

THE HOLY MYSTERIES: BAPTISM AND CHRISMATION

Prayers at the Reception of Catechumens

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.



Priest: In thy name, O Lord God of truth, and of thine only-begotten Son and thy Holy Spirit, I place my hand upon thy servant(s), N., who hath been accounted worthy to flee unto thy holy Name, and to be protected under the shelter of thy wings. Remove far from him (her) that ancient delusion and fill him (her) with faith in thee and hope and love; that he (she) may know that thou art the only God with thine only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and thy Holy Spirit. Grant him (her) to walk in all thy commandments, and to observe such things as are pleasing unto thee; for if a man do these things he shall live in them. Inscribe him (her) in thy Book of Life, and unite him (her) to the flock of thine inheritance. Let thy holy Name and that of thy beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and of thy life-creating Spirit be glorified upon him (her). Let thine eyes stand ever watchful over him (her) in mercy, and let thine ears hear the voice of his (her) supplication. Make him (her) to rejoice in the works of his (her) hands, and in all his (her) posterity; that he (she) may give thanks to thee, worshiping and glorifying thy name great and most exalted, and that he (she) may praise thee always, all the days of his (her) life.

For all the powers of the heavens hymneth thee, and thine is the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The First Exorcism

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The Lord who came into the world and dwelt among men rebuketh thee, O devil, that he might bring down thy tyranny and raise up mankind; he who upon the tree did triumph over the adversarial powers when the sun was darkened, the earth was being shaken, the graves were being opened and the bodies of the saints were arising; he who dissolved death by death and made powerless him who exercised the dominion over death; that is, thee, the devil: I adjure thee by God who showed forth the tree of life and who posted the cherubim and the flaming sword turning every way to guard it. Be rebuked and depart! For I adjure thee by that One who walked upon the surface of the sea as on dry land and rebuked the stormy winds, whose glance drieth up the abysses and whose threatening melteth the mountains; for he himself commandeth thee, even now, through us. Be afraid, come out, withdraw from this creature and do not return again nor hide thyself within him (her); neither encounter him (her), nor work within him (her); nor rend him (her) either by night or by day, at any hour, or at noon-day. But depart to thine own hell until that great Day of Judgment prepared. For God who sitteth upon the cherubim and who looketh upon the abysses, before whom angels tremble, archangels, thrones, lordships, principalities, authorities, powers, the many-eyed cherubim and the six-winged seraphim, before whom heaven and earth and the sea tremble, and all that is within them. Come out and depart from the sealed, newly-enlisted soldier of Christ our God. I adjure thee by him who walketh upon the wings of the winds, who maketh his angels spirits and His ministers a flaming fire. Come out and depart from this creature with all thy power and thine angels.

For glorified is the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The Second Exorcism

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: God, the holy, the fearful and glorious, who in all his works and might is incomprehensible and unsearchable, who himself having foreordained to thee, O devil, the penalty of eternal punishment, commandeth thee and all thine attendant power, through us, his useless servants, to depart from this newly-sealed by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, our true God. I adjure thee, therefore, the most wicked and unclean and vile and abominable and alien spirit, by the power of Jesus Christ, who hath all authority in heaven and on earth, who said to the deaf and dumb demon, “Come out from the man and enter no longer into him”: Depart! Recognize thy vain power which did not have authority even over swine. Remember him who commanded thee at thy request to enter into the herd of swine. Fear God, by whose ordinance the earth was established in the midst of the waters, who created the sky and weighed the mountains in a scale and the valleys in a balance and who hath placed sand as a bound for the sea and a safe path through the raging water, who toucheth the mountains and they smoke, who clotheth himself with light as with a garment, who stretcheth out the heavens as it were a curtain, who supporteth his chambers in the waters, who establisheth the earth so secure that it shall not be shaken forever and ever; who calleth forth the water of the sea and poureth it out upon the face of all the earth. Come out and depart from him (her) who is readying himself (herself) for holy Illumination. I adjure thee by the saving passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, by his precious body and blood and by his fearful coming. For he shall come without delay to judge all the earth, and thee with thine attendant power shall he punish in the Gehenna of fire, having delivered thee over into the outer darkness where the worm sleepeth not and the fire is not quenched.

For of Christ our God is the dominion, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The Third Exorcism

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord Sabaoth, the God of Israel who healest every illness and every infirmity, look upon thy servant; search him (her) out and examine him (her) and expel from him (her) all the operations of the devil. Rebuke the unclean spirits and expel them, and cleanse the works of thy hands; and employing thy keen energy, speedily crush down Satan under his (her) feet; and grant to him (her) victories over the devil and over his unclean spirits, that having obtained mercy from thee, he (she) may be accounted worthy to partake of thine immortal and heavenly mysteries; and may offer up glory to thee, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Prayer after the Making of a Catechumen
at the Time of Baptizing

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord, Master, he who is, thou hast created man in thine own image and likeness and hast given him the authority of everlasting life. Then, when he fell away through sin, thou didst not abandon him, but hast provided for the salvation of the world through the incarnation of thy Christ. Do thou thyself redeem also this thy creature from the bondage of the enemy and receive him (her) into thy heavenly kingdom. Open the eyes of his (her) understanding that the illumination of thy Gospel may shine brightly in him (her). Couple with his (her) life a luminous angel who shall deliver him (her) from every plot of the adversary, from encounter with the evil one, from the demon of noonday, and from evil apparitions.

Priest: Expel from him every evil and impure spirit which hideth and maketh its dwelling in his heart (3x)

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: a spirit of deception, a spirit of evil, a spirit of idolatry and all greed; a spirit of falsehood and of all uncleanness which operateth according to the teaching of the devil. And make him (her) a rational sheep of the holy flock of thy Christ, an honorable member of thy Church, a consecrated vessel, a son of light, and an heir of thy kingdom; that having conducted himself (herself) in accordance with thy commandments, and having preserved the seal unbroken, and having kept his (her) garment unstained, he (she) may receive the blessedness of the saints in thy kingdom.

Through the grace and compassion and love towards mankind of thine only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Renunciation and Aligning (Apotaxis and Syntaxis)

The sponsor, standing with the person who is to be baptized or holding the child who is to be baptized, faces the west (to the rear of the church), as does the priest.

Repeated thrice:

Priest: Dost thou renounce Satan, and all his works, and all his worship, and all his angels, and all his pomp?

Cat/Spon: I renounce Satan, and all his works, and all his worship, and all his angels, and all his pomp.

Repeated thrice:

Priest: Hast thou renounced Satan?

Cat/Spon: I have renounced him.

Priest: Blow on him!

Each catechumen (or sponsor), facing the west, blows directly straight ahead. The priest then turns the baptizand(s) to face the east with hands at the sides.

*** **Adults: further renunciations here** ***

Repeated thrice:

Priest: Dost thou align thyself with Christ?

Cat/Spon: I align myself.

The Symbol of Faith (Creed)

The baptizands as a group then say the Symbol of the Faith with their sponsors (or the sponsor for the infant). Only the Baptizand(s) along with the sponsor(s) say the Creed.

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 the heavens and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate and suffered and was buried; And He arose on the third day according to the Scriptures. And He ascended into the heavens and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake through the Prophets. And 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.

*** Adults: further renunciations here ***

Repeated thrice:

Priest: Hast thou aligned thyself with Christ?

Cat/Spon: I have aligned myself.

Priest: Bow down and worship Him.

Cat/Spon: I bow down before the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: the Trinity, one in essence and inseparable.

Cat/Spon: (bow 3x)

Priest: Blessed is God, who willeth that all men be saved and come unto to the knowledge of the truth, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Master, Lord our God, call thy servant, N., to thy holy illumination, and deem him (her) worthy of thy great grace of thy holy Baptism. Wash away from him (her) all that is old, and grant him (her) to be born again unto life everlasting; and fill him (her) with the power of thy Holy Spirit, unto union with thy Christ: that he (she) may be no more a child of the body, but a child of thy kingdom.

Through the good will and grace of thine only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

(end here when service is split)

Holy Baptism

The priest takes up the censer and approaches the baptismal font and censes round about it and then all the people present.

Deacon: Master, bless!

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

All: Amen.

While the deacon says the extended litany (below), the priest says the following prayer, quietly to himself. If there be no deacon, the priest still says this prayer quietly after concluding the litany. In this case, the choir may be instructed to chant the response, "Lord have mercy", very slowly and repeatedly as is done in the corresponding litany at holy Ordination.

Priest: O compassionate and merciful God, who searchest out the hearts and reins, and alone art familiar with the deep secrets of men; for there is no matter that is not manifest in thy sight, rather, all things are naked and open to thine eyes. O thou who knowest the things concerning me, do not despise me, nor turn thy face away from me, but disregard my transgressions at this hour, O thou who disregardest the sins of men unto repentance. Wash from me the defilement of the body and the blemish of the soul, and sanctify the whole of me with thine all-perfect, invisible power and spiritual right hand; lest, while proclaiming freedom to others and providing it with faith dependent on thine ineffable love for mankind, I myself become reprobate as a slave of sin. May I not, O Master, who alone art good and the lover of mankind, may I not be turned away humiliated and ashamed! But rather, send forth power from on high to me and strengthen me for the service of this forthcoming Mystery, so great and heavenly. And form thy Christ in the one about to be born again through my pitiable estate and build him (her) up on the foundation of thine apostles and prophets. And do not tear down but rather plant him (her) as a planting of truth in thy holy catholic and apostolic Church and do not uproot him (her). As he (she) advanceth in godliness, through him (her) may be glorified thine all-holy name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

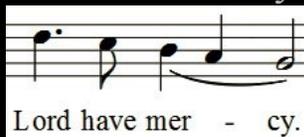
Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ①



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

All: Lord have mercy. ②



- Deacon:** For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God, and the union of all; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ①
- Deacon:** For this holy house and those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter therein; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ②
- Deacon:** For our Metropolitan N., [and Bishop N.,] the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the laity; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ①
- Deacon:** That this water may be sanctified with the power, and energy and visitation of the Holy Spirit; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ②
- Deacon:** That there may be sent down into it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan, let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ①
- Deacon:** That there may be sent down into it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ②
- Deacon:** That the purifying energy of the super-substantial Trinity may descend upon these waters; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ①
- Deacon:** That we may be illumined by the light of knowledge and piety by the visitation of the Holy Spirit; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ②
- Deacon:** That this water may be a preventative against every plot of enemies, both visible and invisible; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ①
- Deacon:** That he (she) who is baptized therein may be made worthy of the kingdom incorruptible; let us pray to the Lord.
- All:** Lord have mercy. ②

Deacon: For he (she) who is now coming unto holy Illumination, and for his (her) salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ①

Deacon: That he (she) may be made a son of the light, and an heir of eternal good things; let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ②

Deacon: That he (she) may become planted with, and a communicant in, the death and resurrection of Christ our God; let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ①

Deacon: That he (she) may preserve the vestment of Baptism and the pledge of the Spirit pure and undefiled unto the fearful Day of Christ our God; let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ②

Deacon: That this water may be to him (her) a washing of regeneration, unto the forgiveness of sins, and a garment of incorruption; let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ①

Deacon: That the Lord God will hearken to the voice of our petition; let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ②

Deacon: That he (she) and all of us may be delivered from all affliction, wrath, danger and necessity; let us pray to the Lord.

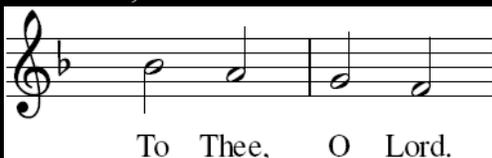
All: Lord have mercy. ①

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

All: Lord have mercy. ②

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos (**MHTSU**) and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

All: To thee, O Lord.



Once the litany is completed – and without exclamation – the priest says the following prayer aloud and with fear of God and with all his soul and a compassionate heart.

Priest: Great art thou, O Lord, and marvelous are thy works, and there is no word which is sufficient to hymn thy wonders. (3x)

The choir offers no response to this repeated exclamation.

All: *Glory to thee, O Lord, Glory to thee.*



The priest continues:

Priest: For thou, of thine own will, hast brought into being all things out of nothing, and by thy might, thou upholdest creation, and by thy providence thou governest the world. Thou hast compounded the whole creation out of four elements. Thou has crowned the cycle of the year with four seasons. Before thee, all the noetic powers tremble; to thee, the sun offereth a hymn; to thee, the moon giveth glory; to thee, the stars make supplication; to thee, the light giveth response; before thee, the depths shudder in fear; to thee, the springs perform service. Thou didst stretch out the heavens as it were a curtain. Thou didst establish the earth upon the waters and didst bound the sea about with sand. Thou didst pour forth the air for breathing. The angelic powers liturgize before thee. The choirs of archangels fall down in worship before thee. The many-eyed Cherubim and the six-winged Seraphim, as they stand round about and fly, in fear do veil themselves before thine unapproachable glory. For thou, who art God uncircumscribable, beginningless, and ineffable, didst come upon the earth, and didst take on the form of a bondservant, and came to be in the likeness of men. For thou couldst not endure, O Master, because of thy tender mercy to behold the human race being tyrannized by the devil, but thou didst come to save us. We confess thy grace. We proclaim thy mercy. We conceal not thy beneficence. Thou hast set free the forefathers of our nature. Thou didst sanctify a virginal womb by thy birth. All creation hymneth thee who wast manifest. For thou, our God, wast seen upon the earth and didst live in association with men. Thou didst sanctify the streams of the Jordan, sending down from heaven thine all-Holy Spirit and crushing the heads of the dragons which were lurking there.

The priest then makes the sign of the Cross over the water, with his hand three times, as he says each time:

Priest: Wherefore, O King, lover of mankind, be present now through the visitation of thy Holy Sprit and sanctify this water, (3x)

All: Amen.

Priest: and give to it the grace of redemption, the blessing of the Jordan. Make it a fountain of incorruption, a gift of sanctification, a loosing from sins, a protection against infirmities, a destruction to demons, unapproachable by hostile powers, filled with angelic might. Let them flee from it, those who would plot against thy creature; for, O Lord, I have called upon thy name, wonderful and glorious, and fearful to adversaries.

The priest breathes upon the water three times and then he makes the sign of the cross three times upon the water, dipping the finger of his right hand therein at each signing making three crosses in all (not nine), as he says this exclamation at each signing with the cross:

Repeated thrice:

Priest: Let all adverse powers be crushed beneath the sign of the image of thy Cross. (3x)

All: Amen.

Priest: Let all aerial and unseen false gods withdraw from us; and let no dark demon conceal itself under this water; and, we pray thee, O Lord, let no evil spirit which instilleth darkening of thoughts and disturbance of mind descend into it with him (her) who is about to be baptized. But do thou, O Master of all, show this water to be a water of rest, a water of redemption, a water of sanctification, a cleansing from the defilement of flesh and spirit, a loosing of bonds, a forgiveness of sins, an illumination of soul, a washing of regeneration, a renewal of spirit, a gift of adoption, a garment of incorruption, a fountain of life. For thou hast said, O Lord, "Wash yourselves, be pure; and remove evils from your souls." Thou hast bestowed upon us the rebirth from above through water and the Spirit. Be manifest, O Lord, in this water, and grant that he (she) who is baptized therein may undergo a change toward the putting off of the old man which is being corrupted through deceitful desires, and the putting on of the new man which is being renewed according to the image of the One who created him; that being planted together with the likeness of thy death through Baptism, he (she) may become a partaker of thy resurrection and having kept intact the gift of thy Holy Spirit, and having increased the trust of grace, he (she) may receive the prize of his (her) calling

on high, and be numbered with those first-born who are enrolled in heaven, in thee, our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.

For to thee are due all glory, majesty, honor, and worship, together with thy beginningless Father, and thine all-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Prayer of the Oil

Priest: Peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.



Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

All: To thee, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy. ①

Priest: O Master, Lord, the God of our fathers, who to them that were in the ark of Noah didst send a dove, bearing in its beak a leafy twig of olive, the symbol of reconciliation and salvation from the flood; who didst prefigure through these the mystery of grace and didst provide the fruit of the olive for the fulfilling of thy holy Mysteries; who thereby didst fill with thy Holy Spirit those that were under the law, and perfectest also those that are under grace: Do thou bless also this holy oil with the power, energy and visitation of thy Holy Spirit, that it may be an anointing of incorruption, an armor of righteousness, a renewal of soul and body, a means of victory against every diabolical energy, unto deliverance from every evil to those who are anointed with it in faith and receive it, unto thy glory and that of thine only-begotten Son, and of thine all-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The Anointing of the Sanctified Waters

Deacon: Let us attend.

The priest takes the vial of blessed oil and pours some oil from it into the water, making with it the sign of the cross three times (that is, three oil-crosses in the water), as he with the people chant melodiously:

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (1x)

Priest: Blessed is God, who illumineth and sanctifieth every man that cometh into the world, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Then (each) baptizand is presented, (in turn) facing east. The priest takes of the oil with his finger, and anoints the (each) baptizand by making the sign of the Cross, first upon the baptizand's forehead, saying:

Priest: The servant of God, N., is anointed with the Oil of Gladness, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Then upon the chest and the back:

Priest: Unto the healing of soul and body.

All: Amen.

On the ears, saying:

Priest: Unto the hearing of the faith.

All: Amen.

On the feet, saying:

Priest: That he (she) may walk in thy footsteps.

All: Amen.

On the hands, saying:

Priest: Thy hands have created me and fashioned me.

All: Amen.

The Act of Triple-Baptism

Then, with the help of the Deacon, or one assigned to hold the phelonion back, the priest baptizes each baptizand, facing the east, saying:

Priest: The servant of God, N., is baptized in the name of the Father,

All: Amen.

Priest: and of the Son,

All: Amen.

Priest: and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Reader: *(intoned 3X in Prokeimenon fashion)*

Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered.

Holy Chrismation

(the Priest says quietly...)

The sponsor escorts the newly-baptized out of the holy Font, from the hands of the priest. The sponsor receives him or her into an unfolded winding sheet or large towel. The sponsor offers the new baptismal robe to the priest who blesses it with his hand.

Priest: The servant of God, N., is clothed with the garment of righteousness, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

During the dressing of the newly-illuminated, the chanter reads Psalm 31 and then chants the Troparion.

Psalm 31 (read)

Reader: Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord hath not imputed sin, and in whose mouth there is no guile. Because I kept silence, my bones grew old through my crying out all the day long. For day and night thy hand lay heavy upon me, I was reduced to misery whilst the thorn stuck fast in me. Mine iniquity have I acknowledged, and my sin have I not hid. I said, Against myself will I declare mine iniquity unto the Lord. And as for thee, thou didst forgive the impiety of my heart. For this reason, every one that is devout shall pray unto thee at an opportune time; and yet, in a flood of many waters shall they not come nigh unto him. Thou art a refuge for me from the affliction that encompasseth me O my Joy, deliver me from them that surround me. I will give thee understanding and I will guide thee in this way, in which thou shalt go; I will fix mine eyes upon thee. Do not become like horse and mule that have no understanding, whose jaws thou must hold with bit and bridle lest they turn on thee. Many are the scourges of the sinner, but mercy shall surround him that hopeth in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous; and exult, all ye that are upright of heart. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Troparion: Plagal of 4th Mode

Reader: Grant unto me a luminous robe, O thou who coverest thyself with light as with a garment. O most merciful Christ our God. (**cadence**)

The Katavasia of the Cross - Tone 8
(repeat until newly-baptized ready)

Reader:

Ode 1. Verily, Moses having struck horizontally with his rod, cleaving the Red Sea and causing Israel to cross on foot, then having struck it transversely bringing it together over Pharaoh and his chariots, did trace the Cross, thus symbolizing that invincible weapon. Wherefore, do we praise Christ our God, for that He hath been glorified.

Ode 3. The rod is taken as a symbol of the mystery; for by its budding, it designateth the Priest. But now the tree of the Cross hath blossomed forth with might and steadfastness to the hitherto barren Church.

Ode 4. I have heard, O Lord, of the mystery of Thy dispensation, and have contemplated Thy works. Wherefore, have I glorified Thy Godhead.

Ode 5. O thou thrice-blessed Tree, whereon the Lord Christ the King was stretched, and through which He Who was beguiled by the tree fell, having been beguiled by thee, by the God that was nailed upon thee in the flesh, Who granteth safety to our souls.

Ode 6. When Jonah in the belly of the whale did stretch forth his hands in the form of a cross, he did foreshadow clearly the Passion of salvation; and when he came out on the third day, he did symbolize the world-transcending Resurrection of Christ, Who was crucified in the flesh, and illuminating the world by His third-day Resurrection.

Ode 7. The mad command of the infidel tyrant hath shaken the nations, breathing forth threats and blasphemies loathed of God. But the three youths were not terrified by the bestial terror, nor the consuming fire; for being together amidst the fire blown forth by a dewy breeze, they were singing: O Thou exceedingly praised, blessed art Thou, God of our Fathers.

Ode 8. O ye youths, equal in number to the Trinity, bless the Father, the God Creator; praise the Word which did condescend and turn the fire to a dewy breeze; and exalt more and more the all-holy Spirit, Who giveth life to all forevermore.

Ode 9. Thou art the mystical paradise, O Theotokos; for that thou, being untilled, didst bud forth Christ, by Whom was planted on earth the life-giving tree of the Cross. Wherefore, as we adore it being elevated, we magnify thee.

As the newly-baptized is presented again, now dressed in the (simple inner) bright garment, the priest continues:

The Prayer of the Myron (Chrism)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Blessed art thou, O Lord God Almighty, the source of good things, the sun of righteousness, who shinest the light of salvation upon those in darkness, through the epiphany of thine only-begotten Son and our God; and who hast bestowed upon us unworthy ones, blessed purification in this holy water, and divine sanctification in the life-creating Chrism; who now, also, hast been well-pleased to regenerate thy newly-illuminated servant through water and Spirit, and grantest unto him (her) forgiveness of voluntary and involuntary sins. Do thou, therefore, O Master, compassionate King of all, grant unto him (her) also the seal of the gift of thy holy, and all-powerful, and worshipped Spirit, and the communion of the holy Body and the precious Blood of thy Christ. Guard him (her) in thy sanctification; establish him (her) in the Orthodox faith; deliver him (her) from the evil one and from all his pursuits. And preserve his (her) soul in purity and righteousness, by the saving fear of thee; that pleasing thee in every deed and word, he (she) may become son and heir of thy heavenly kingdom.

For thou art our God, a God to show mercy and to save; and unto thee do we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The priest then chrismates the newly-baptized with holy Myron, making with it the sign of the cross: on the forehead, both eyes, both nostrils, the mouth, both ears, the chest, both hands, and on both feet, saying each time:

Priest: The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The baptismal candle is lit and given to the newly-illuminated, and a baptismal cross may now be affixed around the neck. The newly-illuminated now is led from the font into the nave of the Church where the newly-illuminated hears the New Testament scriptures on Baptism and receives Holy Communion etc. as follows:

Entrance Procession

The priest, with the sponsor(s) who accompanies the neophyte, proceed from the analogion to the Font. With the Deacon (or one appointed) censing and the Priest carrying the Holy Gospel, the sponsors, parents, and servers, circle the Font 3x as all present sing the following hymn:

All: As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ, alleluia. (3x):



As ma - ny of you as have been bap-tized in - to Christ, have



put on Christ, al-le-lu - ia.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Have put on Christ, alleluia. (1x):



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spi - rit, both now and ev -

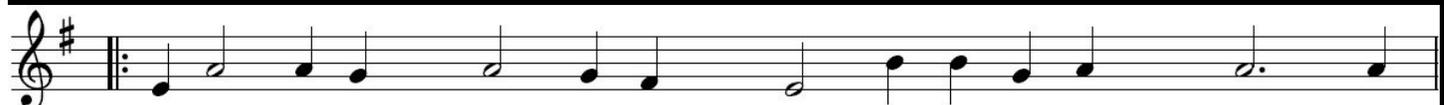


er and un-to a - ges of a - ges. A - men. Have put on Christ,



al - le - lu - ia.

All: As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ, alleluia. (1x):



As ma - ny of you as have been bap-tized in - to Christ, have



put on Christ, al-le-lu - ia.

The Epistle

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: The Lord is my light and my savior; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (6:3-11).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Brethren, know ye not that as many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism unto death, that just as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, so we shall also be in the likeness of his resurrection, knowing this: that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him, knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death no more hath dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once; but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Priest: Peace be to thee that readest.

All:



Reader: My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king.

All:



Reader: My tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.

All:



The Gospel

Deacon: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.



And to thy spi - rit.

A musical score for the phrase "And to thy spirit." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, starting on a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and C5. The bass line consists of a series of chords: a half-note chord of G4-Bb4, a half-note chord of A4-C5, and a whole-note chord of Bb4-C5.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (28:16-20)

All: Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.



Glo - ry to thee, O Lord, glo - ry to thee.

A musical score for the phrase "Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, starting on a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a half-note chord of G4-Bb4. The bass line consists of a series of chords: a half-note chord of G4-Bb4, a half-note chord of A4-C5, a half-note chord of Bb4-C5, and a whole-note chord of G4-Bb4.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: At that time the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even unto the close of the age. Amen.

All: Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.



Glo - ry to thee, O Lord, glo - ry to thee.

A musical score for the phrase "Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, starting on a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, and a half-note chord of G4-Bb4. The bass line consists of a series of chords: a half-note chord of G4-Bb4, a half-note chord of A4-C5, a half-note chord of Bb4-C5, and a whole-note chord of G4-Bb4.

[First Holy Communion]

In some cases if a Baptism occurs on a Saturday, holy communion is not given until the following Sunday morning. However, if the newly illumined is to partake the day of his/her Baptism, then the priest prepares the chalice with the reserved sacrament, while the choir sings the following communion hymn:

Re - ceive me to - day O Son of God,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G minor (one flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Re - ceive me to - day O Son of God,". The word "day" is underlined in the original image.

as par - ta - ker of thy mys - ti - cal sup - - -

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "as par - ta - ker of thy mys - ti - cal sup - - -". The word "sup" is underlined in the original image.

per; for I will not speak, for I will not

The third system of musical notation concludes the phrase. The lyrics are: "per; for I will not speak, for I will not". The word "per;" is underlined in the original image.

speak of thy mys - te - ry (to) to thine en - e - mies,

nei - ther will I give thee a kiss as did (will)

Ju - - das; but like the thief (will) will (will)

I con - fess thee: Re - mem - ber me, O Lord, re -



mem-ber me, O Lord, in thy king - - - dom.

The Ablution

Priest: Peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

All: To thee, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

First Prayer of Ablution

Priest: O thou who, through holy baptism, hast given to thy servant redemption from sins, and hast bestowed upon him (her) a life of regeneration: Do thou thyself, O Master Lord, be well-pleased to shine forth in his (her) heart the illumination of thy countenance forevermore. Keep the shield of his (her) faith unassailed by enemies. Preserve in him (her) undefiled and unpolluted the garment of incorruption, which he (she) hath put on. Keep, by thy grace, the spiritual seal unbroken in him (her), thereby showing mercy to him (her) and to us, according to the multitude of thy compassions.

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

All: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Second Prayer of Ablution

Priest: O Master, Lord our God, who through the font grantest the heavenly illumination to those who undergo Baptism, who has regenerated thy newly-illuminated servant(s) through water and Spirit, and who hast bestowed upon him (her) the forgiveness of sinful acts, both voluntary and involuntary, do thou lay thy mighty hand upon him (her), guard him (her) in the power of thy goodness, preserve the pledge inviolate and make him (her) worthy of eternal life and of thy good pleasure.

For thou art our sanctification, and to thee do we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Third Prayer of Ablution

Priest: Peace be unto all.

All: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

All: To thee, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: He (She) who hath put on thee, our Christ and God, keepeth his (her) head bowed to thee, along with us. Do thou preserve him (her) as an invincible struggler so as to endure those who bring vain hostility to bear against both him (her) and us; and do thou show forth all as victors unto the end through thine incorruptible crown.

For thine it is to have mercy and to save us, and to thee do we offer up glory, together with thy beginningless Father, and thine all-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Priest: Thou hast been baptized; thou hast been illumined; thou hast been sanctified; thou hast been washed; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Tonsure

First Prayer of Tonsure

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Master Lord our God, thou hast honored man with thine image and hast furnished him with a rational soul and a well-suited body so that the body might serve the rational soul. Thou hast placed the head at the highest spot and hast established in it most of the senses, so that they may not interfere with one another. Thou hast crowned the head with hair so that it might not be harmed with the changes of the weather, and thou hast implanted in him all of the members in a useful way in order that through all of them he might give thanks to thee, the master craftsman. Do thou, O Master, who hast commanded us through thy chosen vessel, Paul the Apostle, to do all things for thy glory, bless thy servant who draweth near to make a first-fruit offering; namely, the tonsuring of the hair of his (her) head; and bless also his (her) sponsor and grant them all to meditate on thy law and to perform the things which are well-pleasing to thee.

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

All: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

All: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

All: To thee, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Second Prayer of Tonsure

Priest: O Lord our God, who, through the fullness of the font, by thy goodness hast sanctified them that believe on thee; bless this child present here, and let thy blessing descend upon his (her) head. And as thou didst bless David the king through the prophet Samuel, bless also the head of thy servant, N., by the hand of me, the sinner, and visit him (her) with thy Holy Spirit; that as he (she) advanceth in age and growth old and grey, he (she) may offer up glory to thee, and behold the good things of Jerusalem all the days of his (her) life.

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

All: Amen.

Priest: The hair of the head of the servant of God, N., is tonsured in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

(the tonsured hair must not be put in any place by chance, but rather in a sacred place)

Final Ektenia

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

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)



Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation for the newly-illumined servant(s) of God, N.; and his (her) sponsor(s), NN., and his (her) parents, and all here present, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)



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

All: Amen.

Dismissal

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

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. (3x) Father, bless.

Priest: May he who deigned to be baptized in the Jordan by John for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; of the honorable glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; and of all the saints; have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

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

All: Amen.

Priest: Grant, O Lord, a peaceful life, health, salvation, visitation, and furtherance in all good things to the newly illumine servant(s) of God, N., and the sponsor(s), and preserve him, (her, them) for many years:

All: God grant you many years; God grant you many years; God grant you many, many, many years.