

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

P: Heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, You are everywhere present, and You fill all things. You are the Treasury of good things and the Giver of life. Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace,
goodwill to mankind. (3)

Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will proclaim Your
praise. (2)

At the conclusion of the singing of the Great Doxology and the Troparion which follows (or one of the Akathists), the Priest takes the Holy Gospel, and while raising it with both hands and making the sign of the Cross over the Antimension, he announces the first proclamation of the sacred service:

The Beginning

P: Blessed is the Kingdom of the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

During the period of Pascha

P: Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs, bestowing life. (2)

C: Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs, bestowing life.

The Priest kisses and places the Holy Gospel over the Antimension.

The Great Litany of Petitions

- P:** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.
- P:** For the peace of God and the salvation of our souls,
let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.
- P:** For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the
holy churches of God, and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.
- P:** For this holy House and for those who enter it with
faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the
Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.
- P:** For our Father and Archbishop (or Bishop).....,
the honorable presbyters, the deacons in the service of
Christ, and for all the clergy and the people,
let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.
- P:** For our Mother, the Abbess of the holy Monastery
Lavra Mambre, and for her monastic community,
let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.
- P:** For the President of the Republic,
and for all the civil and military authorities,
let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord have mercy.

- P:** For this parish (holy House, Monastery, or Hogar) and city; for every parish, city and country; and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.
- C:** Lord have mercy.
- P:** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for temperate seasons, let us pray to the Lord.
- C:** Lord have mercy.
- P:** For travelers by land, sea, and air; for the sick, the suffering, the captives; and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C:** Lord have mercy.
- P:** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress, let us pray to the Lord.
- C:** Lord have mercy.
- P:** Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.
- C:** Lord have mercy.
- P:** Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the + Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary...
- C:** Most Holy Theotokos, intercede for us.
- P:** ... with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.
- C:** To You, O Lord.

The Prayer of the First Antiphon

P: Lord, our God, whose power is beyond compare and glory is beyond understanding; whose mercy is boundless and love for us is ineffable; look upon us and upon this holy House in Your compassion. Grant to us and to those who pray with us Your abundant mercy.

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The First Antiphon

C: **By the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.
+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
By the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.
Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
By the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.**

During the Feast Days of the Lord and of the Theotokos, the appropriate verses for the Antiphons are chanted. Otherwise, the Typika are chanted. On Sundays, usually Psalm 102 is also chanted.

Brief Petition

P: In peace let us again pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us,
and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Remembering our most holy, pure,
blessed, and glorious Lady, the + Theotokos
and ever-virgin Mary...

C: Most Holy Theotokos, intercede for us.

P: ... with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one
another and our whole life to Christ our God.

C: To You, O Lord.

The Prayer of the Second Antiphon

P: Lord our God, save Your people, and bless Your
inheritance: protect the whole body of Your Church; sanctify
those who love the beauty of Your house; glorify them in
return by Your divine power; and do not forsake us who
hope in You.

**For Yours is the dominion, the kingdom, the
power, and the glory of the + Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of
ages.**

C: Amen.

The Second Antiphon

**C: Save us, O Son of God,
-Who rose from the dead-,*
to You we sing: Alleluia. (2)**

*On weekdays for a Saint: **Who are wondrous among Your Saints**

For Christmas: **Who were born of the Virgin**

For Circumcision: **Who were circumcised in the Flesh**

For Theophany: **Who were baptized in the Jordan by St. John**

For Presentation of the Lord: **Who were held in the arms of the
righteous Symeon**

For the Feast Days of the Cross: **Who were crucified in the Flesh**

For the Ascension: **Who in glory ascended from us into Heaven**

On Pentecost: **O Good, Paraclete Spirit** (we do not say "O Son of God")

On the Transfiguration: **Who were transfigured on Mount Tabor**

*For the Great Feast Days, the appropriate antiphons are sung.
Also, Psalm 145 is chanted with the Second Antiphon.*

**C: Glory to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

**Only-begotten Son and Word of God,
although immortal,
You humbled Yourself for our salvation,
taking flesh from the Holy Theotokos
and ever-virgin Mary and,
without change, became man.
Christ our God, You were crucified,
but conquered death by death.
You are one of the Holy Trinity,
glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
Save us.**

Small Litany

P: In peace let us again pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the + Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary...

C: Most Holy Theotokos, intercede for us.

P: ...with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

C: To You, O Lord.

The Prayer of the Third Antiphon

P: Lord, You have given us grace to offer these common prayers with one heart. You have promised to grant the requests of two or three gathered in Your name. Fulfill now the petitions of Your servants for our benefit, giving us the knowledge of Your truth in this world and granting us eternal life in the world to come.

For You are a good and loving God, and to You we give glory: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

**The Third Antiphon
The Beautitudes or Tropar**

C: Remember me, O Lord, when You come into Your Kingdom.

**Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called the sons of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my
account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in Heaven.**

**+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

C: The corresponding Tropar of the day

While the Choir is singing the Glory of the Beautitudes or the Hymn of the Third Antiphon, the Priest makes three prostrations before the Holy Altar, kisses and raises the Holy Gospel, and proceeds around the Altar from the right. Preceded by the Altar boys carrying the procession candles, fans, and Cross, the Priest exits the Altar from the north door for the Small Entrance. The procession stops before the Beautiful Door.

The Small Entrance

P: Master and Lord our God, You have established in Heaven the orders and hosts of Angels and Archangels to minister to Your glory. Grant that the holy Angels may enter with us that together we may serve and glorify Your goodness. For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Priest blesses in the direction of the Royal Door and says:

P: Blessed is the entrance of Your Saints always, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

As the Choir concludes the final hymn, the Priest raises the Holy Gospel, makes the sign of the Cross with it, and exclaims:

P: Wisdom! Let us stand attentively!

The Priest enters the Holy Altar, kisses the Holy Gospel, places it upon the Altar Table.

The Entrance Hymn

C: **Come, let us worship and bow before Christ.
Save us, O Son of God,
-Who rose from the dead-, *
To You we sing: Alleluia.**

*On weekdays for a Saint: **Who are wondrous among Your Saints**

For Christmas: **Who were born of the Virgin**

For Circumcision: **Who were circumcised in the Flesh**

For Theophany: **Who were baptized in the Jordan by St. John**

For Presentation of the Lord: **Who were held in the arms of the
righteous Symeon**

For the Feast Days of the Cross: **Who were crucified in the Flesh**

For the Ascension: **Who in glory ascended from us into Heaven**

On Pentecost: **O Good, Paraclete Spirit** (We do not say, "O Son of God")

On the Transfiguration: **Who were transfigured on Mount Tabor**

- C:**
- The Hymn of the Resurrection or of the Feast Day
 - The *Troparion* of the Saint for the day
 - The *Troparion* of the Church
 - Glory to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
 - The *Kontakion* for the day
 - Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
 - The final *Kontakion* or *Theotokion*

Theotokion (Tone Variable)

O Theotokos, You are a reliable protection of Christians,
a firm intercessor to the Creator,
hear the supplications of us sinners,
and come quickly, as the Benevolent One,
to help us who beseech You with faith.
Hasten your intercession and quicken Your plea,
for You always protect those who honor You.

See Liturgical Calendar for variations

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

Meanwhile the Priest prays:

The Trisagion Prayer

P: Holy God, You dwell among Your Saints. You are praised by the Seraphim with the thrice holy hymn and glorified by the Cherubim and worshiped by all the heavenly powers. You have brought all things out of nothing into being. You have created man and woman in Your image and likeness and adorned them with all the gifts of Your grace. You give wisdom and understanding to the supplicant and do not overlook the sinner, but have established repentance as the way of salvation. You have enabled us, Your lowly and unworthy servants, to stand at this hour before the glory of Your Holy Altar and to offer to You due worship and praise. Master, accept the thrice holy hymn also from the lips of us sinners, and visit us in Your goodness. Forgive our voluntary and involuntary transgressions; sanctify our souls and bodies; and grant that we may worship and serve You in holiness all the days of our lives, by the intercessions of the Holy Theotokos and of all the Saints who have pleased You throughout the ages.

For You are holy, our God, and to You we give glory: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Trisagion Hymn

C: + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,
have mercy on us. (3)
+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

P: Again, fervently! (Dynamis!)

C: + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,
have mercy on us.

On the Feast Days of the Nativity and the Theophany, also the following day (if it is not a Sunday) and their Apodosis, the Saturday of Lazaros, the Holy Saturday, the Sunday of Pascha, all of Bright Week until the Apodosis of Pascha, and Pentecost and its Apodosis, instead of the Trisagion Hymn the following hymn is sung:

C: + All those who have been baptized in Christ
have put on Christ. Alleluia! (3)
+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
They have put on Christ. Alleluia!

P: Again, fervently. (Dynamis!)

C: + All those who have been baptized in Christ
have put on Christ. Alleluia!

On the Feast Days of the Holy Cross and their Apodosis and on the third Sunday of Great Lent, instead of the Trisagion Hymn we sing the following:

- C:** + We venerate Your Cross, O Lord,
And we glorify Your holy Resurrection. (3)
+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now
and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
And we glorify Your holy Resurrection.
- P:** Again, fervently. (Dynamis!)
- C:** We venerate Your Cross, O Lord,
and we glorify Your holy Resurrection.

The Priest makes three prostrations before the Holy Altar, turns to the back of the Altar, and says:

- P:** Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Then he blesses the Cathedra behind the Altar and says:

- P:** Blessed are You on the throne of glory of Your
Kingdom, seated upon the Cherubim, always, now
and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Reading from the Epistle

The Priest stands at the Cathedra behind the Altar, at the place reserved for the Bishop, facing the people. The Reader, having received the Book of Apostolic Readings, stands on the Solea facing the Altar.

- P:** **Let us be attentive!**

R: Recites the designated verses of the *Prokeimenon*.

P: **Wisdom!**

R: **The Reading is from...** (*The Acts of the Apostles, the Letter of St. Paul to..., or the Catholic Letter of St...*)

P: **Let us be attentive!**

R: *Reads the designated Apostolic passage for the day. The Priest, in silence, censes the Altar Table, the Sanctuary, and the Clergy present. Before the Altar Table he recites the prayer:*

P: Shine within our heart, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us, also, reverence for Your commandments, so that having conquered sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You.

For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

At the conclusion of the Apostolic Reading, the Priest blesses the Reader and says:

P: **Peace be with you the Reader.**

R: **And with your spirit.**

C: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
(*With corresponding verses, if any.*)

The Gospel Reading

- P:** Wisdom! Arise!
Let us hear the Holy Gospel.
Peace be with you all. (*Blessing the people.*)
- C:** And with your spirit.
- P:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to.....
- C:** Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.
- P:** Let us be attentive!

The Priest reads from the Holy Gospel and, at the conclusion, blesses the people with the Holy Gospel, while the Choir sings:

- C:** Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

The Priest places the Holy Gospel upon the Holy Altar Table over the Antimension and offers the Homily. At the conclusion of the Homily, the Royal Door is closed, and the Fervent Supplication is intoned. During the Litany, the Priest makes the sign of the Cross over the Antimension with the Holy Gospel, unfolds partially the Antimension and places the Holy Gospel before the Tabernacle.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication

- P:** Let us all say, with our whole soul and our whole mind, let us say:
- C:** Lord, have mercy.
- P:** Lord Almighty, God of our Fathers, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.
- C:** Lord, have mercy.

- P:** Have mercy on us, O God, in Your great mercy;
we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)
- P:** Again we pray for our Father and (Archbishop
or Bishop), the presbyters, the deacons, all the clergy,
and our whole brotherhood in Christ.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)
- P:** Again we pray for our Mother, the
Abbess of the holy Monastery Lavra
Mambre, and her monastic community.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)
- P:** Again we pray for the President of this Republic
and for all civil and military authorities.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)
- P:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation,
and visitation for the servants of God, and for the
forgiveness and remission of their sins.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)
- P:** Again we pray for the blessed and ever to be
remembered founders of this holy Church (holy House,
holy Monastery or Hogar), and for the servants of
God, and for our fathers and brothers who have
gone before us and who, here or elsewhere, have been
laid to pious rest.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)
- P:** Again we pray for those who bear offerings, those who
do good works in this holy and venerable Church (holy
House, Monastery or Hogar), those who serve, those who
sing, and all the people here present who await for
Your great and abundant mercy.
- C:** Lord, have mercy. (3)

P: O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication from your servants, and have mercy upon us according to your great mercy; send your loving kindness upon us and upon all Your people who await to receive from You Your abundant mercy.

For You are a merciful and loving God and to You we send up glory: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Petition for the deceased is usually recited here.

Prayers for the Catechumens

When Catechumens are present, the following prayers are said.

P: Catechumens, pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

This response is said quietly by the Catechumens and the faithful after each petition without interruption.

P: Let us, the faithful, pray for the Catechumens.
That the Lord may have mercy on them.

That He may teach them the Word of Truth.

That He may reveal to them the Gospel of righteousness.

That He may unite them to His Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

Save, have mercy on, help, and protect them,
O God, by Your grace.

P: Catechumens, bow your heads to the Lord.

C: To You, O Lord.

P: O Lord our God, You who dwell in high Heaven and yet look upon the humble, and You who sent your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, for the salvation of the human race, look now upon your servants, the Catechumens, who have bowed their heads to You; and, at the appropriate time, make them worthy to receive the bath of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the garment of incorruption. Unite them to Your Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, and number them among Your elect flock,
**so that they, too, together with us, may glorify
Your most honorable and majestic Name:
of the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now
and forever and to the ages of ages.**

C: Amen.

The Priest makes the sign of the Cross over the Antimension with the Holy Gospel and places it before the Tabernacle. Then, he unfolds completely the Antimension and spreads it out over the Holy Table.

P: All Catechumens depart. Catechumens depart.
Those who are Catechumens, depart.
Let no Catechumens remain.

THE LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

The First Prayer of the Faithful

P: Let us the faithful, again in peace,
pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: We thank You, O Lord God Almighty, for You have made us worthy, once again, to stand before Your Holy Altar and to beseech Your loving kindness for our sins and for the transgressions of the people. Receive, O God, our prayer. Make us indeed worthy to offer You petitions, supplications, and sacrifices, without the shedding of blood, for all Your people. Enable us, whom You have ordained to this service of Yours, by the power of Your Holy Spirit, so that without blame and without any obstacle and in the pure testimony of our conscience, we may call upon You at any time and place, and hearing our prayer, You may be merciful to us, in the abundance of Your goodness.

Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Wisdom!

**For to You is due all glory, honor, and worship:
to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now
and forever and to the ages of ages.**

C: Amen.

The Second Prayer of the Faithful

P: In peace let us again pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Again and often, we bow before You and pray to You, O good and loving God. Hear our supplication: Cleanse our souls and bodies from every defilement of flesh and spirit, and grant that we may stand before Your Holy Altar without blame or condemnation. Grant also, O God, progress in life, faith, and spiritual discernment to the faithful who pray with us, so that they may always worship You with reverence and love, partake of Your Holy Mysteries without blame or condemnation, and become worthy of Your heavenly Kingdom.

Help us, save us, have mercy upon us and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Wisdom!

And grant that always guarded by Your power, we may give glory to You: the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Cherubic Hymn

C: We who mystically represent the Cherubim
sing the thrice holy hymn
to the life-giving Trinity.
Let us set aside all the cares of life...
... that we may receive the King of all.

P: No one bound by worldly desires and pleasures is worthy to approach, draw near, or minister to You, the King of Glory. To serve You is great and awesome, even for the heavenly powers. But because of Your ineffable and immeasurable love for us, You became man without alteration or change. You have served as our High Priest and as Lord of all, and You have entrusted to us the celebration of this liturgical sacrifice, without the shedding of blood. For You alone, Lord our God, rule over all things in Heaven and on earth. You are seated on the throne of the Cherubim, the Lord of the Seraphim and the King of Israel. You alone are holy and dwell among Your Saints. You alone are good and ready to hear. Therefore, I implore You: Look upon me, Your sinful and unworthy servant, and cleanse my soul and heart from evil consciousness. Enable me by the power of Your Holy Spirit so that, vested with the grace of priesthood, I may stand before Your Holy Table and celebrate the mystery of Your holy and pure Body and Your precious Blood. To You I come with bowed head and pray: Do not turn Your face away from me or reject me from among Your children, but make me, Your sinful and unworthy servant, worthy to offer to You these gifts. For You, Christ our God, are the Offerer and the Offered, the Giver and the Receiver, and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Priest recites the Cherubic Hymn three times in a low voice.

P: We who mystically represent the Cherubim
sing the thrice holy hymn
to the life-giving Trinity.
Let us set aside all the cares of life
that we may receive the King of all,
Who is invisibly escorted by the angelic hosts.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The priest censes the Altar, the Icons, and the Congregation from the Royal Doors, while reciting Psalm 50 to verse 17. After making three prostrations before the Holy Altar and venerating the Antimension and the Holy Altar, the Priest bows to the Congregation and says:

Brothers and sisters, forgive me, the sinner.
All: *(silently)* May God forgive you and
have mercy upon you.

The Priest proceeds to the Prothesis, censes the Holy Gifts, makes three prostrations, saying:

O God be merciful and have mercy upon me, a sinner.

The Priest raises the Holy Diskos and the Holy Chalice and makes the Great Entrance, with the Altar Boys leading the procession with the Cross, candles and the censor.

The Procession of the Great Entrance

P: **May the Lord God remember all of you in His Kingdom, now and forever and to the ages of ages.**

C: **Amen.**

(The faithful bow their heads with reverence and say to themselves:

Lord, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom.)

P: May the Lord God remember our Father and (Archbishop or Bishop), and all of our brotherhood in Christ, in His Kingdom, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord God remember our Mother....., Abbess of the Monastery Lavra Mambre, and her monastic community, in His Kingdom, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord God remember the President of the Republic and all civil and military authorities, in His Kingdom, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord God remember in His Kingdom the founders and benefactors of this holy Church, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord God remember in His Kingdom and grant mercy, life, peace, salvation, visitation, forgiveness, and remission of sins to the servants of God, (living), now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord God remember in His Kingdom the servants of God, (deceased), who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection unto eternal life, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: May the Lord God remember all of you, and all pious and Orthodox Christians, in His Kingdom, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

All: *(silently)* May the Lord God remember in His Kingdom you, His Priest, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: ...Who is invisibly escorted by the angelic hosts.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Priest places the Holy Gifts upon the Holy Altar, the Chalice to the right and the Paten to the left, reciting the following:

P: The noble Joseph, after taking down
Your sacred Body from the Cross,
wrapped it in a clean shroud with aromatic spices
and laid it in a new sepulchre.

O Christ, as God, You were in the tomb bodily
and in Hades with Your soul;
You were also in Paradise with the thief
and on the throne together with the Father and the Spirit,
fulfilling all things, O indescribable One.

O Christ, Your tomb is life-bearing,
truly more beautiful than Paradise,
more splendid than any royal chamber
and the source of our own resurrection.

The Priest removes the covers from the Holy Paten and the Holy Chalice and sets them aside on the Altar. Then he covers the Holy Gifts with the large cover, the Aera, and censes them, saying:

P: The noble Joseph, after taking down
Your sacred Body from the Cross,
wrapped it in a clean shroud with aromatic spices
and laid it in a new sepulchre.

O Lord, do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then wilt Thou delight in right
sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then
bulls will be offered on Thy Altar.

The Royal Doors are closed.

The Litany of Petitions of the Faithful

P: Let us complete our prayer to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: For the precious Gifts here presented,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

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

C: Lord have mercy.

P: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger,
and distress, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us,
and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

C: Lord have mercy.

- P:** For a perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless day, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For all that is good and beneficial to our souls, and for peace in the world, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For the completion of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For a Christian end to our lives, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good account before the awesome Judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the + Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary...
- C:** Most Holy Theotokos intercede for us.
- P:** ...with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.
- C:** To You, O Lord.

The Prayer of the Offering

P: Lord, God Almighty, You alone are Holy. You accept a sacrifice of praise from those who call upon You with their whole heart. Receive also the prayer of us sinners, and let it reach Your Holy Altar. Enable us to bring before You gifts and spiritual sacrifices for our sins and for the transgressions of the people. Make us worthy to find grace in Your presence so that our sacrifice may be pleasing to You, and that Your good and gracious Spirit may abide with us, with the gifts here presented, and with all Your people.

Through the mercies of Your only-begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Priest turns to the people and blesses them.

P: Peace be with you all.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Let us love one another that with one mind we may confess:

C: + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
Trinity, one in essence and inseparable.

The Priest makes three prostrations, kisses the Holy Gifts, the Holy Altar, and says the following:

P: I love You, Lord, my strength.
The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer.

I bow down and worship the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the consubstantial Trinity.

At this time, the embrace of love and peace is offered by the concelebrating clergy.

One says: Christ is in our midst!

The other responds: He was and is and shall be!

P: **The doors! Guard the doors!**
Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

The Royal Door is opened. The Priest raises the Aera, the large Cover, moving it back and forth above the Holy Gifts, as he too recites the Creed to himself.

The Creed – The Symbol of the Faith

All:

**I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
the Creator of Heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all ages,
Light of Light, True God of True God,
begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father,
through whom all things were made.
For us and for our salvation,
He came down from Heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and became man.**

**He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate,
and He suffered and was buried.
On the third day He rose according to the Scriptures.
He ascended into Heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His Kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life,
Who proceeds from the Father,
Who together with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
Who spoke through the Prophets.
I believe in One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
I expect the Resurrection of the dead,
and the Life of the age to come. Amen.**

The Holy Anaphora

- P:** Let us stand well! Let us stand in awe!
Let us be attentive, that we may present
the Holy Offering in peace!
- C:** A mercy offering of peace, a sacrifice of praise.
- P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God the Father,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with all of you.
- C:** And with your spirit.
- P:** Let us lift up our hearts!

C: We lift them up to the Lord!

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord!

C: It is proper and right to worship the + Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: Trinity, one in essence and inseparable.

The Royal Doors are shut. During the week, the faithful kneel.

The Great Eucharistic Prayer

P: It is proper and right to sing to You, bless You, praise You, thank You, and worship You in all places of Your dominion; for You are God ineffable, beyond comprehension, invisible, beyond understanding, existing forever and always the same; You and Your only begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit. You brought us into being out of nothing, and when we fell, You raised us up again. You did not cease doing everything until You led us to Heaven and granted us Your Kingdom to come. For all these things, we thank You and Your only-begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit; for all things that we know and do not know, for blessings seen and unseen that have been bestowed upon us.

We also thank You for this Liturgy, which You are pleased to accept from our hands, even though You are surrounded by thousands of Archangels and tens of thousands of Angels, by the Cherubim and the Seraphim, six-winged, many-eyed, soaring with wings...

**...singing the victory hymn,
proclaiming, crying out, and saying:**

C: **Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth,
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of Lord.
Hosanna to God in the highest.**

P: Together with these blessed powers, merciful Master, we also proclaim and say: You are Holy and most Holy, You and Your only-begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit. You are Holy and most Holy, and sublime is Your glory. You so loved Your world that You gave Your only-begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. He came and fulfilled the divine plan for us. On the night when He was delivered up, or rather when He gave Himself up for the life of the world, He took bread in His holy, pure, and blameless hands, gave thanks, blessed, sanctified, broke, and gave it to His holy Disciples and Apostles, saying:

**+ Take. Eat. This is My Body
which is broken for you,
for the forgiveness of sins.**

C: **Amen.**

P: Likewise, after supper, He took the cup, saying:

**+ Drink of it all of you.
This is My Blood of the New Covenant,
which is shed for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.**

C: **Amen.**

P: Remembering, therefore, this command of the Savior, and all that came to pass for our sake: the Cross, the Tomb, the Resurrection on the third day, the Ascension into Heaven, the Enthronement at the right hand of the Father, and the second, glorious Coming...

The Priest, crossing his arms, raises the Holy Gifts - the Paten with his right hand and the Chalice with his left - saying:

P: ...We offer to You these Gifts, from Your own Gifts, in all and for all.

C: We praise You. We bless You.
We give thanks to You,
O Lord, and we pray to You, our God.

**The Invocation of the Holy Spirit
and the Consecration of the Holy Gifts**

As the Choir sings the above hymn, the Priest places the Holy Gifts upon the Antimension, makes three prostrations, praying fervently:

P: O Lord, cleanse me of my sin and have mercy on me.

On the third hour, O Lord, You sent Your Holy Spirit upon Your Apostles; O Good Lord, do not deprive us of Him, but bestow the Holy Spirit upon us, who pray to You.

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

On the third hour, O Lord, You sent Your Holy Spirit upon Your Apostles; O Good Lord, do not deprive us of Him, but bestow the Holy Spirit upon us, who pray to You.

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

On the third hour, O Lord, You sent Your Holy Spirit
upon Your Apostles; O Good Lord, do not deprive us of
Him, but bestow the Holy Spirit upon us, who pray to You.

*The Priest, with bowed head and deep devotion before the Holy
Gifts, invokes the Holy Spirit:*

P: Once again, we offer to You this spiritual worship
without the shedding of blood, and we ask, pray, and entreat
You: Send down Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these
gifts here presented.

The Priest, making a solemn blessing above the Holy Bread, says:

P: **And make this bread the precious Body of Your Christ.**
All: **+ Amen.**

The Priest, making a solemn blessing above the Chalice, says:

P: **And that which is in this cup**
the precious Blood of Your Christ.
All: **+ Amen.**

*The Priest, making a solemn blessing over both of the Holy Gifts,
says:*

P: **Changing them by Your Holy Spirit.**
All: **+ Amen. Amen. Amen.**

The Priest, making a deep prostration, continues to pray:

P: So that they may be to those who partake of them for vigilance of soul, forgiveness of sins, communion of Your Holy Spirit, fulfillment of the Kingdom of Heaven, confidence before You, and not in judgment or condemnation.

We offer this spiritual worship also for those who repose in the faith: Forefathers, Fathers, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Preachers, Evangelists, Martyrs, Confessors, Ascetics, and for every righteous spirit made perfect in faith...

On weekdays, the faithful kneeling stand up. The Priest censens the Holy Gifts and exclaims:

P: Especially for our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the + Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary.

The Priest censens around the Altar Table and commemorates the living and the deceased at the back of the Altar, while the Choir sings:

C: It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever-blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim. Without corruption you gave birth to God the Word. We magnify you, the true Theotokos.

During great Feast Days, instead of this hymn, other appropriate Megalitaria hymns are sung.

During the period of Pascha

The Angel announced to the One who is full of grace:
Rejoice, O Pure Virgin, and again I say, Rejoice!
Your Son has risen from the grave on the third day.

Be bright, be bright, O new Jerusalem;
For the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
Now, rejoice and be glad, O Zion.
And You, O pure Mother of God, delight
at the resurrection of your Son.

P: For Saint John the prophet, forerunner, and baptist;
for the holy, glorious, and most honorable Apostles; for
Saint....., whose memory we commemorate today; and for
all Your Saints, through whose supplications, O God, bless
us.

Remember also all who have fallen asleep in the
hope of resurrection unto eternal life... (*names of the
deceased are here commemorated*)... And grant them rest,
our God, where the light of Your countenance shines.

Again, we ask You, Lord, remember all Orthodox
bishops who rightly teach the word of Your truth, all
presbyters, all deacons in the service of Christ, and every one
in holy monastic orders.

We also offer to You this spiritual worship for the
whole world; for the Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church;
for those living in purity and holiness; for our civic leaders in
public service. Permit them, Lord, to serve and govern in
peace that through the faithful conduct of their duties we may
live peaceful and serene lives in all piety and holiness.

P: Above all, remember, Lord, our Father and (Archbishop or Bishop) N....., grant that he may serve Your holy churches in peace. Keep him safe, honorable, and healthy for many years, rightly teaching the word of Your truth.

C: Amen.

P: Remember also, Lord, those whom each of us calls to mind, and all Your people...

C: And all Your people.

P: Remember, Lord, the city in which we live, every city and country, and the faithful who dwell in them.

Remember, Lord, the travelers, the sick, the suffering, and the captives, granting them protection and salvation.

Remember, Lord, those who do charitable work, who serve in Your holy churches, and who remember to care for the poor. And send Your mercy upon us all.

Here the Antidoron is presented to the Priest, who blesses it above the Holy Gifts, so that it may be distributed to the faithful at the end of the Divine Liturgy. After the blessing, the Priest says:

P: And grant that with one voice and one heart we may glorify and praise Your most honored and majestic Name: of the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Priest turns to face the people and blesses them, saying:

P: The mercy of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,
be with all of you.

C: And with your spirit.

Preparation for Holy Communion

The Petitions before the Lord's Prayer

P: Having remembered all the Saints,
let us again in peace pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: For the precious Gifts offered and consecrated,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: That our loving God, Who has received them at His
holy, heavenly, and spiritual Altar as an offering of
spiritual fragrance, may in return send upon us divine
grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath,
danger, and distress, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and protect us,
O God, by Your grace.

C: Lord have mercy.

- P:** For a perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless day,
let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For an angel of peace, a faithful guide,
a guardian of our souls and bodies,
let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and
transgressions, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For all that is good and beneficial to our souls, and for
peace in the world, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For the completion of our lives in peace and
repentance, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** For a Christian end to our lives, peaceful, without
shame and suffering, and for a good account before the
awesome Judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord.
- C:** Grant this, O Lord.
- P:** Having prayed for the unity of the faith and for the
communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commit ourselves,
and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.
- C:** To You, O Lord.

P: We entrust to You, loving Master, our whole life and hope, and we ask, pray, and entreat You:
Make us worthy to partake of Your heavenly and awesome Mysteries upon this holy and spiritual Table with a clear conscience, unto remission of sins, forgiveness of transgressions, communion of the Holy Spirit, inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven, confidence before You, and not in judgement or condemnation.
And make us worthy, Master, with confidence and without fear of condemnation, to dare call You, the heavenly God, 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.**

P: For Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: Peace be with you all.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

C: To You, O Lord.

P: We give thanks to You, invisible King. By Your infinite power You created all things, and by Your great mercy You brought everything from nothing into being. Master, look down from Heaven upon those who have bowed their heads before You; they have bowed not before flesh and blood but before You the awesome God. Therefore, Master, guide the course of our life for our benefit, according to the need of each of us. Sail with those who sail; travel with those who travel; and heal the sick, Physician of our souls and bodies.

By the grace, mercy, and love for us of Your only-begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, our God, hear us from Your holy dwelling place and from the glorious throne of Your Kingdom. You are enthroned on high with the Father and are also invisibly present among us. Come and sanctify us, and let Your pure Body and precious Blood be given to us by Your mighty hand and through us to all Your people.

The Priest makes three prostrations before the holy Altar Table and prays for himself:

P: O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and have mercy upon me. (3)

Let us be attentive!

The Priest bows slightly to receive the holy Bread with both hands, raises it, making the sign of the Cross, and exclaims solemnly:

P: The Holy Gifts for the holy people of God!

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

The Communion Hymn

C: Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise Him in the highest!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The holy Offering Bread has a seal at the center, with the letters IC XC NI KA, which signify "Jesus Christ conquers." As the Priest prepares the Holy Gifts for Communion, he first separates the "Lamb" (the consecrated Bread) into four portions IC, XC, NI, KA, and says:

P: The Lamb of God is broken and distributed,
broken but not divided.
He is forever eaten, yet is never consumed,
but He sanctifies those who partake of Him.

The Priest then positions the four portions on the Paten in the form of a Cross:

IC	<i>This portion is placed in the Chalice first.</i>
NI	KA <i>These portions are for the people.</i>
XC	<i>This portion is for the clergy.</i>

Taking the portion marked IC, the Priest makes the sign of the Cross over the Chalice and places it in the Chalice, saying:
The fullness of the Chalice, of the Faith, of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Priest receives and blesses the hot water, saying:
Blessed is the fervor of Your Saints, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Priest pours, in the shape of a cross, as much hot water as is needed into the Chalice, saying:

The warmth of faith, full of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Priest bows his head and says reverently the following Communion Prayers.

Prayers for the Preparation of Holy Communion

All:

**I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
who came into the world to save sinners,
of whom I am the first.**

**I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body
and that this is truly Your precious Blood.**

**Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me,
and forgive my transgressions,
voluntary and involuntary,
in word and deed, known and unknown;**

**And make me worthy without condemnation
to partake of Your pure Mysteries,
for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen.**

**Receive me today, Son of God,
as a partaker of Your mystical Supper.
I will not reveal Your mystery to Your adversaries,
nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas;
but as the thief I confess to You:
Lord, remember me in Your Kingdom.**

**May the communion of Your Holy Mysteries,
O Lord, be not unto my judgment and condemnation,
but unto the healing of my soul and body.**

The Priest turns to the people, bows to them, and says:
Brothers and sisters, forgive me.

The Priest approaches to receive of the consecrated Bread, saying:
Behold, I approach Christ, our immortal King and God.

The Priest takes a piece from the portion marked XC, places it upon his right palm and eats it, saying:

The precious and most holy Body of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is given to me....., the unworthy priest, for the forgiveness of my sins and eternal life. Amen.

The Priest then raises the holy Chalice, together with the Communion cloth, and says:

The precious and most holy and life-giving Blood of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is given to me....., the unworthy priest, for the forgiveness of my sins and eternal life. Amen.

The Priest drinks three times from the holy Chalice, saying:

In the Name of the Father. Amen.

And the Son. Amen.

And the Holy Spirit.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Priest wipes the Chalice and his lips with the Communion cloth and says:

This has touched my lips,
taking away my transgressions and cleansing my sins.

Then transferring the remaining portions of the consecrated Bread (the NI and the KA) into the Chalice, says:

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One. We venerate Your Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Your holy Resurrection. You are our God.

We know no other than You, and we call upon Your Name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate the holy Resurrection of Christ. For behold, through the Cross joy has come to all the world. Blessing the Lord always, let us praise His Resurrection. For enduring the Cross for us, He destroyed death by death.

Be bright, be bright, O new Jerusalem! For the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you. Now you may rejoice and be glad, O Zion. And You, O pure Mother of God, delight at the resurrection of your Son.

How divine, how delightful, how most sweet is Your voice, O Christ, for You promised in truth to be with us until the end of this age. Holding onto this promise as an anchor of hope, we, the faithful, rejoice.

O Christ, You are the great and most sacred Pascha! O Wisdom, O Power, and the Word of God! Grant that we may partake more perfectly of You, in the unending day of Your Kingdom.

The Royal Door is opened and the Priest raises the holy Chalice in the direction of the people and says:

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

**C: God is Lord and has revealed Himself to us.
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.**

The Orthodox faithful who are prepared approach with reverence, humility, and devotion to receive Holy Communion. To each communicant, the Priest says:

P: The servant of God (name), receives the Body and Blood of Christ, our Savior and God, for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal.

While the faithful are receiving Holy Communion, the Choir sings:

**C: Receive the Body of Christ!
 Taste of the Immortal Fountain of Life!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

After everyone has received Holy Communion, the Priest blesses the people with the covered Chalice, saying:

P: O God, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance.

**C: We have seen the true light; We have received the
 heavenly Spirit; We have found the true faith,
 worshiping the undivided Trinity.
 For the Trinity has saved us.**

During the Great Feast Days, the appropriate feast day hymn is sung here.

During the period of Pascha

**C: Christ is risen from the dead,
 trampling down death by death,
 and to those in the tombs bestowing life.**

The Priest carefully transfers the remaining portions on the Paten into the Chalice, places the covers on the Paten and censes the Holy Gifts saying:

**P: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens,
 and let Your glory be over all the earth. (3)**

Facing the Altar, the Priest raises the covered Chalice and the Paten with the folded covers and the communion spoon upon it, and says:

Blessed is our God,

*Then, turning to the Congregation, the Priest blesses and says:
always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.*

C: Amen.

The Priest proceeds to the Prothesis where he places the Holy Gifts and censes them.

**C: Let our mouth be filled with Your praise, Lord,
that we may sing of Your glory.
You have made us worthy to partake of
Your Holy Mysteries.
Keep us in Your holiness, that all the day long
we may meditate upon Your righteousness.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

During the period of Pascha

**C: Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs bestowing life.**

Returning before the Holy Altar, the Priest folds the Antimension and says:

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

C: Lord have mercy.

**P: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us,
and protect us, O God, by Your grace.**

C: Lord have mercy.

P: Having prayed for a perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless day, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

C: To You, O Lord.

P: We thank You, loving Master, Benefactor of our souls, that on this day You have made us worthy once again of Your heavenly and immortal Mysteries. Direct our ways in the right path, establish us firmly in Your fear, guard our lives, and make our endeavors safe, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and of all Your Saints.

The Priest raises the Holy Gospel, makes the sign of the Cross over the Antimension, and exclaims:

P: For You are our sanctification, and to You we give glory: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Priest places the Holy Gospel upon the folded Antimension on the Holy Altar and, turning to the people, says:

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: In the Name of the Lord.

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

The Prayer Behind the Ambon

P: Lord, bless those who praise You, and sanctify those who trust in You. Save Your people, and bless Your inheritance. Protect the whole body of Your Church. Sanctify those who love the beauty of Your house. Glorify them in return by Your divine power, and do not forsake us who hope in You. Grant peace to Your world, to Your churches, to the clergy, to those in public service, to the armed forces, and to all Your people. For every good and perfect gift is from above, coming from You, the Father of lights. To You we give glory, thanksgiving, and worship: to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

+ Blessed is the Name of the Lord,
both now and to the ages. (3)

During the period of Pascha

C: Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs bestowing life. (3)

Turning to the Prothesis where the Holy Gifts have been placed, the Priest prays in a low voice:

P: Christ our God, You are the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. You have fulfilled all the dispensation of the Father. Fill our hearts with joy and gladness always, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Final Blessing

P: Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

The Priest turns to the people and blesses them.

P: May the blessing of the Lord and His mercy come upon you, through His divine grace and love always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

Turning to the holy Icon of Christ, the Priest says:

P: Glory to You, O God, our hope, glory to You.

C: Glory to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord have mercy. (3)

Father, give the blessing.

During the period of Pascha

C: Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs bestowing life. (3)

P: May Christ our true God, -who rose from the dead-,
(or insert phrase of the feast day)
through the intercessions of His most pure and holy
Mother; the power of the precious and life-giving
Cross;
the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of
Heaven;
the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet,
and forerunner John the Baptist;
of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles;
of the holy, glorious, and triumphant Martyrs;
of our holy and God-bearing Fathers;
of Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of
Constantinople, whose divine Liturgy we have
celebrated today;
of St. *(patron of this Church)*;
of the holy and righteous ancestors of the Lord,
Joachim and Anna;
of Saint..... *(the Saints of the day)*, whose memory we
celebrate today; and of all the Saints – have mercy
upon us and save us, as a good and merciful God Who
loves mankind.

The Priest turns again toward the holy Icon of Christ and says:

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

C: Amen.

Blessing the Congregation with the Cross, the Priest says:

P: May the Holy Trinity protect all of you, always,
now and forever and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

The Antidoron

The Priest offers the holy Cross for the faithful to venerate. While he is distributing the Antidoron, the Priest says to each person:

P: May the blessing and mercy of the Lord be with you.

To the last person in line the Priest finally says:

P: May the blessing, the grace, and the mercy of the Lord come upon you by His divine grace and love for mankind, always, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

C: Amen.

* * *

Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion

Reader: Glory to You, our God, glory to You. (3)

First Prayer of St. Basil the Great

I thank You, Lord my God, that You have not rejected me, a sinner, but have made me worthy to partake of Your Holy mysteries. I thank You that You have permitted me, although I am unworthy, to receive Your pure and heavenly Gifts. O loving Master, who died and rose for our sake, and granted to us these awesome and life-giving Mysteries for the well-being and sanctification of our souls and bodies, let these Gifts be for healing of my own soul and body, the averting of every evil, the illumination of the eyes of my heart, the peace of my spiritual powers, a faith unashamed, a love unfeigned, the fulfilling of wisdom, the observing of Your commandments, the receiving of Your divine grace, and the inheritance of Your Kingdom. Preserved by them in Your holiness, may I always be mindful of Your grace and no longer live for myself but for You, our Master and Benefactor. May I pass from this life in the hope of eternal life and attain to the everlasting rest, where the voices of Your Saints who feast are unceasing and their joy, beholding the ineffable beauty of Your countenance, is unending. For You, Christ our God, are the true Joy and Gladness of those who love You, and all creation praises You forever. Amen.

Second Prayer of St. Basil the Great

I thank You, O Christ who are Lord and God, King of the ages and Creator of all things, for all the good things You have given me, and especially for the participation in Your pure and life-giving Mysteries. I pray You, therefore, good and loving Lord, keep me under Your protection and

under the shadow of Your wings. Grant that to my last breath I may with a pure conscience partake worthily of Your Gifts for the forgiveness of sins and for eternal life. For You are the Bread of Life, the Source of holiness, the Giver of all good things, and to You we give glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Third Prayer of St. Symeon the Metaphrastes

You, who willingly give me Your Flesh as nourishment, You, who are fire consuming the unworthy, scorch me not, O my Creator; rather, pass through me to unite my members, to be in all my joints, my inner parts, and my heart. Burn up the thorns of all my offenses; purify my soul; sanctify my mind; make firm my knees and my bones also; enlighten the simple unity of my five senses; concentrate all of me upon the awesome fear of You. Ever shelter, guard, and protect me from every deed and word that corrupts the soul. Purify me, cleanse me, and order me aright; make me comely, prudent, and enlightened; render me to be a dwelling only of Your Spirit, and no longer a habitation of sin; and being Your abode through the reception of Communion, may every evil-doer and passion flee from me as from fire. As intercessors I bring to You all the Saints, the leaders of the orders of the incorporeal Angels, The Forerunner, the wise Apostles, and with these, Your pure and spotless Mother. Receive the prayers of all these, O my compassionate Christ, and make Your devotee into a child of light. For You alone, O Good One, are the Sanctification, and the Illumination of our souls, and to You, as befitting our God and Master, we all send up glory each and every day.

Fourth Prayer of St. Cyril of Alexandria

May Your holy Body, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, be unto me for eternal life, and Your precious Blood for the forgiveness of sins. And may this Eucharist be unto me for joy, health, and gladness. And in Your dread Second Coming, make me, the sinner, worthy to stand at the right hand of Your glory, through the intercessions of Your all-immaculate Mother and of Your Saints. Amen.

Fifth Prayer to the All-holy Theotokos

All-holy Lady Theotokos, the light of my darkened soul, my hope and protection, my refuge and consolation, and my joy, I thank You that You have made me, the unworthy one, to be a worthy communicant of the immaculate Body and precious Blood of Your Son. And as the one who gave birth to the True Light, enlighten the spiritual eyes of my heart. As the one who gave birth to the source of immortality, give life to me who am dead through sin. As the compassionate Mother of the merciful God, have mercy upon me, and grant contrition and compunction to my heart, humility to my mind, and recollection of my thoughts from their captivity to distraction. And make me worthy, until my last breath, to receive without condemnation the sanctification of the immaculate Mysteries unto healing of both soul and body. And grant me tears of repentance and of confession, that I may hymn and glorify You all the days of my life. For blessed and glorified are You unto the ages. Amen.

After completing the distribution of the Antidoron, the Priest enters the Sanctuary and at the Prothesis consumes the Holy Gifts with great care and attention. Then, he removes his vestments and says the following prayer:

P: Lord, now You may let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for mine eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.

R: + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,
have mercy on us. (3)

+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins.
Master, pardon our transgressions.
Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities,
for the glory of Your name.

Lord have mercy. (3)

+ Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the 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
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

P: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the
glory of the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now
and forever and to the ages of ages.

R: Amen.

The Troparion Hymn of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 8)

L: The grace, shining forth from your mouth like a beacon of light, has illumined the universe;
it has deposited treasures of generosity to the world;
and has demonstrated for us the height of humility.
But as you instruct us with your words,
O Father John Chrysostom,
intercede to the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

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

The Kontakion Hymn of St. John Chrysostom (Tone 6)

You received divine grace from Heaven,
and you teach all through your inspired words
to worship the One God in Trinity,
O John Chrysostom, all-blessed and righteous.
It is right for us to acclaim you,
for you are indeed a teacher revealing divine truth.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Theotokion Hymn (Tone 6)

A protection of Christians unshamable,
an intercession to the Creator unwavering,
do not reject the prayerful cries of those who are in sin;
but come quickly to us, as one who is good;
and Your loving help bring to us,
who are faithfully crying out to You:
Hasten to intercede and quicken to supplicate,
for You are the one who always protects
those who honor You, O Theotokos.

Lord have mercy. (12)

C: + Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim,
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim,
without corruption You gave birth to God the Word;
we magnify You, as truly Theotokos.

P: Glory to You, Christ our God and our hope,
glory to You.

C: Glory to the + Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord have mercy. (3)

Father, give the blessing.

During the period of Pascha

C: Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and to those in the tombs bestowing life. (3)

May Christ our true God, -Who rose from the dead-
(or other appropriate phrase noting the feast day),
through the intercessions of His most pure and most
immaculate Mother; of our father among the saints, John
Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople;
of St. *(of the church)*, Patron of this community; of the
holy and righteous ancestors of the Lord, Joachim and
Anna; of St. ...*(of the day)*, whose memory we celebrate
today, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save
us as a good and loving and merciful God.

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

C: Amen.

The celebrant Priest, making prostrations before the Holy Altar and thanking God for everything, leaves the Holy Temple in peace.
