

**Божественна Літургія
Напередосвячених Дарів**



**Divine Liturgy
of the Presanctified Gifts**



Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

During the Holy and Great Fast, when the priest is to celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, at the Proskomedie on the preceding Sunday, he does everything as usual, but after he cuts the first bread, sacrifices it and pierces it, he cuts a sufficient number of additional breads, saying as he cuts each one: In memory of..., He was led as a sheep..., The Lamb of God..., and One of the soldiers....

Then the deacon pours wine and water into the holy chalice, the priest blesses it as usual, covers the diskos and the chalice, and incenses them, saying the prayer of oblation. Then he begins the Divine Liturgy and celebrates as usual.

When he signs the breads at the invocation of the Holy Spirit, he says: And make this bread..., in the singular, as Christ is one.

When the priest and the deacon put on their vestments, they say only Let us pray to the Lord for each vestment.

The priest and the deacon make three prostrations before the holy table, saying only: God be merciful to me, a sinner. The priest kisses the Holy Gospel, and the deacon kisses the holy table.

The deacon leaves through the northern door and, standing at the customary place, begins:

Master, give the blessing.

Priest:

**Blessed be the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.**

Choir: Amen.

Come, let us adore the King, our God.

Come, let us adore* Christ, the King and our God.

Come, let us adore and bow down* to the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul!* You are very great, O Lord, my God.

Clothed in pomp and brilliance;* arrayed with light as with a cloak.

Stretching out the sky as a tent-cloth,* covering your lofty halls with water,

You make the clouds your conveyance;* you surge on the wings of the wind.

You make spirits your messengers,* and flaming fires your attendants.

You settle the earth on its firm foundation;* it shall stand unmoved from age to age.

The abyss covers it like a garment;* waters stand over the mountains.

At your rebuke they will take flight;* at the peal of your thunder they will fear.

They hurdle the hills and run down the dales,* to the place you have chosen for them.

You have set up a boundary not to be passed;* they shall never return to cover the earth.

Down in the gullies you make springs to rise;* water shall go down between the mountains.

They shall give drink to the beasts of the field;* wild asses will seek them to quench their thirst.

The birds of the sky will abide by them;* from among the rocks they will raise their song.

From your lofty halls you refresh the mountains;* the earth shall be fed with the fruit of your works.

You make green pastures for the cattle,* and food-plants for the service of all,

So that bread may be brought forth from the earth,* and wine that gladdens the heart of all;

So that oil may put a gleam upon his face;* and that bread may strengthen the heart of all.

The trees of the plain will be satisfied,* the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.

The sparrows will build their nests in them;* and the herons will call them their home.

To the deer belong high mountains,* to rodents, the shelter of the rocks.

You have made the moon to mark the seasons;* the sun knows the time of its setting.

You establish darkness, and it is night,* wherein all the forest creatures prowl around.

Young lions roar for their prey,* and call out to God for their meat.

As the sun rises, they will come together,* and lay themselves down in their dens.

Man will go out to his labor,* and work until eventide.

How great are your works, O Lord!* In wisdom you have wrought them all.

The earth is filled with your creatures.* Even the wide and open sea itself.

Within it there are countless creeping things,* living beings small and large.

Upon it there are ships a-sailing,* and that great beast you made to have fun therein.

All of them look up to you,* to give them their food in due time.

You provide and they gather up;* you open your hand and they are full.

You hide your face and they cringe;* you suspend their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your breath and they live;* you renew the face of the earth.

May the Lord's glory endure forever;* may the Lord rejoice in

his works;

He looks upon the earth and makes it quake;* he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;* I will praise my God as long as I last.

Would that my thoughts be pleasing to him:* and I will rejoice in the Lord.

May sinners vanish from the earth, and may the wicked be no more.* Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to you, O God! *Thrice.*

As Psalm 103 is being recited, the priest quietly reads the Prayers of Light in front of the holy doors.

The Prayers of Light

4. O Lord, you are praised by the holy powers in hymns which are never silent, and in doxologies which never cease. Fill our mouths with your praise that we may exalt your holy name. Through the prayers of the holy Mother of God and the intercession of all your saints, give us a part and an inheritance with those who fear you in truth and who keep your commandments. For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and adoration, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

5. Blessed are you, O Lord, almighty God. You know the mind of each person; you know what each needs even before they ask or are aware of it. Now, O King who loves mankind and who is gracious in everything, in your great mercy allow us to call upon your holy name with an unashamed conscience. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one; and in your providence grant all that is beneficial to us. For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all

glory, honor, and adoration, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

6. O Lord, O Lord, you hold all things together in your spotless hands; you are long-suffering toward us all; you grieve at our wickedness. Remember your compassion and mercy, and visit us in your goodness. Grant that for the rest of this day we may escape from the manifold deceits of the evil one; and keep our life free from every assault of the enemy, through the grace of your all-holy Spirit. Grant this through the mercies and love for mankind of your only-begotten Son with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, gracious, and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

7. O great and wonderful God, you govern all things with your indescribable goodness and rich providence. You have provided us with the goodness of this world and have assured us, through your kindness, of attaining the promised kingdom. O Lord, through all the blessings already received this day, you have kept us away from evil; grant that we spend its remaining hours without blame before your holy glory, and that we may sing your praise, O you, the only gracious One who loves mankind. For you are our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

8. O great and most high God, you alone are immortal and you dwell in a light which is unapproachable. You created all things in your wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to govern the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have deemed us, poor sinners, worthy to reach this hour, to come into your presence with our thanks, and to offer you our evening praise. O Lord who loves mankind, let our prayers ascend to you as incense, and accept

them as a sweet fragrance. Grant that this evening and the coming night may be spent in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; save us from the fears of the night and from things that lurk in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given to refresh us from our fatigue may be free from every evil. Yes, O Lord and Giver of all good things, grant that, having found favor in your sight, we may lie down to rest, remembering your name throughout the night; and enlightened by the practice of your commandments, may we rise in gladness of soul to praise your goodness, offering prayers and supplications for our sins and those of your people. Look down upon us with mercy, through the intercession of the Mother of God; for you are gracious Lord who loves mankind, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

After the recitation of Psalm 103, the priest returns to the sanctuary and stands before the holy table; the deacon stands before the holy doors, and intones the litany.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For peace throughout the whole world, for the well-being of God's holy churches and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the most holy universal Pontiff, *N.*, Pope of Rome, for our most blessed Patriarch, *N.*, our most reverend Metropolitan, *N.*, our God-loving Bishop, *N.*, the reverend priesthood, the diaconate

in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our nation under God, for our government, and for all the military, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this city (*or* For this village, *or* For this holy monastery), for every city and country and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For seafarers and travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for those held captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Priest: **For all glory, honor, and worship befit you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.**

Choir: Amen.

After the exclamation, the prescribed kathisma is read, and prostrations are made at Alleluia. At each antiphon there is a small litany by the deacon with

an exclamation of the priest.

During the first antiphon, the priest takes the presanctified Bread from the tabernacle and places it with great reverence on the holy diskos. And, after incensing the asterisk and the first veil, he covers the holy Bread, saying nothing. He incenses the holy gifts and, together with the deacon, makes the great prostration.

During the second antiphon, the priest incenses the holy table on all four sides. The deacon goes before him with the candle. And, once again, they make the great prostration.

During the third antiphon, the priest places the diskos on his head and transfers it on the table of prothesis. The deacon goes before him with the candle and the thurible. The deacon pours wine and water into the holy chalice, saying nothing. The priest incenses the second veil and covers the chalice, saying nothing. Then, he takes aer, incenses it, and covers the gifts, saying: By the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. And, once again, they make the great prostration, and return to the customary place.

Deacon:

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Prayer of the First Antiphon

O Lord, compassionate and loving, long-suffering and most merciful, hear our prayer and listen to the voice of our supplication. Make a favorable covenant with us, guide us along your ways that we may live in your truth, gladden our hearts that we may fear your

holy name; for you are great and you perform wondrous deeds. You are the only God and none other is like you, O Lord. You are great in mercy and able, in your power, to assist, support, and save all those who place their hope in your holy name;

Exclamation:

for to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and adoration, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon:

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Prayer of the Second Antiphon

O Lord, in your indignation do not rebuke us; in your wrath do not chastise us; but deal with us according to your loving-kindness. O Physician and Healer of our souls, guide us to the harbor of your will; enlighten the eyes of our mind that we may know your truth. Grant that the remainder of this day and all the days of our life may be peaceful and without sin, through the prayers of the holy Mother

of God and through the prayers of all the saints;

Exclamation:

for yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon:

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life, to Christ our God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Prayer of the Third Antiphon

O Lord our God, be mindful of us sinners, your unworthy servants, as we call upon your holy name, and put us not to shame for having placed our hope in your mercy. Graciously grant us, O Lord, all the means of salvation; make us worthy to love and fear you with all our heart and to accomplish your will in all things;

Exclamation:

for you are a gracious Lord and you love mankind; and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Psalm 140

The deacon performs the incensing as prescribed by the typikon. The choir sings the first two verses of Psalm 140 according to the tone of the first stichera.

O Lord, I have cried to you,* hear me; hear me, O Lord!* O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me;* receive the voice of my prayer* when I call upon you.* Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer rise like incense before you,* and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.* Hear me, O Lord!

Set a guard, O Lord, before my mouth* and a portal around my lips.

Incline my heart away from evil dealings,* from finding excuses for sinful deeds.

In company with those who work iniquity,* let me not partake of what they choose.

May the just chasten me with justice and reprove me;* may the oil of the wicked never touch my head.

Yet even then shall I pray for their welfare.* Their rulers were swallowed near the rock.

My words will be heard,* for they were sweet.

As a lump of clay broken on the ground,* so their bones were strewn near the grave.

To you, Lord, O Lord, my eyes are lifted up.* In you have I hoped; let not my soul be lost.

Keep me from the snare that was set for me,* and from the stumbling-blocks of the wicked.

The wicked shall fall into their own nets,* while I remain alone until I can escape.

Psalm 141

With my voice I cried to the Lord;* with all my voice I implored the Lord.

Before him I pour out my supplications;* before him I declare my distress.

When my breath was escaping me,* then you knew my paths;
On the road upon which I was walking,* they set up snares for me.
I looked to my right and observed* there was no one friendly
to me;

Even flight was denied me;* there was no one to take care of
my life.

I cried out to you, O Lord, and said:* you are my hope, my
share in the land of the living.

Listen to my supplication,* for I am laid very low.

Deliver me from my oppressors;* for they have overwhelmed me.

10) Lead my soul forth from prison* that I may give thanks to
your name.

The just shall gather around me* when you have been good to me.

Psalm 129

8) Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;* O Lord, hear my
voice!

Let your ears be attentive* to the voice of my prayer.

6) If you mark iniquities, O Lord, who can stand?* But with
you forgiveness is that you may be revered.

I have waited for you as you have commanded;* my soul
patiently relies on your promise, for it has trusted in the Lord.

4) From the morning watch until night* let Israel trust in the
Lord.

For with the Lord there is mercy and with him there is plentiful
redemption;* and he shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Psalm 116

2) Praise the Lord, all the nations;* proclaim his glory, all you
people.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us;* eternally will his truth
endure.

*At the Glory be..., the holy doors are opened. Entrance with the thurible. If
the Gospel is to be read, the entrance will be with the Gospel.*

Deacon (quietly): Let us pray to the Lord.

The priest says the prayer of the Entrance:

Evening, morning, and noonday we praise you, we bless you, we give you thanks, and we pray to you, O Master of all: direct our prayer as incense before you, and incline not our hearts unto words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all that hunt after our souls; for unto you, O Lord, O Lord are our eyes, and in you have we hoped, let us not be put to shame, O our God. For all glory, honor, and worship befit you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Deacon: Master, bless the holy entrance.

Priest (blessing towards the East): **Blessed be the entrance of your saints, always, now and for ever and ever.**

The deacon stands within the holy doors, makes a sign of the cross with the censer and intones:

Wisdom! Stand aright.

Choir: O joyful Light! Light and holy Glory of the Father immortal, the heavenly, holy, the blessed One, O Jesus Christ! Now that we have reached the setting of the sun, and see the evening light, we sing to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

It is fitting at all times to raise a song of praise in measured melody to you, O Son of God, the Giver of life. Behold, the universe sings your glory.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest:

Peace be with all.

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

The choir sings the prokimenon.

Before the title of the reading, the deacon, standing at the holy doors and,

facing the people, exclaims: Wisdom!, then after intoning the title: Let us be attentive!

The reader begins the first reading. After the reading, the choir sings the second prokimenon.

Then, the deacon exclaims:

Master, proceed!

The priest, holding the candle and the thurible with both hands, makes a sign of the cross towards the East, exclaiming:

Wisdom! Stand Aright!

He then turns to the West, facing the people, makes a sign of the cross, and exclaims:

The Light of Christ illumines all!

Everyone makes three great prostrations.

The reader begins the second reading.

If there is a feast the following day, the readings for that feast are also read.

The priest, standing before the holy table, sings:

Let my prayer rise like incense before you; and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

Choir: Let my prayer....

The priest, standing at the southern side of the holy table, sings the first verse:

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon you.

Choir: Let my prayer....

The priest, standing at the eastern side of the holy table, sings the second verse:

Set a guard, O Lord, before my mouth and a portal around my lips.

Choir: Let my prayer....

The priest, standing at the northern side of the holy table, sings the third verse:

Incline my heart away from evil dealings, from finding excuses for sinful deeds.

Choir: Let my prayer....

The priest, standing before the holy table, sings:

Let my prayer rise like incense before you.

Choir: And the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

When the priest sings, he incenses the holy table, at the beginning and at the end of each verse, while the people pray kneeling. When the choir sings, the priest, together with concelebrants, prays kneeling. At the end, everyone makes three great prostrations.

If there is a feast, the deacon exclaims: Let us be attentive!; the choir sings the Epistle prokimenon; the Epistle is read; Alleluia is sung; and the Gospel is proclaimed.

The deacon, standing at the customary place, commences:

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Almighty Lord, God of our Fathers, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God, in the greatness of your compassion, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

The Prayer of Fervent Supplication

Lord, our God, accept this fervent supplication from your servants. Take pity on us in the greatness of your compassion. Let your loving kindness descend upon us and upon all your people who await your abundant mercy,

We also pray for the most holy universal Pontiff, *N.*, Pope of Rome; for our most blessed Patriarch *N.*, our most reverend Metropolitan *N.*, our God-loving Bishop, *N.*, for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

We also pray for our nation under God, for our government, and for all in the military.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

We also pray for the people here present who await your great and bountiful mercies, for those who have been kind to us, and for all orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

The priest exclaims:

for you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

The deacon continues:

Catechumens, pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Let us faithful pray for the catechumens that the Lord may have mercy on them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may teach them by the word of truth.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may reveal to them the Gospel of justice.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may unite them with his holy, catholic and apostolic church.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Catechumens, bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Prayer for the Catechumens

O God our God, the Creator and Maker of all things, who wills that all men should be saved, and

should come to the knowledge of truth, look upon your servants the catechumens and deliver them from their former delusion and from the wiles of adversary. And call them unto life eternal, illumining their souls and bodies and numbering them with your spiritual flock, which is called by your holy name,

Exclamation:

that they also with us may glorify your most honored and magnificent name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: All who are catechumens, leave; catechumens, leave; all who are catechumens, leave; let none of the catechumens remain. Again and again in peace let the faithful pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The above dismissal is said only until Wednesday of the fourth week of the Great Fast. Beginning with the Wednesday, after the priest exclaims: That they also with us..., *the deacon adds the following petitions:*

All who are catechumens, leave; catechumens, leave; those who are preparing for Illumination, draw near. Pray, you who are preparing for Illumination.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

You faithful, for the brethren who are preparing for holy Illumination and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord our God may establish and strengthen them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may enlighten them with the light of knowledge and piety.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may vouchsafe unto them in due time the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruption.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may regenerate them by water and the Spirit.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may bestow upon them the perfection of the faith.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That he may number them with his holy and chosen flock.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

You who are preparing for Illumination, bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Prayer for those who prepare for Illumination

Show the light of your countenance, O God, upon those who are preparing for holy Illumination, and who desire to put away the defilement of sin. Enlighten their understanding. Establish them in the faith. Strengthen them in hope. Perfect them in love. Make them honorable members of your Christ, who gave himself as ransom for our souls;

Exclamation:

for you are our illumination and we give glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: All who are preparing for Illumination, leave; you who are preparing for Illumination, leave; all who are catechumens,

leave; let none of the catechumens remain. Again and again in peace let the faithful pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The priest says the first Prayer of the Faithful:

O God, great and worthy to be praised, who through the life-giving death of your Christ have translated us from corruption unto incorruptibility: Deliver all of our senses from deadly passions; setting over them as a good ruler the understanding that is in us. Let our eyes have no part in any evil sight; let our hearing be inaccessible to all idle words; and let our tongue be purged from unseemly speech. Purify our lips which praise you, O Lord. Make our hands abstain from evil deeds and to work only such things as are acceptable unto you, establishing all our members and our minds by your grace;

Deacon: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by your grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Priest: **for all glory, honor, and worship befit you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.**

Choir: Amen.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The priest says the second Prayer of the Faithful:

O Master, holy and exceedingly good, we beseech

you, who are rich in mercy: show compassion on us sinners, and render us worthy to receive your only-begotten Son and our God, the King of glory. For behold, his most pure Body and his life-giving Blood, entering at this present hour, are about to be set forth upon this mystical altar, invisibly escorted by a great multitude of the heavenly host. Enable us to partake of them in blamelessness; that, the eyes of our understanding being enlightened thereby, we may become children of the light and of the day,

Deacon: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by your grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The priest exclaims:

through the gift of your Christ, with whom you are blessed, together with your most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Now the powers of heaven with us invisible minister. For, lo! the King of glory enters now. Behold, the mystical sacrifice all accomplished, is ushered in. Let us with faith and love draw near, that we may become partakers of life eternal: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

While this is being sung, the deacon enters the sanctuary through the northern door, opens the holy doors, and incenses the holy table, only in front, thrice, the holy prothesis, and the priest. And, standing together, with elevated hands, they say: Now the powers of heaven..., *thrice.*

And having made three prostrations, they proceed directly to the prothesis. The priest takes the aer and lays it on the right shoulder of the deacon; then he takes the holy diskos with the divine Mysteries in his right hand, and holds it on his

head; he takes the chalice containing the wine in his left hand and holds it before his chest.

The deacon, with the thurible only, goes ahead, censuring frequently. As they go, they say nothing. And, having entered, the priest places the Mysteries as usual on the holy table, and he takes the veils from the holy Gifts and covers them with the aer, saying nothing over them. He only incenses them. Then, everyone makes three great prostrations. The holy doors are now closed.

The deacon goes to the customary place, and says:

Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the precious gifts that have been presented and presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That our loving God, who has received them as a spiritual fragrance upon his holy, heavenly and mystical altar, may send down on us in return his divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer after placing the holy gifts on the holy table:

O God of ineffable and invisible mysteries, with whom are the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge, who have revealed unto us the service of this mystery, and have appointed unto us sinners, through your great love towards mankind, to offer unto you your gifts and sacrifices for our own sins, and for the errors of your people. You yourself, the same invisible King, who does things great and inscrutable, glorious and marvelous, which cannot be numbered, look upon us, your unworthy servants

who stand at this holy altar as at your cherubic throne, upon which lies your only-begotten Son and our God, in the awesome mysteries set forth thereon; and having delivered us and all your faithful people from every impurity, hallow all our souls and bodies with the sanctification which cannot be taken away. That partaking with a pure conscience, with faces unashamed, with hearts illumined, of these divine, consecrated Gifts, and being quickened through them, we may be united unto your Christ himself, our true God, who has said: who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him; so that when your Word, O Lord, will make its abode in us and will accompany our path, we may become the temple of your most holy and worshipful Spirit, redeemed from every wile of the devil, wrought either by deed or word or thought; and may obtain the good things promised unto us, with all your saints, who in all the ages have been acceptable in your sight.

Deacon: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by your grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That this whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

For a Christian end to our life, one that is painless, unashaming, and peaceful; and for a good defense at the awesome tribunal of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Having asked for unity of the faith and for the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

The priest exclaims:

And make us worthy, O Master, with confidence and without condemnation to dare call upon you, the heavenly God, as Father, and say:

Choir:

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 the kingdom, the power, and the glory are

yours, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Priest:

Peace be with all.

Choir: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

The priest prays:

O God, who alone are good and of tender compassion; who dwell on high and regard the humble of heart: look with the eye of your tender loving-kindness upon all your people, and preserve them. And graciously enable us all to partake without condemnation of these your life-giving mysteries: for unto you have we bowed our heads, in the hope of your rich mercy,

Exclamation:

through the grace, mercies and loving-kindness of your only-begotten Son with whom you are blessed together with your most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

The priest prays:

Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, from your holy dwelling and from the throne of glory in your kingdom, and come to sanctify us, you who are seated on high with the Father and are invisibly present here with us. Deign to give us with your mighty hand

your most pure Body and precious Blood, and through us, to all the people.

As this prayer is being said, the deacon, standing before the holy doors, puts on his orarion crosswise.

Then the priest and the deacon bow three times, each in his own place, saying in a low voice, thrice:

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Then the priest, the Holy Gifts being still covered, places his hand beneath the aer and touches the life-giving Bread with great reverence. The deacon says:

Let us be attentive!

The priest exclaims:

Presanctified Holy Things for the holy!

Choir:

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

And the Communion hymn: Taste and see how good is the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

If the Epistle and the Gospel of the feast were read, the choir adds the communion hymn of the feast.

The priest removes the aer. The deacon enters the holy sanctuary, stands to the right of the priest, and says:

Master, break the holy Bread.

The priest carefully and reverently breaks the holy Bread into four parts, saying:

Broken and distributed is the Lamb of God, broken and not divided, always eaten and never consumed, but sanctifying those who partake.

The priest, taking the particle IC which lies above, makes a sign of the cross over the holy chalice, saying nothing, and puts It into the holy chalice.

The deacon pours a little warm water crosswise into the holy chalice, saying nothing. He puts the warm water aside and stands a little apart.

The priest says:

Deacon, approach.

Then deacon approaches, makes a reverent bow and says:

Behold, I approach our immortal King and God. Master, give me the precious and holy Body of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The priest, holding the holy Bread, gives It to the deacon, saying:

The precious and holy and most pure Body of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, is given to the reverend deacon, *N.*, for the forgiveness of his sins and for life everlasting.

The deacon walks to the right of the holy table and stands there with bowed head, prays together with the priest, saying:

I believe, O Lord....

Likewise, the priest takes a particle of the holy Bread and says:

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

The priest bows his head and prays, saying:

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

Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of your mystical Supper. I will not tell the mystery to your enemies, nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief, I confess to you:

Remember me, O Lord, when you come into your kingdom.

Remember me, O Master, when you come into

your kingdom.

Remember me, O Holy One, when you come into your Kingdom.

May the partaking of your Holy Mysteries, O Lord, be unto me not for judgment or condemnation but for the healing of soul and body.

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.

I have sinned without number, forgive me, O Lord.

And they then partake with reverence and every care of the Particle which they hold in their hands.

The priest breaks the two remaining particles of the holy Lamb, NI and KA into smaller pieces. With a sponge, the deacon puts them into the holy chalice together with the other particles.

The deacon, bowing once, reverently accepts the chalice from the priest, comes to the doors, raises the holy chalice, and shows it to the people, saying:

Approach!

Choir:

I shall bless the Lord at all times, alleluia.

Those who wish to receive communion then approach. After the prayer I believe, O Lord... they approach one by one, bow with reverence and awe, with their hands on their chest crosswise, and receive the divine Gifts.

The priest, distributing communion, says:

The servant of God, N., partakes of the precious, most holy and most pure Body of our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of his/her sins and life everlasting. Amen.

Remember, O priest, that at this service, the holy communion is not given to infants, as the wine is not consecrated.

After communion the priest enters the holy sanctuary and places the holy Gifts on the holy table.

The priest takes the holy diskos and puts it on the head of the deacon. The dea-

con, having received it with reverence, proceeds to the prothesis, facing the doors but saying nothing, and leaves it there. The priest makes a bow, takes the holy chalice, turns to the doors facing the people, and says in a low voice:

Blessed be our God who enlightens and sanctifies us

And aloud:

always, now and for ever and ever.

The priest then goes to the holy prothesis and places the holy Gifts there.

Choir: Amen.

We thank you, Christ our God, that you deemed us worthy of becoming partakers of your most pure Body and your precious Blood poured out for all the world for the remissions of sins, your Mystery of salvation. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The deacon loosens his orarion, leaves through the northern door, stands in the customary place, and says:

Stand aright! Having received the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, and life-giving, awesome Mysteries of Christ, let us rightly give thanks to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Having asked that this whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

The priest says:

We thank you, O Savior and God of all, for all the good things you have given us and for the communion of the sacred body and blood of your Christ. We beseech you, O loving Master, keep us under the protection of your wings and grant that until our last breath we may worthily partake of your holy gifts

for enlightenment of our souls and bodies, for inheritance of the kingdom of heaven,

The priest folds the iletton and, holding the holy Gospel, makes a sign of the cross over it.

Exclamation:

for you are our sanctification and we give glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Let us go forth in peace.

Choir: In the name of the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer behind the Ambo, aloud:

O almighty Lord, who have made all created things in wisdom, and by your inexpressable Providence and great goodness have brought us to these most holy days, for the purification of body and soul, for the controlling of carnal passion, and for the hope of the Resurrection; who, during the forty days gave into the hand of your servant Moses the tablets of the Law, in characters divinely traced by you: enable us also, O good God, to fight the good fight; to accomplish the course of the fast; to preserve inviolate the faith; to crush under foot the heads of invisible serpents; to be accounted victors over sin; and uncondemned to attain unto and adore the holy Resurrection. For blessed and glorified is your most honored and magnificent name, of the

Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Blessed is the name of the Lord now and for ever. *Thrice.*

And Psalm 33.

During the prayer, the deacon stands before the icon of Christ, holding his orarion, with his head bowed until the conclusion of the prayer. After the prayer, the priest enters through the holy doors to the holy sanctuary.

The prayer of ablution

O Lord our God, who have brought us to these all-holy days, and have made us partakers of your awesome mysteries: unite us to your spiritual flock, and make us heirs of your kingdom, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

The deacon enters the sanctuary through the northern door, and with reverence consumes the holy Gifts.

The priest blesses the people, saying:

The blessing of the Lord be upon you with his grace and love for mankind, always, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon:

Wisdom.

Choir: More honorable than the cherubim and by far more glorious than the seraphim; ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word, O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Priest:

Glory be to you, O Christ our God, our hope, glory be to you.

Choir: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Thrice. Give the blessing.

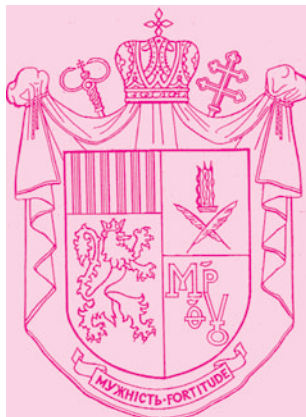
Priest:

Christ our true God through the prayers of his immaculate Mother (and so forth), and of saint N. (whose church it is), and of saint N. (whose memorial it is), and all the saints, will have mercy and save us, for he is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.

This dismissal is said until Holy Week. During Holy Week, the following dismissal is said instead:

Christ our true God, who is on his way to his voluntary passion, through the prayers of his immaculate Mother, of the holy, glorious and all-praiseworthy apostles, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and all the saints, will have mercy and save us, for he is good and loves mankind.



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