, through Thy all-sanctifying grace, in the sprinkling of this holy water.

Exclamation: For Thou art He Who blesses and sanctifies all things, O our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with thine Only-begotten Son, and Thy all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

These coverings (vestments) are sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (*Thrice*)

And having completed the usual dismissal, the Priest, himself, shall take the coverings and cover the Altar and the Sacrificial Table.

BLESSING OF NEW CHURCH VESSELS

Many together, or, individually, such as: censer, offering plate, spear, water vessels, Sprinkler, zeon (cup) and other altar pertinences.

Blessed is our God: *Reader*: O Heavenly King; Thrice Holy, *through* Our Father:

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom:

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Glory: Both, now and ever

Come, let us worship God our King. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God. Come, let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and our God.

Psalm 25

Judge me, O Lord, for in mine innocence have I walked; and hoping in the Lord I shall not grow weak.

Prove me, O Lord, and try me; prove with fire my reins and my heart.

For Thy mercy is before mine eyes, and I have been well-pleasing in Thy truth.

I have not sat with the council of vanity, nor shall I go in with them that transgress the law.

I have hated the congregation of evil-doers, and with the ungodly will I not sit.

I will wash my hands in innocency and I will compass Thine altar, O Lord, that I may hear the voice of Thy praise and tell of all Thy wondrous works.

O Lord, I have loved the beauty of Thy house, and the place where Thy glory dwelleth.

Destroy not my soul with the ungodly, nor my life with men of blood, in whose hands are iniquities; their right hand is full of bribes.

But as for me, in mine innocence have I walked;
redeem me, O Lord, and have mercy on me.

My foot hath stood in uprightness; in the congregations
will I bless Thee, O Lord.

Glory: both, now and ever . . .

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest reads this prayer:

Lord God Almighty, God of our fathers, Who hast said
through thy chosen vessel, the Apostle Paul, that all thy
creation is good and nothing is rejected, which is
sanctified by prayers and thy divine word: we humbly
pray! Mercifully look down upon our prayer and upon
these vessels (*this vessel, OR, name it*) which thy
servants have provided to the glory of thine all-holy name
and to the service of this holy altar, and, with thy heavenly
blessing and the prayer of us, thine unworthy slaves and
servants, mercifully bless and sanctify, and make them (*it*)
to be worthy of service before thy holy altar, bestowing
upon the donors thy heavenly grace, granting them
remission of sins and making them communicants of thy
kingdom.

For Thou art the God of mercy and compassion and
love of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up the glory,
together with thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now
and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Priest with bowed head prays silently:

We humbly pray Thee, O Lord our God! Look down upon
our prayer, and send down thy blessing upon these
vessels (*this vessel, OR, name it*) and through the
sprinkling of this holy water bless and sanctify them (*it*)
make them (*it*) to be worthy of service to thy holy altar.

Exclamation: For Thou art our sanctification, and unto
Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thine Only-

begotten Son, and Thy all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest sprinkles with holy water, saying:

These vessels (*this vessel, OR, name it*) are (*is*) blessed by the grace of the all-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen. (*Thrice*)

Then, the usual dismissal, and the vessels are taken into the sanctuary.

BLESSING FOR FURNISHINGS

Pews, lecturns, reader's stand, etc.

O Creator and Author of the human race, Giver of spiritual grace and Bestower of eternal salvation, Who didst instruct that all things would be done unto Thy glory: look down upon the labors of thy humble servants. Send down Thy blessings from on high on these furnishings, which exemplify the fruits of the efforts of Thy faithful servants, and are offered in order that they may beautify Thy Holy House.

For Thou dost bless and sanctify all things, and unto Thee do 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.

A CONCILIATIVE PRAYER FOR THOSE IN ENMITY

We thank Thee, O master Lover of mankind, King of the ages and Bestower of good things, Who hast destroyed the middle wall of partition of enmity and hast given peace to the generation of mankind, and Who hast now granted peace to thy servants: instill the fear of Thee in them and establish love of one for the other; extinguish every dispute, and take away all temptation for disagreement.

For Thou art our peace, and to Thee do we send up the glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

APPENDIX A

A NOTE ON THE FORM FOLLOWED IN BENEDICTIONS

The Priest is vested in accordance with the importance of the item blessed. When he blesses altar or liturgical vessels or vestments, he is fully vested (these blessings almost always take place in the Liturgy after the Prayer behind the Ambon). At other blessings the priest is vested in a Rason (riasa) and Epitrachelion. No service may be performed without at least the Epitrachelion. In case of emergency the Priest may use even a ribbon or some similar object for an Epitrachelion. He merely blesses it with his hand before it is used. After such use, however, this ribbon must never be used for its former function. It should be burned.

The object to be blessed is placed on an Analogion or Tetrapodion (if in Church) or on a table covered with a clean white cloth (if at home). If there is a Reader present, he reads the preliminary prayers, i.e., The Trisagion, etc., through Our Father, and sings or reads the Apolytikion or Psalm after Our Father. If there is no Reader, the Priest shall read these prayers.

While the prayers are said, the Priest usually censes the object cross-wise (i.e. from all four sides, once or three times).

Then the Priest reads the prayer of blessing found in the Euchologion. If, as sometimes happens, the priest is requested to bless some object for which there is no prayer, he uses the prayer for blessing any object, adjusting it to suit the circumstances, or he reads some suitable Psalm if he has no Euchologion with him.

After the prayer, the Priest sprinkles the object one (or thrice) cross-wise, with an aspergillum (or in a private home it may be more convenient to use a Holy Water bottle), and he says the usual formula of blessing.

In general there are two types of formulas. One is used for blessing sacred objects used liturgically: "This (or these), (**Name of object**), is (are) blessed and sanctified by the grace of the all-holy Spirit through the sprinkling of this holy water, etc." The other formula is

used for blessing objects which are brought to church to be blessed but are not used liturgically is: "This (or these), **(Name of object)**, is (are) blessed and sanctified through the sprinkling of this holy water: In the Name of the Father, etc. . . ." This latter formula is used for blessing a cross worn on the breast, church bells, the Artos, Paschal food, candles on the Presentation of Christ, Palms, first-fruits on the Transfiguration, herbage on the Assumption, etc.

Unless indicated, most other ordinary objects are simply sprinkled cross-wise with Holy Water without any formula (although the Priest may say: "In the Name of the Father, etc.>").

Following the sprinkling of the object, the Priest pronounces the Dismissal. First he says: **Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to thee.** And the Choir or Reader answers: **Glory to the Father . . . Both now . . . , Lord, have mercy** (three times, and says: **Father, bless.** If a Priest does the service himself, the last two words are, of course, omitted. Then the Priest pronounces the Dismissal of the Day (see *Appendix B*). While concluding the Dismissal, the Priest blesses the people with the hand cross.

If the blessing takes place in the fields, the Priest always faces the East; if in Church, he faces the Altar; if in a home, he faces an Icon which is placed towards the East.

APPENDIX B

THE DAILY DISMISSALS

Sunday

May he who arose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of Saint (**of the temple**); of Saint (**of the day**); of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

Monday

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; by the protection of the honorable, heavenly Bodiless Hosts; through the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; **etc.**

Tuesday

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; **etc.**

Wednesday and Friday

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; **etc.**

Thursday

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of our Father among the Saints, Nicholas, Archbishop, Wonder-worker of Myra in Lycia; **etc.**

Saturday

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his immaculate Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our hallowed and God-bearing Fathers; **etc.**