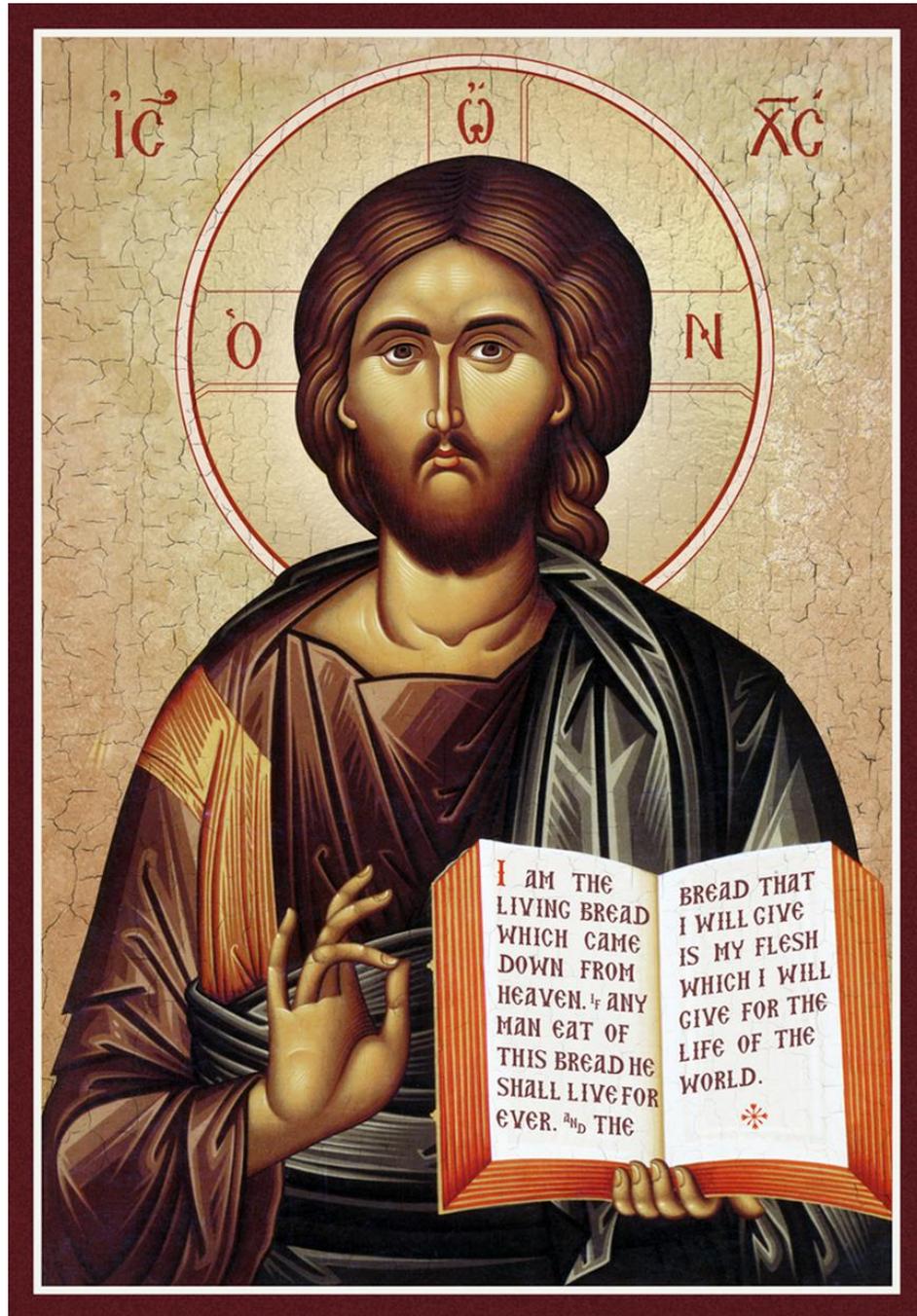


Presanctified Divine Liturgy



Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church
Merrillville, IN

The Presanctified is a Vespereal Liturgy. The opening blessing is done as usual, but then the doors are closed, and we proceed into Vespers.

Deacon: Bless Master!

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.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Come, let us worship God our King. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God. Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

The priest stands before the Royal Doors and quietly reads the Prayers of Light, while the reader continues with the Evening Psalm.

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord, my God, you are very great. You are clothed in praise and honor; who cover yourself with light as with a garment, spreading out the heavens as a curtain. You cover your chambers with the waters; you make the clouds your chariot; you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the angels spirits, and Your ministers a flaming fire. You established the earth on its sure foundation; it shall never be moved. You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters shall stand on the hills. At Your rebuke they shall flee; at the voice of Your thunder they shall be alarmed. They go up to the mountains and down to the plains, to the place which You founded for them. You have set a boundary which they shall not pass, neither shall they turn again to cover the earth. You send forth fountains among the valleys; the waters shall run between the mountains. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys shall quench their thirst. By them the birds of the heavens shall have their habitation; they shall sing among the rocks.

You water the mountains from your chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your miracles. You make grass grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that You may bring bread out of the earth, and wine that gladdens the heart of man, oil to make his face cheerful, and bread which strengthens man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be full of sap, even the cedars of Lebanon which You have planted. There birds will build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are a refuge for stags, and the rock for the rabbits. You appointed the moon for seasons; the sun knows his going down. You make darkness, and it is night; in it all the wild beasts of the forest will creep about. Young lions roar for prey and seek their food from God. The sun rises, and they gather together and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O Lord, how great are your works. In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is filled with Your creation. This great and wide sea, in which are innumerable living things both small and great. There sail the ships, and there is Leviathan which You have made to play there. All wait for You to give them their food in due season. When You give it to them, they will gather it up; when You open Your hand, they shall be filled with goodness. But when You have turned away Your face, they shall be troubled. When You take away their breath, they fail and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, and they are created; and You renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in His works; who looks upon the earth and makes it tremble; who touches the mountains and they smoke. I will sing praises to the Lord all my life; I will sing praises to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will rejoice in the Lord. May sinners and wicked men disappear from the earth and may they be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knows its going down. You make darkness, and it is night. O Lord, how great are Your works. In wisdom You have made them all.

Glory... Now and ever...

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Glory to You, O God. (3x)

THE GREAT LITANY

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*after each petition*)

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

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

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

For his Beatitude, our Metropolitan _____ and for [our bishop]; for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the President, Supreme Court, and Congress of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, for every city and countryside, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

That we may be delivered from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *O Lord, compassionate and merciful, longsuffering and plenteous in mercy, give ear to our prayer and attend to the voice of our supplication. Work upon us a sign for good. Lead us in Your way, that we may walk in Your truth. Make glad our hearts, that we may fear Your holy name. For You are great and do wonders. You alone are God, and among all the gods there is none like You, Lord: mighty in mercy, gracious in strength, to aid and to comfort and to save all those who put their trust in Your holy name.** For to You are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

During this Antiphon, the Presanctified Gifts are removed from the tabernacle, in which they were placed after consecration during Sunday's Liturgy. They are reverently placed on a paten and covered.

* Text in italics may be prayed quietly in advance at the discretion of the priest.

Psalm 119

In my distress I cry to the Lord
that He may answer me.

Deliver me, O Lord, from lying lips
from a deceitful tongue.

What shall be given to you
and what more shall be done to you, you deceitful tongue?

A warrior's sharp arrows
with glowing coals of the broom tree.

Woe is me, that I sojourn in Meshech,
that I dwell among the tents of Kedar.

Too long have I had my dwelling among those who hate peace
I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war.

Psalm 120

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From whence does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved,
He who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper,
the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

The sun shall not smite you by day,
nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil,
He will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forever more.

Psalm 121

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord;

Our feet have been standing within your gates,
O Jerusalem,

Jerusalem, built as a city bound firmly together,
to which the tribes go up,

the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

There thrones for judgment were set
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers.

For my brethren and companions’ sake,
I will say, “peace be within you.”

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.

Psalm 122

To You, I lift up my eyes,

O You who are enthroned in the heavens.

Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress.

So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
till He have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease,
the contempt of the proud.

Psalm 123

If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say:
If the Lord had not been on our side, when men rose up against us;

then they would have swallowed us alive,
when their anger was kindled against us.

Then the flood would have swept us away;
the torrent would have gone over us, the raging waters.

Blessed be the Lord,
who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

We have escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to You, O God! (3x)

LITTLE LITANY

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *O Lord, rebuke us not in Your anger, neither chasten us in Your wrath, but deal with us according to Your mercy, O Physician and Healer of our souls. Guide us to the haven of your will. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of Your truth and vouchsafe that the remainder of this day and our whole life may be peaceful and without sin, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints. For Yours is the majesty, and Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

People: Amen.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

During this Antiphon, the priest and deacon cense three times around the altar, upon which lie the Presanctified Body and Blood of our Lord.

Psalm 124

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved but abides forever.

As the mountains are round about Jerusalem,
so the Lord is round about His people from this time and forevermore.

The scepter of sinners shall not remain over the land of the righteous.
Lest the righteous put forth their hands to do wrong.

Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts.

But those who turn aside into crooked ways,
the Lord will lead away with evildoers. Peace be in Israel!

Psalm 125

When the Lord brought back the captives to Zion,
we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
the Lord has done great things for them;

the Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the waters in the Negeb.

May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy,

he that goes forth weeping, bearing the seeds for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy bringing his sheaves with him.

Psalm 126

Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.

It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil, so He gives to His beloved sleep.
Lo, sons are a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons of one's youth;
happy is the man who has his quiver full of them.

He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks to his enemies in the gate.

Psalm 127

Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in His ways.

You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be happy and it shall be well with you.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

Lo, thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the Lord.

The Lord bless you from Zion,
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

May you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 128

Sorely have they afflicted me from my youth:
Let Israel now say,

sorely have they afflicted me from my youth,
yet they have not prevailed against me.

The plowers plowed upon my back;
they made long their furrows.

The Lord is righteous,
He has cut the cords of the wicked.

May all who hate Zion,
be put to shame and turned backward.

Let them be like the grass on the housetops,
which withers before it grows up,

with which the reaper does not fill his hand,
or the binder of sheaves his bosom.

While those who pass by do not say:
the blessing of the Lord be upon you;

We bless you
in the name of the Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to You, O God! (3x)

LITTLE LITANY

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord

Priest: *O Lord our God, remember us sinners and Your unprofitable servants when we call upon Your holy name, and put us not to shame in our expectation of Your mercy; but grant us, O Lord, all our petitions which are unto salvation, and vouchsafe that we may love and fear You with all our hearts and do Your will in all things.* For You are a good God, and You love mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

During this antiphon, the Presanctified Gifts are borne with great reverence from the altar to the table of preparation. A chalice is prepared with mixed wine, and the Gifts are covered as usual.

Psalm 129

Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice.

Let Your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications.

If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with You,
that You may be feared.

I wait for the Lord,
my soul waits, and in His word, I hope.

My soul waits for the Lord more than the watchman for the morning,
more than the watchman for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy.

And with Him is plenteous redemption,
And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Psalm 130

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up,
my eyes are not raised too high.

I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvelous for me.

But I have calmed and quieted my soul
like a child quieted at its mother's breast.

O Israel, hope in the Lord,
from this time forth and forever more.

Psalm 131

Remember, O Lord, in David's favor,
all the hardships he endured:

How he swore to the Lord,
and vowed to the mighty one of Jacob:

“I will not enter my house or get into my bed;
I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids
until I find a place for the Lord,
a dwelling for the mighty One of Jacob.”
Lo, we heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.

Let us go to His dwelling place,
let us worship at His footstool.

Arise, O Lord, and go to Your resting place,
You and the ark of Your might.

Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness,
and let Your saints shout for joy.

For Your servant David’s sake
do not turn away the face of Your anointed.

The Lord swore to David a sure oath
from which He will not turn back.

“One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.

If your sons keep the covenant and testimonies I shall teach them,
their sons also forever shall sit upon your throne.”

For the Lord has chosen Zion;
He has desired it for His habitation.

This is My resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless her provisions,
I will satisfy her poor with bread.

Her priests I will clothe with salvation,
and her saints will shout for joy.

There I will make a horn to sprout for David.
I have prepared a lamp for My anointed.

His enemies I will clothe with shame,
but upon Himself His crown will shed its luster.

Psalm 132

Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity.

It is like the precious oil upon the head
running down upon the beard,

the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For the Lord has commanded the blessing:
life forevermore!

Psalm 133

Come, bless the Lord, you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord.

Lift up your hands to the holy place,
and bless the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion,
He who made heaven and earth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to You, O God! (3x)

LITTLE LITANY

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For You are our God, a merciful and saving God, and to You we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

LORD, I CALL...

*After we sing "Lord I Call" (see the handout) the **Reader** reads **Psalms 140 and 141** below. The appointed hymns are sung interspersed with the final verses of the Psalm.*

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, a door of enclosure about my lips. Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins with people who work lawlessness, and I will not join their choice ones. The righteous man shall correct me with mercy, and he shall reprove me.

But let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head, for my prayer shall be intense in the presence of their pleasures. Their judges are swallowed up by the rock. They shall hear my words, for they are pleasant. As a clod of ground is dashed to pieces on the earth, so our bones were scattered beside the grave. For my eyes, O Lord, Lord, they are toward You. In You I hope; take not my soul away. Keep me from the snares they set for me and from the stumbling blocks of those who work lawlessness. Sinners shall fall into their own net. I am alone until I escape.

I cried to the Lord with my voice. With my voice I prayed to the Lord. I shall pour out my supplication before Him. I shall declare my affliction in His presence. When my spirit fainted within me, then You knew my paths; for on the way I was going they hid a trap for me. I looked on my right and saw there was no one who knew me. Refuge failed me, and there was no one who cared for my soul. I cried to You, O Lord. I said, "You are my hope, my portion in the land of the living." Attend to my supplication, for I was humbled exceedingly. Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I. Bring my soul out of prison to give thanks to Your name, O Lord. The righteous shall wait for me; until You reward me. Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice. Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If You, O Lord, should mark transgression, O Lord, who would stand? But there is forgiveness with You. Because of Your law, O Lord, I waited for You. My soul waited for Your word; my soul hopes in the Lord. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch until night, let Israel hope in the Lord. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption, and He shall redeem Israel from all his transgressions. Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples! For His mercy is abundant toward us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Glory ... Now and ever...

THE EVENING ENTRANCE

Deacon: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

Priest: *In the evening and in the morning and at noonday we praise You, we bless You, we give thanks to You, and we pray to You, Master of all, Lord who love mankind. Direct our prayer as incense before You, and incline not our hearts unto words or thoughts of evil but deliver us from all who seek after our souls. For to You, Lord, do we lift up our eyes, and in You have we hoped. Put us not to shame, O our God. For to You 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.*

Deacon: *Amen. Bless, master, the holy entrance.*

Priest: Blessed is the evening entrance of Your saints always, now, and ever and unto ages of ages.

Deacon: Amen. Wisdom! Let us stand aright!

GLADSOME LIGHT

O Gladsome light of the holy glory of the immortal Father:
Heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ!
Having come to the setting of the sun
and beheld the light of evening,
we praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: God!
At all times You are worthy!
You are worthy of praise in songs
as Son of God, Giver of Life!//
Therefore, the world glorifies You.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Reader and Choir chant the first Prokeimenon from the handout.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from _____.

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Reader: [*Reads the Scripture from Genesis or Exodus*]

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Reader and Choir chant the second Prokeimenon from the handout.

Deacon: Command!

All kneel or prostrate.

Priest: Wisdom! Let us be attentive. The light of Christ illumines all!

All stand

Reader: The reading is from _____.

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Reader: [*Reads the Scripture from Proverbs or Job*]

Priest: Peace be to you who have read.

Deacon: Wisdom!

THE GREAT PROKEIMENON: *LET MY PRAYER ARISE* (Psalm 140)

All kneel or prostrate

Cantor: Let my prayer arise in Your sight as incense, /
and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

- v.1. Lord, I have cried to You, hear me;
hear the voice of my prayer, when I cry to You.
- v.2. Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth
and keep the door of my lips.
- v.3. Incline not my heart to any evil thing,
nor to practice wicked deeds.

THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM*

All: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth,
despair, lust for power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and
love to Your servant. (*prostration*)

Yes, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions
and not to judge my brother, for You are blessed unto ages of
ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

AUGMENTED LITANY

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray You, hear us
and have mercy.

* During Holy Week, a Gospel reading is appointed instead of this Prayer.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*3x after each petition*)

Deacon: Again we pray for our Metropolitan _____, for our (Arch)Bishop _____, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.

Again we pray for this country, its President, Supreme Court, and Congress, for all our civil authorities, and for the armed forces everywhere.

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox Patriarchs, for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house, [for _____] and for all our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters, the orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for [the servants of God _____, and for] all the faithful of this holy community, and for the pardon and remission of all their sins.

(Special petitions may be added here at the direction of the bishop)

Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, for those who labor and those who sing, and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

Priest: *O Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication of Your servants and have mercy on us according to the multitude of*

Your mercy. Send down Your bounties upon us and upon all Your people, who await the rich mercy that comes from you. For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and to You we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE LITANY FOR CATECHUMENS

Deacon: Pray to the Lord, you catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(after each petition)*

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

That he may teach them the word of truth.

That he may reveal to them the Gospel of righteousness.

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

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

Bow your heads unto the Lord, you catechumens.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *O God our God, the Creator and Maker of all things, who will that all men should be saved and should come to the knowledge of the truth: Look upon Your servants the catechumens, and deliver them from the ancient delusion and from the wiles of the adversary. Call them to life eternal, enlightening their souls and bodies and numbering them with Your rational flock, which is called by Your holy name,*

that with us they may glorify Your all-honorable and majestic name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The following litany is added after the midpoint of Great Lent:

Deacon: As many as are preparing for illumination, draw near. Pray, you who are preparing for illumination.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*after each petition*)

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

That the Lord our God may establish and strengthen them.

That He may enlighten them with the light of knowledge and godliness.

That He may grant them in due time the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruption.

That He may beget them anew by water and the Spirit.

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

That He may number them with His holy and elect flock.

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

As many as are preparing for illumination, bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *Reveal, O Master, Your countenance to those who are preparing for holy illumination and who long to put away the pollution of sin. Enlighten their understanding; establish them in the faith; strengthen them in hope; perfect them in love. Show them to be honorable members of Your Christ, who gave Himself as a ransom for our souls. For You are our Illumination and to You we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

Choir: Amen.

LITANIES OF THE FAITHFUL

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: *Lord, have mercy.*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Priest: *O God, great and praiseworthy, who by the life-giving death of Your Christ have translated us from corruption to incorruption: Free all our senses from deadly passions by setting over them as a good guide the understanding that is within us. And let our eyes abstain from every evil sight, our hearing be inaccessible to idle words, and our tongues be purged of unseemly speech. Make clean our lips which praise You, O Lord. Make our hands to refrain from base deeds and to work only that which is well-pleasing to You, fortifying all our members and our mind by Your grace. For to You are due all*

glory, honor, and worship to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: *Lord, have mercy.*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Priest: *O Master, holy and exceeding good, we implore You, who are rich in mercy: Be gracious to us sinners, and make us worthy of the reception of Your Only-begotten Son and our God, the King of glory. For behold, His immaculate Body and life-giving Blood, entering at this present hour, are about to be set forth upon this mystical table, invisibly escorted by multitudes of heavenly hosts. Grant us to partake of them without condemnation, that through them the eye of our mind may be illumined, and we may become children of the light and of the day, through the gift of Your Christ, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

Choir: Amen.

ENTRANCE WITH THE PRECIOUS BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LORD

Choir: Now the powers of heaven invisibly with us do serve.
Lo, the King of Glory enters.
Lo, the mystical sacrifice is upborne, fulfilled.

All kneel or prostrate in silence at the entrance of the Presanctified Gifts

Choir: Let us draw near in faith and love
and become communicants of Life eternal. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM

All: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth,
despair, lust for power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and
love to Your servant. (*prostration*)

Yes, Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions
and not to judge my brother, for blessed are You unto the
ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

LITANY BEFORE THE LORD'S PRAYER

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*after each petition*)

Deacon: For the precious gifts now offered and presanctified, let us
pray to the Lord.

That our God, who loves mankind, receiving them upon His
holy and noetic altar above the heavens as a sweet spiritual
fragrance, will send down upon us in return His divine grace
and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

That we may be delivered from all affliction, wrath, danger
and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by
Your grace.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord. (*after each*)

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

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

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

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

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

Having asked for the unity of the Faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ, our God.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *O God of unutterable and unseen mysteries, with whom are the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge, who have revealed the service of this liturgy to us, who have set us sinners, through Your great love toward mankind, to offer You gifts and sacrifices for our own sins and for the ignorance of the people: O invisible King, who do 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 rests Your Only-begotten Son and our God, in the dread Mysteries that are set forth; and having freed us and Your faithful people from all uncleanness, sanctify all our souls and bodies with the*

sanctification which cannot be taken away; that partaking with a clean conscience, with face unashamed, with heart illumined, of these divine, sanctified things, and by them being given life, we may be united to Your Christ Himself, our true God, who said, 'Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me and I in him;' that by Your Word, O Lord, dwelling within us and sojourning among us, we may become the temple of Your all-holy and adorable Spirit, redeemed from every diabolical wile, wrought either by deed or word or thought, and may obtain the good things promised to us with all Your Saints, who in all ages have been well-pleasing to You. And make us worthy, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call on You, the heavenly God, as 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 the evil one.

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

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

People: And to you spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *O God, who alone are good and tender-hearted, who dwell on high and regard things below: Look with Your tender-hearted eye upon all Your people, and keep them. Make us all worthy, without condemnation, to partake of these, Your life-giving Mysteries, for to You have we bowed our heads, awaiting from You Your rich mercy, through the grace and compassion and love toward mankind of Your Only-begotten Son with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

Choir: Amen. Amen.

Priest: *Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, out of Your holy dwelling place, from the throne of the glory of Your Kingdom, and come to sanctify us, You who sit on high with the Father and are here invisibly present with us, and by Your mighty hand deign to impart unto us Your most pure Body and precious Blood, and through us to all the people.*

O God, cleanse me, a sinner, and have mercy on me. (3x)

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Priest: The presanctified Holy Things for the holy!

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

THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Choir: O taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia!

*After receiving the precious body and blood of the Lord, but before partaking, the priest invites **all** to pray with him:*

I believe, O Lord, and I confess 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 believe also that this is truly Your own most pure body, and that this is truly Your own precious blood. Therefore, I pray You: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Your most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Your mystical supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Your mystery to Your enemies, neither like Judas will I give You a kiss; but like the thief will I confess You: remember me, O Lord, in Your kingdom.

May the communion of Your holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

*The **choir** repeats the Communion Hymn while the gifts are readied*

Deacon: In the fear of God, with faith and love, draw near!

Choir: I will bless the Lord at all times.
His praise shall always be on my lips.

The faithful come forward to receive the presanctified gifts.

Choir: O taste and see that the Lord is good.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Choir: Taste the heavenly Bread and the Cup of life, and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Let our mouths be filled with Your praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Your glory; for You have made us worthy to partake of Your holy, divine, immortal, and life-creating Mysteries. Keep us in Your holiness, that all the day we may meditate upon Your righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Deacon: Let us stand aright! Having partaken of the divine, holy, most pure, immortal, heavenly, life-giving, and dread Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: *We give thanks to You, O God, the Savior of all, for all the good things which You have vouchsafed unto us, and for the communion of the holy Body and Blood of Your Christ. And we beseech You, O Master who love mankind, to keep us under the shelter of Your wings. And grant that even to our last breath we may worthily partake of Your holy things, unto the illumination of soul and body, and unto the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven. For You are our sanctification, and unto You we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.*

Choir: Amen.

THE PRAYER BEFORE THE AMBO

Priest: Let us depart in peace.

Choir: In the name of the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Almighty Master, who in wisdom have fashioned all creation; who, through Your ineffable providence and great goodness, have led us to these all-revered days for purification of souls and bodies, for restraint of passions, and for hope of the resurrection; who, during the forty days, put into the hands of Your servant Moses the tablets in letters divinely inscribed: Grant to us also, O Good One, to fight the good fight, to complete the course of the fast, to preserve the faith intact, to crush the heads of invisible serpents, to be shown to be conquerors of sin, and, without condemnation, also to attain unto and to worship the holy Resurrection. For blessed and glorified is Your all-honorable and majestic name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (3x)

Priest: *O Lord our God, who have led us to these all-revered days and have made us communicants of Your dread Mysteries: Unite us to Your rational flock, and show us to be heirs of Your kingdom, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to You, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to You!

Choir: Glory... now and ever... Lord, have mercy. (3x) Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, the Protector of this holy temple; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; our father among the saints, Gregory the Dialogist, Pope of Rome, whose Liturgy we have just celebrated; [of _____, whose memory we keep this day;] of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.

Glory to God for
all things!