

**The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
Fifth Saturday of Lent: The Akathist Hymn**

Maui Orthodox Christian Mission

Metropolis of San Francisco

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Service held at Saint Theresa Church

Kihei, Maui, Hawaii

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**Maui Orthodox Christian Mission Project
for a Daily Sequential Hymnal in English**

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DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

LITURGY OF THE CATECHUMENS

rites of entrance

NOTE: If a hierarch is celebrating the Divine Liturgy, whenever his name is mentioned, or whenever he gives the blessing of peace, the response of the people is “Is polla eti Dhespota,” or “Many years to you, Master.”

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

People: Amen.

THE GREAT LITANY (*The Great Ektenia*)

Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the peace of God and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our Archbishop (Name), the honorable presbyters, the deacons in the service of Christ, and all the clergy and laity, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our country, the president, and all those in public service, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this parish and city, for every city and town, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For favorable weather, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and temperate seasons, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON (Through The Intercessions)

Mode 2.

(The designated verses from the Psalms are sung with the hymn:)

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.
2. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.
3. The Lord has prepared his throne in the heavens; and His kingdom rules over all.

(Verses above are to be intoned on G by a solo chanter before the refrain below.)

People: Through the in - ter - ces - sions of the The - o - to - kos, Sav-iour save us. (3)

THE FIRST LITTLE EKTENIA

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON (O Son of God)

Mode 2.

(The designated verses from the Psalms are sung with the hymn:)

1. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord; I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.
2. Happy is he that has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God.
3. The Lord shall reign for ever; even your God, O Zion, unto all generations.

(Verses above are to be intoned on G by a solo chanter before the refrain below.)

People: (On weekdays we sing "Who art wondrous in the Saints.")

Save us, O Son of God, Who art ris - en from the dead,

as we chant to Thee: Al - le - lu - i - a. (3).

Only Begotten Son

People: 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, becoming 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.

THE SECOND LITTLE EKTENIA

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

(The designated verses of the Psalms are sung with the Apolytikion.)

THE SMALL ENTRANCE**APOLYTIKION***Saturday of the Akathist Hymn**Mode pl. 4.*

When the bodiless one learned the secret command, in haste he came and stood before Joseph's dwelling, and spake unto the Maiden who knew not wedlock: The One Who hath bowed the Heavens by His descent is held and contained unchanging wholly in thee. Seeing Him receiving the form of a servant in thy womb, I stand in awe and cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded.

(While the Apolytikion is sung, the priest carrying the holy Gospel Book comes in procession before the Beautiful Gate of the ikonostasis offering in a low voice the following prayer:) 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 the entrance saying in a low voice:) Blessed is the entrance of Your saints always, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

INTROIT*Come Let Us Worship*

(He then raises the Holy Gospel Book and says:)

Priest: Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

People: (On weekdays we sing "Who art wondrous in the Saints," while the Feasts of the Lord have their own Entrance Hymns.)

Come, let us wor - ship and fall down be - fore Christ.

Save us, O Son of God, Who art ris - en from the dead,
as we chant to Thee: Al - le - lu - i - a.

(The priest enters the sanctuary. The Apolytikion is repeated and the Troparion of the church and the Kontakion of the day are sung.)

APOLYTIKION*Saturday of the Akathist Hymn**Mode pl. 4.*

When the bodiless one learned the secret command, in haste he came and stood before Joseph's dwelling, and spake unto the Maiden who knew not wedlock: The One Who hath bowed the Heavens by His descent is held and contained unchanging wholly in thee. Seeing Him receiving the form of a servant in thy womb, I stand in awe and cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded.

TROPARION OF THE CHURCH

The Holy Great Sovereigns and Equals to the Apostles Constantine and Helen

May 21. Mode 4.

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Friend of man.

KONTAKION

Saturday of the Akathist Hymn

Mode pl. 4.

To thee, the Champion Leader, we thy flock dedicate * a feast of victory and of thanksgiving, * as ones rescued out of suff'rings, O Theotokos. * But as thou art one with might which is invincible, * from all dangers that can be do thou deliver us, * that we may cry to thee: * Rejoice, thou Bride unwedded!

THE TRISAGION HYMN

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Priest: Again, fervently.

(The priest, turning towards the Prothesis, says in a low voice:) Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. 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.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

RITES OF PROCLAMATION

THE READINGS

The Epistle

Priest: Let us be attentive.

(The Reader reads the verses from the Gospel of Luke.)

[Prokeimenon. Mode 3. Luke 1:46-48]

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Verse: For he has regarded the humility of his servant.

Priest: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

Priest: Let us be attentive.

(*The Reader reads the designated Apostolic pericope.) [Hebrews 9:1-7]

BRETHREN, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

Priest: Peace be with you.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Priest (in a low voice): Shine within our hearts, 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 blessed commandments, so that having conquered all 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.

The Holy Gospel

Priest: Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. Let us be attentive.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

(*The Priest reads the designated pericope of the holy Gospel.) [The Gospel of Luke 1:39-49, 56]

In those days, Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

THE HOMILY

(Following the readings, it is customary for the priest to proclaim the Gospel.)

LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest (in a low voice): Again, 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. Priest: 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.

THE CHERUBIC HYMN

People: Amen. We who mystically represent the Cherubim, represent the Cherubim,
We sing to the life giving Trinity, the life giving Trinity,
The Trinity, Trinity, The Trinity,
the thrice Holy hymn, We sing, The Thrice Holy hymn,
Let us lay aside all the cares of this life, let us lay aside the cares of this life,
the cares of this life, of this life.

That we may receive the King, receive the King of all, the King of all.

(While the Cherubic Hymn is being sung, the Priest prays in a low voice:) 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 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 One who receives and is distributed, 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 censes and recites in a low voice the “Cherubic Hymn,” “Having Beheld Christ’s Resurrection” (on Sundays), and the 50th Psalm. Then the Great Entrance takes place.)

THE GREAT ENTRANCE WITH THE HOLY GIFTS

Priest: May the Lord God remember all of you in His kingdom, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

By angelic hosts invisibly escorted by angelic hosts,
escorted by angelic hosts.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

(The priest enters the sanctuary, while the people sing the end of the Cherubic Hymn.)

(After placing the holy gifts on the holy Table, the priest says:)

THE PETITIONS (The Litany of Supplication)

Priest: Let us complete our prayer to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the precious gifts here presented, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For a perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless day, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For all that is good and beneficial to our souls, and for peace in the world, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For the completion of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: 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.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

PRAYER OF THE PROSKOMIDE (Prayer of the Offering)

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

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

(The Priest kisses the holy Gifts saying:) I love You, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer.

THE KISS OF PEACE

(At this time it is customary for the kiss of peace to be exchanged.)

(In the early Church, at this point, all the Faithful present would exchange the greeting of peace and love. One would say: “Christ is in our midst!” And the other would respond: “He was and is and shall always be!” This ancient and beautiful greeting, still exchanged by concelebrating Clergy, is being restored and practiced today by the Faithful in many Parishes.)

People: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Trinity One in essence and inseparable.

Priest: Guard the doors. Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

THE CREED (The Symbol of Faith)

People: I believe in one God, Father Almighty, 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.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge the living and dead. His kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.

In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE HOLY ANAPHORA

Priest: Let us stand well. Let us stand in awe. Let us be attentive, that we may present the holy offering in peace.

People: An offering 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 all of you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us lift up our hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: It is proper and right.

Priest (in a low voice): 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 Seraphim, six-winged, many-eyed, soaring with their wings,

The Victory Hymn

Priest: Singing the victory hymn, proclaiming, crying out, and saying:

Mode 2.

People: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and the earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna to God in the highest.

Priest (in a low voice): 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 betrayed, 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:

Priest: Take, eat, this is my Body which is broken for you for the forgiveness of sins.

People: Amen.

Priest (in a low voice): Likewise, after supper, He took the cup, saying:

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

(The Congregation kneels carefully and quietly)

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: We offer to You these gifts from Your own gifts in all and for all.

EPIKLESIS (The Invocation and Consecration)

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: And make this bread the precious Body of Your Christ.

Amen.

Priest: And that which is in this cup the precious Blood of Your Christ.

Amen.

Priest: Changing them by Your Holy Spirit.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Priest: 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.

With Hymns We Praise You

People: We praise, we praise You, and we bless, we bless You.

Thanks, we give to You, to You O Lord.

Fervently we pray to You, to You our God.

COMMEMORATION OF SAINTS

Priest: (The Priest continues the Eucharist Prayer) Again, we offer this spiritual worship 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. (The Congregation stands carefully and quietly)

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

MEGALYNARION**Katavasia***Mode 4.***Ode ix**

All you born on earth, * with festival lamps in hand, in spirit leap for joy; * heavenly intelligences * of incorporeal Angels, celebrate * and honor thus the sacred feast of the Mother of God, * crying loudly: * “O rejoice, all-blessed one, * ever-virgin and pure, who gave birth to God.”

Priest (in a low voice): For Saint John the prophet, forerunner, and baptist; for the holy glorious and most honorable Apostles, for Saints(s) (Name(s)) 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. (Here the priest commemorates the names of the deceased.) 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 orders. We also offer to You this spiritual worship for the whole world, for the holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and for those living in purity and holiness. And for all those 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.

Priest: Above all, remember, Lord, our Archbishop (Name): 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.

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

People: And all Your people.

Priest (in a low voice): 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 care for the poor. And send Your mercy upon us all.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

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

People: And with your spirit.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Priest: Having remembered all the saints, let us again in peace pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest (in a low voice): We entrust to You, loving Master, our whole life and hope, and we ask, pray, and entreat: make us worthy to partake of your heavenly and awesome Mysteries from this holy and spiritual Table with a clear conscience; for the remission of sins, forgiveness of transgressions, communion of the Holy Spirit, inheritance of the kingdom of heaven, confidence before You, and not in judgment or condemnation.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: And make us worthy, Master, with confidence and without fear of condemnation, to dare call You, the heavenly God, FATHER, and to say:

People: 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 evil.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

Bowing of Heads

Priest: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

THE COMMUNION AND DISMISSAL**PRAYERS AND HYMNS**

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: Let us be attentive.

Priest: The holy Gifts for the holy people of God.

One Is Holy

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

THE COMMUNION HYMN

I will take the cup of salvation

Mode 1. Psalm 115:4.

People: I will take * the cup of salvation, * and I will call * upon the name * of the Lord.
* Alleluia.

- (1) My vows unto the Lord will I pay in the presence of all His people. (Psalm 115:5)
- (2) Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. (Psalm 115:6)
- (3) O Lord, I am Thy servant; I am Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaid. Thou hast broken my bonds asunder. (Psalm 115:7)

* * *

Priest (After the fraction of the sacred Bread, the priest says in a low voice): 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.

(Then the priest places a portion of the sacred Bread in the Cup saying:) The fullness of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(He then blesses the warm water saying:) Blessed is the fervor of Your saints, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

(Pouring the water into the Cup crosswise, he says:) The warmth of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* * * * *

The Communion Prayers

(The Communion Prayers are recited silently by those prepared to receive the holy Mysteries.)

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.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me.

Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of the future life and kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

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.

* * *

(The Priest prepares to receive holy Communion.)

Priest: Behold, I approach Christ, our immortal King and God.

The precious and most holy Body of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is given to me (Name) the Priest, for the forgiveness of my sins and eternal life.

(He then partakes of the sacred Bread.)

The precious and most holy Blood of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ is given to me (Name) the priest, for the forgiveness of my sins and eternal life.

(He then drinks from the Chalice.)

(Afterwards, he wipes the Chalice, kisses it, and says:) This has touched my lips, taking away my transgressions and cleansing my sins.

(The priest then transfers the remaining portions of the consecrated Bread into the Cup, saying:)

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 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.

* * *

HOLY COMMUNION

(He takes the holy Cup, comes to the Royal Doors, raises it and says:)

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

(Those prepared come forth with reverence to receive Holy Communion while the people sing the communion hymn.)

(When administering Holy Communion, the priest says:) The servant of God (Name) receives the Body and Blood of Christ for forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Glory to you, our Lord, glory to you. (3)

ANONYMOUS

Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let Your sacred Body be unto me for eternal life and Your precious Blood for forgiveness of sins. Let this Eucharist be unto me for joy, health and gladness. And in Your awesome Second Coming make me, a sinner, worthy to stand at the right hand of Your glory; through the intercessions of Your pure Mother and of all Your Saints. Amen.

SAINT BASIL

I thank You, Christ and Master our God, King of the ages and Creator of all things, for all the good gifts 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.

ANONYMOUS

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.

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOMOS

I thank You, loving Master, benefactor of my soul, that on this day You have made me worthy once again of Your heavenly and immortal mysteries. Direct my ways on the right path, establish me firmly in Your fear, guard my life, and make my endeavors safe, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and ever virgin Mary and of all Your Saints. Amen.

HYMN AFTER COMMUNION

(When Communion has been given to all, the priest blesses the people with his hand, saying:)

Priest: Save, O God, Your people and bless Your inheritance.

People: We have seen the light, the true light and have received the heav'nly Spirit.

We now have found the true Faith, by our worshiping the undivided Trinity, Who has saved us.

(Having returned the Cup to the holy Table, the priest transfers the particles of the Theotokos and the saints into the Chalice, and then those of the living and the dead saying:) Wash away, Lord, by Your holy Blood, the sins of all those commemorated through the intercessions of the Theotokos and all Your saints. Amen.

(He covers the vessels and censes them saying:) Be exalted, O God, above the heavens. Let Your glory be over all the earth (3).

(He lifts the vessels and says in a low voice:) Blessed is our God.

Priest (aloud): Always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

LET OUR MOUTHS BE FILLED

Mode 2.

People: 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-giving mysteries. Keep us in Thy holiness that all the day we may meditate upon Thy righteousness. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Priest: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest (in a low voice): 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.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us go forth in peace.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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.

Psalm 112 (113) (Blessed Be The Name Of The Lord)

People: Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time forth, forever and forever (3).

(The priest proceeds to the Prothesis and prays in a low voice:) 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.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy (3). Father, give the blessing.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory to You, O God, our hope, glory to you.

Priest: May Christ our true God (who rose from the dead), as a good, loving, and merciful God, have mercy upon us and save us, 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; the holy, glorious and praiseworthy apostles; the holy, glorious and triumphant martyrs; our holy and God-bearing Fathers (name of the church); the holy and righteous ancestors Joachim and Anna; Saint (of the day) whose memory we commemorate today, and all the saints.

People: Amen.

To Him Who Blesses Us

People: (To be chanted softly during the prayer above.) Unto the one who blesses us and sanctifies us with God's Grace, Lord keep him in Your care, many years unto him.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us. (During the Paschal period, the priest says instead "Christ is risen ...")

People: Amen.

Priest (blessing the people): May the holy Trinity protect all of you.

(Distributing the antidoron, the priest says:)

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