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The Mystical Supper of Christ

THE DIVINE VESPERAL LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

(Served on the morning of Holy Thursday)

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

All: Amen.

Reader: O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King. (*metania*)

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God. (*metania*)

O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ, our King and our God. (*metania*)

PSALM 103

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire, Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid. The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the

valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice. He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares. He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad. Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labour until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the

great. There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being. May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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. *(Twice)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: Glory to Thee, O God our Hope, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

THE LITANY OF PEACE

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God

and the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our *(metropolitan or archbishop or bishop)*, *N.*, the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our president *(or appropriate head of state)*, civil authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city and every city and countryside and the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For healthful seasons, abundance of the fruits of the earth and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-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.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: 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.

Choir: Amen.

“LORD, I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE TWO

Choir: O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Choir: Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

- Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.

- I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.
- Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.
- The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.
- Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.
- Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

For Holy Friday in Tone Two

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

The council of the Jews assembles to deliver up to Pilate the Creator and Fashioner of all things. How lawless! How faithless! For they bring to judgment Him Who will come to judge the living and the dead; they prepare for suffering Him Who heals our sufferings. Great is Thy mercy, O long suffering Lord: glory to Thee.

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

The council of the Jews assembles to deliver up to Pilate the Creator and Fashioner of all things. How lawless! How faithless! For they bring to judgment Him Who will come to judge the living and the dead; they prepare for suffering Him Who heals our sufferings. Great is Thy mercy, O long suffering Lord: glory to Thee.

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

At the supper, Judas the transgressor dipped his hand in the bowl with Thee, O Lord, yet he stretched out unlawfully his hands to receive the money. He calculated the price of the perfume, yet he did not tremble with fear to sell Thee, O priceless One. He stretched out his feet to be washed, yet deceitfully kissed the Master, to betray Him to the transgressors of the Law. Thrown out of the company of the Apostles, he threw down the thirty pieces of silver, and he did not see Thy Resurrection on the third day, through which have mercy upon us.

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Judas, the deceitful betrayer, betrayed the Savior Lord with a deceitful kiss. To the transgressors of the Law he sold the Master of all as a slave. But the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, like a sheep was led to the slaughter, for He alone is merciful.

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Judas, the servant and the deceiver, the disciple and the traitor, the friend and the malevolent one, was revealed by his deeds; for he followed the Master, yet within himself he plotted to betray Him. He said to himself: I will deliver Him up and gain the collected money. He asked that the perfume be sold and that Jesus be arrested. He gave Christ a

kiss and then handed him over. Like a sheep, the Lord was led to the slaughter, for He alone is compassionate and the Lover of mankind.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

The lamb who Isaiah proclaimed comes willingly to the slaughter. He gives His back to scourging and His cheeks to slapping. He did not turn His face from the shame of their spitting; He is condemned to a shameful death. Willingly the sinless One accepts all things so that He may grant to all the resurrection from the dead.

DOXASTICON OF HOLY FRIDAY

IN TONE SIX

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

Truly, Judas is of the brood of Vipers who ate manna in the wilderness yet complained about the food. As the ungrateful people spoke evil of God while the food was still in their mouths, so also the ungodly Judas plotted to betray the Savior while he was still carrying in his mouth the heavenly bread. O lustful mind! O inhuman audacity! He sold the Nourisher and delivered to death the Master Whom he kissed. Judas, the transgressor of the Law, is their son; in them the utter ruin was fulfilled. O Lord, deliver our souls from such brutality, for Thou alone art boundless in patience.

*As the clergy prepare for the **Entrance with the Gospel**, the priest recites the following prayer quietly: O Master, Lord our God, who hast appointed in heaven orders and hosts of angels and archangels for the service of thy glory: Cause that with our entrance there may be an entrance of holy angels serving with us and glorifying thy goodness. For unto thee are due all glory, honor and worship to the Father and to the*

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

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend!

THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING AT
THE LIGHTING OF THE LAMPS

Choir: Gladsome light of the Holy glory that shines from the immortal Father in Heaven, the Holy, the Blessed, O Jesus Christ! Lo now that we come to sunset, now that we see the evening light, we sing the praise of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God. Worthy art Thou to be praised at all times with voices meet for holy song. Son of God, Thou Giver of Life, wherefore the world glorifieth thee.

THE PARAMIA

Deacon: The Evening Prokeimenon!

In Tone One

Reader: Rescue me, O Lord, from the evil man; from the unjust man deliver me. (Ps.139:1)

Verse: Who have devised injustice in their heart. (Ps.139:2a)

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading is from the book of Exodus (19:10-19).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Again the Lord said to Moses, “Go down and solemnly charge the people and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. Let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the Lord will descend upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, ‘Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely die. Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow, whether man or beast, he shall not live.’ When the thunders, the trumpets, and the

cloud depart from the mountain, they shall ascend the mountain.” So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified them, and they washed their clothes. Then he said to the people, “Be ready for the third day; do not come near your wives.” So it was that on the third day, in the morning, there were thunderings and lightnings, and a dark cloud on Mount Sinai; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, and all the people in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was completely enveloped in smoke, because God descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the people were exceedingly amazed. And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.

Deacon: Let us attend.

In Tone Seven

Reader: Rescue me from mine enemies, O God, and from them that rise up against me. (Ps.58:1)

Verse: Deliver me from them that work iniquity. (Ps.58:2a)

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading is from the Book of Job (38:1-21; 42:1-5).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: The Lord spoke to Job out of the whirlwind and clouds, saying: “Who is this who hides counsel from Me, and holds words in his heart, and thinks to conceal them from Me?” Gird your waist like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me. The Majestic Creator Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements? Surely you know. Or who stretched the line upon it? To

what were its foundations fastened, or who laid its cornerstone, When the stars were made, and all My angels praised Me in a loud voice? I shut up the sea with doors, when it burst forth and issued from the womb. I made the clouds its garment, and wrapped it in mist. I fixed My limit for it, and set bars and doors. I said, ‘This far you may come, but no further, And here your waves must stop.’ Did I order the morning light in your time, and did the morning star see its appointed place, To lay hold of the ends of the earth, and to shake the ungodly out of it? Or did you take clay of the ground, and form a living creature, and set it with the power of speech upon the earth? Have you removed light from the ungodly, and crushed the arm of the arrogant? Have you come upon the fountain of the sea, and walked in the tracks of the deep? Do the gates of death open to you for fear, and did the door-keepers of Hades quake when they saw you? Have you been instructed in the breadth of the earth under heaven? Tell Me now, what is the extent of it? In what kind of land does the light dwell, and what kind is the place of darkness? If you would bring Me to their boundaries, and also if you understand their paths, Then I know you were born at that time, and the number of your years is great.”

Then Job answered the Lord and said: “I know You can do all things, and nothing is impossible for You. For who is he who hides counsel from You? Who keeps back his words and thinks to hide them from You? Who will tell me what I knew not. Things too great and wonderful, which I did not know? But hear me, O Lord, that I also may speak. I will ask You, and please teach Me. I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear. But now my eye sees You.”

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (50:4-11).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: The Lord gives Me the tongue of the learned, so as to know when to speak a word at a fitting time; and He causes My ear to listen each morning. The Lord's instruction opens My ears, and I am not disobedient, nor do I contradict Him. I gave My back to whips, and My cheeks to blows; and I turned not away My face from the shame of spitting. The Lord became My helper; therefore, I was not disgraced. But I made My face like a solid rock, and knew I would not be ashamed. For He who pronounces Me righteous draws near. Who is he who judges Me? Let him oppose Me at the same time. Who is he who judges Me? Let him come near Me. Behold, the Lord will help Me. Who will harm Me? Behold, all of you will grow old like a garment, and old age will devour you, as a moth does a garment. Who among you fears the Lord? Let him listen to the voice of His Servant. You who walk in darkness and have no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely upon God. Behold, all of you kindle a fire, and feed a flame. Walk in the light of your fire and the flame you kindled. This happened to you for My sake, and you shall lie down in sorrow.

During the third reading, the priest recites the prayer of the Trisagion quietly: O holy God, who retest in the holy place, who art hymned by the seraphim with thrice-holy cry and glorified by the cherubim and worshipped by every heavenly power, who out of nothingness hast brought all things into being, who hast created man according to thine image and likeness and hast adorned him with thine every gift; who givest to him that askest wisdom and understanding, who despisest not the sinner but hast appointed repentance unto salvation, who hast vouchsafed unto us, thy humble and unworthy servants, even in this hour, to stand before the glory of thy holy altar and to of-

fer the worship and praise which are due unto thee: Thyself, O Master, receive even from the mouth of us sinners the thrice-holy hymn and visit us in thy goodness. Pardon us every transgression both voluntary and involuntary; sanctify our souls and bodies; and grant us to serve thee in holiness all the days of our life, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints, who from the beginning of the world have been well-pleasing unto thee.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For holy art Thou, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE TRISAGION HYMN

Choir: 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.

Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

Deacon: Dýnamis.

Choir: Holy God, holy Mighty, holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

THE APOSTOLOS & THE GOSPEL

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Prokeimenon in the 7th one.

The rulers were assembled together, against the Lord, and against His Christ. (*Ps. 2:2b*)
{*twice*}

Verse: Why have the heathen raged, and the peoples meditated empty things? (*Ps. 2:1*)

The rulers were assembled together, against the Lord, and against His Christ.

Apostolos for Holy Friday

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the First Epistle First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians §149 (11:23-32).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For any one who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we should not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are chastened so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Priest: Peace to thee that readest.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

As the choir chants the Alleluia with verses, the priest recites the prayer of the Gospel quietly while the Gospel-Book, enthroned upon the Holy Table is censed: Illumine our hearts, O Master who lovest mankind, with the pure light of thy divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of thy gospel teachings; implant in us also the fear of thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto thee. For thou art the Illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto thee we ascribe glory, together with thine unoriginate Father and thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Additional instructions/prayers are found in the Liturgikon.

Alleluia, in tone 6

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 1: Blessed is the man that hath understanding for the poor man and the pauper. (Ps.40:1a)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 2: Mine enemies have spoken evil things against me: When shall he die, and when shall his name perish? (Ps.40:5)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 3: He who ate of my bread, hath magnified the lifting of heels against me. (Ps.40:9b)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gospel for Holy Friday

Deacon: Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew §107 (26:1-20).¹

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

The Lord said to his disciples, "You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of man will be delivered up to be crucified.

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and took counsel together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be a tumult among the people.

Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head, as he sat at table. But when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, "Why this waste? For this ointment might have been

sold for a large sum, and given to the poor. But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. In pouring this ointment on my body she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain one, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he sat at table with the twelve disciples.

(John 13:3-17)

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and girded himself with a towel. Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded. He came to Simon Peter; and Peter said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not know now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part in me." Simon Peter said to

¹ With additional Gospel fragments, as noted.

him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but he is clean all over; and you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "You are not all clean."

When he had washed their feet, and taken his garments, and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

(Matthew 26:21-39)

And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful, and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me, will betray me. The Son of man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Is it I, Master?" He said to him, "You have said so.

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine

until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter declared to him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go yonder and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.

(Luke 22:43-45)

And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground.

(Matthew 26:40-27:2)

And rising from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink

it, your will be done." And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I shall kiss is the man; seize him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Hail, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, why are you here?" Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest, and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so? At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples forsook him and fled.

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter followed him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside

he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.' And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face, and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a maid came up to him, and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the porch, another maid saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you. Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the cock crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the cock crows, you will deny me

three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; and they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

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

In Antiochian usage, some (or all) three Litanies shown in the boxes below are often omitted.

THE EKTENIA OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N.*

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hiero-monks, deacons, hiero-deacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and forgiveness of sins for (*the servants of God, NN. and*) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (*the servants of God, NN.*) and all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world He asleep in the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for those who bear fruit

and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those who sing and all the people here present, who await thy great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: (Quietly) O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of thy mercy, and send down thy compassions upon us and upon all thy people, who await thy great and rich mercy.

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

Choir: Amen.

THE LITANY FOR THE CATECHUMENS

Deacon: Pray to the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That he will teach them the word of truth.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That he will reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That he will unite them to his holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Save them; have mercy on them; help them; and keep them, O God, by thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O Lord our God, who dwellest in the heavens and lookest down upon all thy works: Look upon thy servants the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before thee, and grant them the light yoke. Make them honorable members of thy holy Church, and make them worthy of the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins and the robe of incorruption, unto knowledge of thee, our true God:

(Aloud) That with us they may glorify thine all-honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: As many as are catechumens, depart. Depart, catechumens. As many as are catechumens, depart. Let none of the catechumens remain.

THE FIRST LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL

Deacon: As many as are of the faithful, again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; Save us, have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by thy grace. Wisdom!

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: (Quietly) Thou, O Lord, hast shown us this great mystery of salvation; thou hast made us, thy humble and unworthy servants, worthy to be ministrants of thy holy altar. Do thou enable us by the power of thy Holy Spirit for this service, that standing uncondemned before thy holy glory, we may offer unto thee a sacrifice of praise, for thou art he who worketh all things in all men; grant, O Lord, that our sacrifice may be acceptable and well-pleasing in thy sight for our own sins and for the ignorance of the people:

(Aloud) 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.

Choir: Amen.

THE SECOND LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; Save us, have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by thy grace. Wisdom!

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: (Quietly) O God, who in mercy and compassions hast visited our lowliness, who hast set us, thy humble and sinful and unworthy servants, before thy holy glory, to minister at thy holy altar: Strengthen us by the power of thy Holy Spirit for this ministry, and grant us utterance in the opening of our mouth to invoke the grace of thy Holy Spirit upon the gifts about to be set forth:

(Aloud) That guarded always by thy might we may ascribe glory unto thee: to the Fa-

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

Choir: Amen.

During the chanting of the Anti-Cherubic Hymn, the priest recites the following prayer: No one who is bound with the desires and pleasures of the flesh is worthy to approach or to draw nigh or to serve thee, O King of glory, for to serve thee, is a great and fearful thing even to the heavenly powers. Nevertheless through thine unspeakable and boundless love toward mankind thou didst become man, yet without change or alteration, and as Master of all didst take the name of our High Priest and delivered unto us the ministry of this liturgic and bloodless sacrifice. For thou alone, O Lord our God, rulest over those in heaven and on earth, who art borne on the throne of the cherubim, who art Lord of the seraphim and King of Israel, who alone art holy and retest in the holy place. Wherefore I implore thee who alone art good and art ready to listen: Look down upon me, a sinner and thine unprofitable servant, and cleanse my soul and my heart from an evil conscience, and by the power of thy Holy Spirit enable me, who am endued with the grace of the priesthood, to stand before this thy holy table, and perform the sacred mystery of thy holy and immaculate Body and precious Blood. For I draw near unto thee, and bowing my neck I pray thee. Turn not thy face from me, neither cast me out from among thy servants, but vouchsafe that these gifts may be offered unto thee by me, thy sinful and unworthy servant; for thou thyself art he that offereth and is offered, that accepteth and is distributed, O Christ our God, and unto thee we ascribe glory, together with thine unoriginate Father, and thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Additional instructions/prayers are found in the Liturgikon.

THE ANTI-CHERUBIC HYMN &
THE GREAT ENTRANCE

Choir: Receive me today, O Son of God, as a partaker of thy mystical supper: for I will not speak of thy mystery to thine enemies, neither will I give thee a kiss as did Judas.

As the priest prepares to celebrate the dread ministry by reverent prayer, he censes the holy table,

the altar area, the major icons and the faithful so that all are sanctified for their awesome ministry. As the holy gifts are carried to the Holy Table for the offering of the holy sacrifice in the Anaphora, the deacon and priest(s) intone the following petition:

Deacon: All of you the Lord God remember in his kingdom, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

The priest(s), as they process then commemorate, first the hierarchs and clergy, then the offerers of the Liturgy and those for whom they offer and lastly the departed for whom prayers are sought. To each petition, the people chant as follows:

Choir: Amen.

The choir now concludes the Cherubic Hymn as the gifts are placed upon the holy table and suitably arranged:

Choir: But like the thief will I confess thee: Remember me, O Lord, in thy kingdom.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our prayers unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful; and a good defense before the dread Judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-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.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O Lord our God, who hast created us, and hast brought us into this life, who hast shown us ways of salvation, graciously bestowing upon us the revelation of heavenly mysteries: Thou art he who hath appointed us to this ministry by the power of thy Holy Spirit; graciously grant us, therefore, O Lord, to be servitors of thy new covenant, ministers of thy holy mysteries. Receive us who draw near to thy holy altar, according to the fulness of thy mercy, that we may be worthy to offer unto thee this rational and bloodless sacrifice for our own sins, and for the ignorance of the people, which do thou receive upon thy holy, most heavenly and spiritual altar as a savor of sweetness, and send down upon us in return the grace of thy Holy Spirit. Look upon us, O God, and behold this our worship, and receive it

as thou didst receive the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah, the burnt-offerings of Abraham, the priestly offices of Moses and Aaron, the peace-offerings of Samuel. Even as thou didst receive at the hands of thy holy apostles this true worship, so also do thou in thy goodness, O Lord, receive from the hands of us sinners these gifts; that, having been accounted worthy to minister at thy holy altar, we may receive the recompense of wise and faithful stewards, in the fearful day of thy just requiting:

(Aloud) Through the compassions of thine only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE KISS OF PEACE

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

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

Choir: Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity one in essence and undivided.²

Deacon: The Doors! The Doors! In Wisdom let us attend.

THE SYMBOL OF FAITH

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 worlds, 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 was made man; And was cru-

cified 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 living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets;

And I believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

THE ANAPHORA OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

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

Choir: A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.

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

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Let us lift up our hearts.

Choir: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

Choir: It is meet and right to worship Father, Son and Holy Spirit: the Trinity, one in Essence, and undivided:

The Priest enters the Sanctuary while the choir is singing the above hymn and reads the following prayer:

Priest: (Quietly) O Existing One, Master, Lord, God, almighty and adorable Father: It is truly meet and right and befitting the majesty of thy holiness that we should praise thee, hymn thee, bless thee, worship thee, give thanks unto thee and glorify thee, the only truly existing God, and offer unto thee

² Or, if it be a con-celebration, we chant instead: I will love Thee, O Lord, my Strength; the Lord is my firm Foundation, my Refuge and my Deliverer.

with contrite heart and spirit of humility this our rational worship; for thou art he that hath graciously bestowed upon us the knowledge of thy truth. And who is sufficient to speak of thy mighty acts, to make all thy praises to be heard, or to tell of all thy wonders at every season? O Master of all, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation both visible and invisible, who sittest upon the throne of glory and beholdest the depths, who art unoriginate, invisible, incomprehensible, uncircumscribed, immutable, the Father of our Lord: the great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, our Hope, who is the Image of thy goodness, the Seal of equal type, in himself showing forth thee, the Father, the living Word, the true God, the Wisdom before all ages, the Life, Sanctification, Power, the true Light, through whom the Holy Spirit was manifested: the Spirit of truth, the Gift of adoption, the Pledge of the inheritance to come, the First-fruits of eternal good things, the life-giving Power, the Fountain of Sanctification, by whom enabled every rational and intelligent creature doth serve thee and ascribe to thee perpetual praise, for all things are thy servants. Yea, angels and archangels, thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities, powers and the many-eyed cherubim praise thee; round about thee stand the six-winged seraphim; with two they cover their faces, with two their feet and with two they fly, continually crying out to one another with unceasing praises:

(Aloud) Singing the Triumphal Hymn, shouting, proclaiming, and saying:

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

While the choir is singing the above hymn, the Priest reads the following prayer:

Priest: (Quietly) With these blessed powers, O Master who lovest mankind, we sinners also do cry aloud and say: Holy art thou, of a truth, and all-holy, and there are no bounds to the majesty of thy holiness, and just art thou in all thy works, for in righteousness and true judgment hast thou ordered all things for us. When thou hadst fashioned man, taking him from the dust of the earth, and hadst honoured him with thine own image, O God, thou didst set him in the paradise of plenty, promising him life-eternal and the enjoyment of everlasting good things in keeping thy commandments. But when he disobeyed thee, the true God, who had created him, and was led astray by the guile of the serpent and rendered subject to death through his own transgressions, thou didst banish him, in thy righteous judgment, O God, from paradise into this world, and didst turn him again to the earth from which he was taken, providing for him the salvation of regeneration, which is in thy Christ himself. Yet thou didst not turn thyself away forever from thy creature whom thou hast made, O good One, neither didst thou forget the work of thy hands; but thou didst visit him in diverse manners, through thy tender mercies. Thou didst send forth prophets; thou didst perform mighty works by thy holy ones who, in every generation, were well-pleasing unto thee; thou didst speak to us by the mouths of thy servants the prophets, who foretold unto us the salvation which was to come; thou didst give us the Law as an aid; thou didst appoint guardian angels. And when the fulness of time was come, thou didst speak unto us through thy Son himself, by whom also thou madest the ages, who, being the Brightness of thy glory and the express Image of thy person and upholding all things by the word of his power, thought

it not robbery to be equal to thee, the God and Father. But though he was God before all the ages, yet he appeared upon earth and dwelt among men and was incarnate of a holy virgin and didst empty himself, taking on the form of a servant, becoming conformed to the body of our lowliness, that he might make us conformable to the image of his glory. For as by man sin entered into the world, and by sin death, so it seemed good unto thine only-begotten Son, who is in the bosom of thee, the God and Father, to be born of a woman, the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; to be born under the Law, that he might condemn sin in his flesh, that they who were dead in Adam might be made alive in him thy Christ. And becoming a citizen of this world and giving commandments of salvation, he released us from the delusion of idols and brought us into a knowledge of thee, the true God and Father, having won us unto himself for his own people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; and having purified us by water and having sanctified us by the Holy Spirit, he gave himself a ransom to death, whereby we were held, sold into bondage under sin. And having descended into hades through the cross, that he might fill all things with Himself, he loosed the pains of death and rose again on the third day, making a way for all flesh unto the resurrection from the dead, for it was not possible that the Author of life should be held by corruption, that he might be the First-fruits of those who have fallen asleep, the First-born from the dead, that he might be in all things the first among all. Ascending into heaven, he sat down at the right hand of thy majesty on high; and he shall come again to render unto every man according to his works. And he hath left with us, as memorials of his saving passion, these things which we have set forth accord-

ing to his commandments. For when he was about to go forth to his voluntary and ever-memorable and life-giving death, in the night in which he gave himself up for the life of the world, he took bread in his holy and immaculate hands; and when he had shown it unto thee, the God and Father, and given thanks and blessed it and hallowed it and broken it, He gave it to his holy disciples and apostles, saying:

(Aloud) Take, eat. This is my Body which is broken for you, for the forgiveness of sins;

Choir: Amen.

Priest: (Quietly) In like manner, having taken the cup of the fruit of the vine and mingled it and given thanks and blessed it and hallowed it, He gave it to His holy disciples and apostles, saying:

(Aloud) Drink of this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: (Quietly) Do this in remembrance of me; for as often as you shall eat this bread and drink of this cup, you do proclaim my death and confess my resurrection.

Wherefore, O Master, we also, having in remembrance his saving passion and life-giving cross, his three day entombment and resurrection from the dead, his ascension into heaven and sitting at the right hand of thee, the God and Father, and his glorious and fearful second coming:

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

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

While the choir is singing the above, the Priest standing in the center of the Altar Table, makes one (1) prostration and says:

Priest: (Quietly) O God, be gracious unto me a sinner, and have mercy on me...

and reverently continues with the prayer.

Priest: (Quietly) Wherefore, O all-holy Master, we also, thy sinful and unworthy servants, who have been made worthy to minister at thy holy altar, not through our own righteousness, for we have done no good deed upon earth, but because of thy mercies and compassions which thou hast richly poured out upon us, have now boldness to draw near unto thy holy altar; and presenting unto thee the antitypes of the holy Body and Blood of thy Christ, we pray thee and implore thee, O Holy of holies, by the favor of thy goodness, that thy Holy Spirit may descend upon us and upon these gifts here spread forth and bless them and hallow them and show,

Priest: This bread to be itself the precious Body of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

Priest: And this cup to be itself the precious Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ;

All: Amen.

Priest: Which was shed for the life of the world and its salvation.

All: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Priest: (Quietly) And as for us, partakers of the one bread and of the cup, do thou unite all to one another unto communion of the one Holy Spirit, and grant that no one of us may partake of the holy Body and Blood of thy Christ unto judgment or unto condemnation, but rather that we may find mercy and grace with all the holy ones who through the ages have been well pleasing unto thee: forefathers, fathers, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, preachers, evangelists, martyrs, confessors, teachers and every righteous spirit which has completed this life in faith:

Censing the Gifts nine times, the priest says:

Priest: (Aloud) Especially our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary:

THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS, IN TONE 8

Choir: In thee, O full of grace, all creation rejoices, the assembly of angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a little child: our God before the ages. He made thy body into a throne, and thy womb he made more spacious than the heavens. In thee, O full of grace, all creation rejoices. Glory to thee!

As the choir chants the above hymn to the Theotokos, the priest continues the intercessions of the Anaphora quietly:

Priest: The holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; (*N. Saint, of the day*) whose memory we celebrate and all thy saints, at whose supplications visit us, O God. And be mindful of all those who have fallen asleep before us in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal, NN., and grant them rest where the light of thy countenance watcheth over them.

And again we pray thee: Be mindful, O Lord, of thy holy, catholic and apostolic Church, which is to the ends of the world; and give peace unto her whom thou has purchased with the precious Blood of thy Christ; and establish thou this holy house, even unto the end of the age.

Be mindful, O Lord, of those who have set before thee these gifts, and those for whom and through whom and in behalf of whom they have offered them. Be mindful, O Lord, of those who bear fruit and do good works in thy holy churches and who remember the poor; requite them with thy rich and heavenly gifts; give them things heavenly for things

earthly, things eternal for things temporal, things incorruptible for things corruptible.

Be mindful, O Lord, of those in the deserts, the mountains and in caverns and pits of the earth. Be mindful, O Lord, of all those who live in virginity and reverence, in asceticism and who lead a godly way of life.

Be mindful, O Lord, of all civil authorities and of our armed forces; grant them a secure and lasting peace; speak good things into their hearts concerning thy Church and all thy people, that we in their tranquility may lead a calm and peaceful life in all reverence and godliness. Establish the good in thy goodness, and make good the evil, by thy benevolence.

Be mindful, O Lord, of the people here present and of those who are absent for reasonable cause, and have mercy upon them and upon us, according to the multitude of thy mercy. Fill their treasuries with every good thing; maintain their marriage-bond in peace and concord; rear the infants; guide the young; support the aged; encourage the faint-hearted. Collect the scattered, and turn them from their wandering astray, and unite them to thy holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Set at liberty those who are vexed by unclean spirits; travel with those who journey by land and sea and air; defend the widows; protect the orphans; free the captives; heal the sick; and be mindful, O God, of those who are under judgment, in the mines, in exile, in bitter servitude, in every tribulation, necessity and danger, and all who beseech thy great loving-kindness; and be mindful, O Lord our God, of those who love us and those who hate us and those who have enjoined us, unworthy though we be, to pray for them, and of all thy people, and upon them all pour out thy rich mercy, granting to all their petitions which are unto salvation. And those whom we through igno-

rance or forgetfulness or the multitude of names have not remembered, do thou thyself remember, O God who knowest the time of life and name of each and knowest every man even from his mother's womb. For thou, O Lord, art the Helper of the helpless, the Hope of the hopeless, the Saviour of the storm-tossed, the Haven of the voyager, the Physician of the sick. Be thou thyself all things to all men, O thou who knowest every man, his petition, his dwelling-place and his need.

Deliver, O Lord, this city and every city and countryside from famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion and civil war.

(Aloud) Among the first be mindful, O Lord, of our Metropolitan *N.*, and our bishop *N.*, whom do thou grant unto thy holy churches in peace, safety, honor, health and length of days, and rightly dividing the word of thy truth.

Choir: And of all mankind.

Priest: (Quietly) Be mindful, O Lord, of every bishop of the Orthodox, who rightly divideth the word of thy truth.

Be mindful also, O Lord, of my unworthiness, according to the multitude of thy compassions; pardon me every transgression, both voluntary and involuntary, and withhold not, because of my sins, the grace of thy Holy Spirit from these gifts here spread forth.

Be mindful, O Lord, of the presbytery, the diaconate in Christ and every priestly order, and put not to confusion any one of us who stand about thy holy altar. Visit us with thy benevolence, O Lord; manifest thyself unto us in thy rich compassions; grant us temperate and healthful seasons; give gentle showers upon the earth unto fruitfulness; bless the crown of the year of thy goodness; make the schisms of the Churches to cease; quench

the rag-ings of hostile nations; speedily destroy, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, uprisings of heresies; receive us all into thy kingdom, showing us to be sons of the light and sons of the day; and grant unto us thy peace and thy love, O Lord our God, for all things hast thou given unto us:

(Aloud) And grant us with one mouth and one heart to glorify and praise thine all-honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: (Aloud) And the mercies of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ be with you all.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

THE EKTENIA BEFORE THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the precious Gifts which have been spread forth and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That our God, who loveth mankind, receiving them upon His holy, most heavenly and spiritual altar as an odor of sweetness, may send down upon us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

In Antiochian usage, these petitions are omitted

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Asking for the unity of the faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: (Quietly) O our God, the God of salvation, do thou teach us how we may worthily give thanks unto thee for thy benefits, which thou hast ever bestowed and yet dost bestow among us. Do thou, O our God who receives! these gifts, purify us from every defilement of flesh and spirit; teach us to perfect holiness in thy fear, that we, receiving a portion of thy holy things in the witness of a pure conscience toward thee, may be made one with the holy Body and Blood of thy Christ and that, having received them worthily, we may have Christ abiding in our hearts and may become a temple of thy Holy Spirit. Yea, O our God, cause also that none of us may be guilty of these thy dread and heavenly mysteries or infirm in soul or in body through an unworthy partaking; but enable us, even unto our last breath, worthily to receive a portion of thy holy things, as a support upon the road to life eternal and as an acceptable defense

at the fearful judgment seat of thy Christ. That we also, together with all the saints who, in all the ages, have been well-pleasing unto thee, may be made partakers of thine everlasting good things, which thou hast prepared for those who love thee. O Lord.

(Aloud) And vouchsafe, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call upon thee, the heavenly God, as Father and to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

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

Choir: Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

While the Choir is singing the above, the Priest says the following quietly:

Priest: (Quietly) O Master Lord, the Father of compassions and the God of all comfort: Bless, sanctify, guard, strengthen, fortify those who have bowed their heads unto thee; withdraw from them every evil work; unite them to every good work; and graciously grant that without condemnation, they may partake of these thine immaculate and life-giving mysteries unto the forgiveness of sins and unto the communion of the Holy Spirit:

(Aloud) Through the grace and compassions and love toward mankind of thine only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy and

good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE ELEVATION

Deacon: Let us attend.

The priest says the following prayer quietly:

Priest: (Quietly) Hear us, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, from thy holy dwelling-place and from the throne of glory of thy kingdom; and come to sanctify us, O thou who sittest on high with the Father and art here invisibly present with us; and vouchsafe by thy mighty hand to impart unto us thine immaculate Body and precious Blood, and through us unto all the people.

He then takes up the Lamb in both hands, elevates it slightly and makes therewith the sign of the cross over the diskos, saying:

Priest: (Aloud) The Holy Things are for the holy.

Choir: One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE PRE-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Priest & People: I stand before the doors of thy temple, and yet I refrain not from my terrible thoughts. But do thou, O Christ God, who didst justify the publican and hadst mercy on the Canaanite woman and didst open the gates of paradise to the thief: open unto me the compassion of thy love toward mankind, and receive me as I approach and touch thee, like the harlot and the woman with the issue of blood; for the one, by but touching the hem of thy garment, received healing, and the other, by embracing thine immaculate feet, received the forgiveness of her sins. And I, who am pitiful, dare to partake of thy whole Body. Let me not be consumed, but receive me as thou didst receive them, and enlighten the senses of my soul, burn-

ing up the accusations of my sins, through the intercessions of her that without seed gave thee birth and of the heavenly powers; for thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is truly Thine own immaculate Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Wherefore I pray Thee, have mercy upon 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 without condemnation of Thine immaculate Mysteries, unto forgiveness of my sins and unto life everlasting. Amen

Behold, I approach Divine Communion. O Maker, burn me not as I partake, for Fire art thou which burneth the unworthy. But purify thou me of every stain.

Of Thy Mystic Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant: 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.

Tremble, O man, as thou beholdest the deifying Blood, for it is a burning coal consuming the unworthy. The body of God both deifieth and nourisheth me. It deifieth the spirit and wondrously nourisheth the mind.

Thou hast smitten me with yearning, O Christ, and by thy divine love hast thou changed me. But with thine immaterial fire, consume my sins and count me worthy to be filled with delight in thee, that

leaping for joy, O Good One, I may magnify thy two comings.

Into the splendour of thy Saints how shall I, the unworthy one, enter? For should I dare to enter the bridal chamber, my vesture doth betray me, for it is not a wedding garment; and as one bound, I shall be cast out by the Angels. Cleanse, O Lord, the defilement of my soul, and save me, since thou art the Friend of man.

O man-befriending Master, Lord Jesus my God, let not these holy Gifts be unto me for judgment through mine unworthiness, but for purification and sanctification of both soul and body, and as an earnest of the life and the kingdom to come. For it is good for me to cleave unto God and to place in the Lord the hope of my salvation.

Of Thy Mystic Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant: 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.

Not unto judgment nor unto condemnation be my partaking of Thy Holy Mysteries, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body. (Amen.)

KOINONIKON OF THE VESPERAL LITURGY

Receive me today, O Son of God, as a partaker of thy mystical 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. (*no verses, repeat as needed*). Alleluia.

After the Priest and the Deacon have communed, standing in the holy doors facing west, the deacon elevates the chalice to the people, saying:

Deacon: With fear of God and faith and love, draw near.

The priest and deacon exit the sanctuary through the holy doors as the choir chants:

Choir: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God and hath appeared unto us.

The Deacon gives the Chalice to the Priest who, assisted by the Deacon, communicates the faithful saying to each one in an audible voice:

Priest: The servant of God N. partakes of the precious and all-holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, unto the remission of sins and unto life everlasting.

Choir: Receive me today, O Son of God, as partaker of thy Mystical 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.

When all have been communed, the priest covers the chalice with the kalima and hands the chalice to the deacon. The priest blesses the people with his hand, saying:

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

THE POST-COMMUNION HYMN

Choir: Receive me today, O Son of God, as a partaker of thy mystical 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.

Priest: Blessed is our God, *(and aloud):* Always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Thy glory; for Thou hast made us worthy to partake of Thy holy, divine, immortal and life-

creating Mysteries. Keep us in Thy holiness, that all the day we may mediate upon Thy righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Deacon: Stand upright. Having partaken of the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, life-giving and dread mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Priest: (Quietly) We give thanks unto thee, O Lord our God, for the participation in thy holy, immaculate, immortal and heavenly mysteries, which thou hast given unto us for the welfare and sanctification and healing of our souls and bodies. Do thou, the same Master of all, grant that the communion of the holy Body and Blood of thy Christ may be for us unto faith unashamed, unto love unfeigned, unto increase of wisdom, unto the healing of soul and body, unto the turning aside of every adversary, unto the fulfillment of thy commandments, unto an acceptable defense at the fearful judgment seat of thy Christ:

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

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Let us depart in peace.

Choir: In the name of the Lord.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE PRAYER BEHIND THE AMVON

Priest: O Lord, who blessest those who bless thee, and sanctifiest those who put their trust in thee: save thy people and bless thine inheritance; preserve the fullness of thy Church; sanctify those who love the beauty of thy House; glorify them in recompense by thy divine power, and forsake us not who hope on thee. Give peace to thy world, to thy Churches, to the priests, to all civil authorities, to our Armed Forces, and to all thy people: for every good and perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from thee, the Father of Lights, and unto thee we ascribe glory, thanksgiving, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (*thrice*)

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and his mercy come upon you through his divine grace and love toward mankind, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

Reader: 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. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless.

Priest: May He Who showed us the most excellent way of humility when He washed the feet of His disciples, and condescended even unto the Cross and burial because of His exceeding goodness, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-

immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, Basil the Great, archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of the Holy Myrrh-Bearer and Equal to the Apostles Mary Magdalene, protector of this holy community;* 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.

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

Choir: Amen.