The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Altar copy

*This text is based upon “The Clergy Service Book. The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts of St Gregory the Diologist, Pope of Rome. According to the usage of the Hermitage of the Holy Cross, West Virginia 2013. Published with the blessing of Most Reverend George, Bishop of Mayfield. (ROCOR)*

*The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is offered in St Elisabeth’s in the simplest possible form without Old Testament readings or Epistle and Gospel.*

*The priest’s entrance prayers take place just before the 9th Hour. They are the usual prayers from the Sluzhevnik with the exception of “O Lord, stretch forth Thy hand…instead is said:*

***Priest:* Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offences, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and in thought: forgive us all things, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.**

*The priest enters through the North door, prostrates twice, kisses the Holy Gospel and the edge of the Holy Table, makes a third prostration and begins to vest. He does not say the vesting prayers but he simply takes each vestment, making the sign of he Cross over them and vests saying only:* **Let us pray to the Lord +**

*The curtain is closed. On the Holy Table is placed the Artophorion and a single lit candle. The empty discos, spear and spoon are placed on the left of the Holy Table. On the Proscomede, there is an empty chalice, folded veils and star on the left with a vessel containing mixed wine and water on the right. An opened red cloth covers the right-hand corner of the Proscomede. The priest concludes the 9th Hour from before the closed holy doors. He enters the altar, prostrates twice before the Holy Table, kisses the Gospel and edge of the Holy Table as usual and prostrates a third time. The server opens the curtain and the priest blesses with the Gospel Book over the Antimins as usual.*

***The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts***

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

Choir: **Amen**

*The priest exits through the north door and stands before the closed holy doors for prayers four to seven from Vespers during Psalm 103 (Shortened version)*

***Reader:*** **O come let us worship God our King. O come let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and our God. O come let us worship and fall down before Christ himself our King and our God.**

***Psalm 103*** *(short form)*

***Choir:*** **Bless the Lord O my soul. Blessed art Thou O Lord. O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.**

***Refrain:*** **Blessed art Thou, O Lord. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on.**

***Choir:*** **Bless the Lord O my soul. Blessed art Thou O Lord. O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.**

***Refrain:*** **Blessed art Thou, O Lord. Upon the mountains shall the waters stand.**

***Choir:*** **Bless the Lord O my soul. Blessed art Thou O Lord. O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.**

***Refrain:*** **Wondrous are Thy works, O Lord. Between the mountains will the waters run.**

***Choir:*** **Bless the Lord O my soul. Blessed art Thou O Lord. O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.**

***Refrain:*** **Wondrous are Thy works O Lord. In Thy wisdom hast Thou made them all, Hast Thou made them all.**

***Choir:*** **Bless the Lord O my soul. Blessed art Thou O Lord. O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.**

***Refrain:*** **Glory to The, O Lord, Who has made them all, Who has made them all.**

***Choir:*** **Bless the Lord O my soul. Blessed art Thou O Lord. O Lord my God, Thou art magnified exceedingly.**

***Refrain:*** **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.**

***Reader:*** **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee O God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to The O God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to The O God.**

*The Priest re-enters the Altar through the south door and stands before the Holy Table*

***The Great Litany follows with Lenten responses***

***Priest:* In peace let us pray to the Lord**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* 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.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* For this holy temple, and for those that with faith, reverence and the fear of God entre herein, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* For our great lord and father, His Holiness, Patriarch Kyrill, Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia; our lord the Very most Reverend Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; for our lord, the Right Reverend Bishop Irinei; for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all he clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* For this land, for our sovereign lady, Queen Elisabeth and all her Royal house, her government and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* For the God-preserved land of Russia and for its Orthodox people both in the homelands and in the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* For this parish and town, for every city and land, and the faithful that dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* For seasonable weathers, the abundance of he fruits of the earth and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* Calling to remembrance our most holy, immaculate, exceedingly blessed, glorious Lady, Theotokos and ever Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life unto Christ our God.**

***Choir:* To Thee, O Lord**

*Priest secretly:* O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long suffering and plenteous in mercy, give ear unto our prayer and attend to the voice of our supplication; work in us a sign unto good; guide us in Thy way, that we may walk in Thy truth; gladden our hearts, that we may fear Thy holy name; for Thou art great and workest wonders, Thou alone art God, and there is none like unto Thee among the gods, O Lord, strong in mercy and good in might, to help and comfort, and to save all that hope in Thy holy name.

***Priest:*  For unto Thee is due all glory, honour and worship; to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever; and the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

***The First Stasis of the 18th Kathisma***

*This is chanted simply by the Reader or member of the choir, normally only two psalms are used. During the 1st Stasis the Priest makes two prostrations before the gifts on the Holy Table, places the Gospel onto the right of the Holy Table, opens the Antimins on which he places the discos. Then he lifts the Lamb with the spear and the spoon onto the empty discos, wipes the spear and spoon with the sponge, and prostrates a third time before the Holy Table.*

***Psalm 119***

**Unto the Lord in mine affliction have I cried, and He heard me. O Lord, deliver my soul from unrighteous lips and from a crafty tongue. What shall be given unto thee and what shall be added unto thee for thy crafty tongue? The arrows of the mighty one, sharpened with coals of the desert. Woe is me, for my sojourning is prolonged; I have tented with the tentings of Kedar, my soul hath long been a sojourner. With them that hate peace I was peaceable; when I spake unto them, they warred against me without a cause.**

***Psalm 120***

**I have lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth. Give not thy foot unto moving, and may He not slumber that keepeth thee. Behold, He shall not slumber not shall He sleep, He that keepeth Israel. The Lord shall keep thee; the Lord is thy shelter at thy right hand. The sun shall not burn thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall keep thee from all evil, the Lord shall guard thy soul. The Lord shall keep thy coming in and thy going out, from henceforth and for evermore.**

***Psalm 121***

**I was glad because of them that said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet have stood in thy courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city which its dwellers share in concord. For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord as a testimony for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. For there are set thrones unto judgement, thrones over the house of David. Ask now for things which are for the peace of Jerusalem, and for the prosperity of them that love thee. Let peace be now in thy strength, and prosperity in thy palaces. For the sake of my brethren and my neighbours, I spake peace concerning thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for thee.**

***Psalm 122***

**Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, unto Thee that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid look unto the hands of her mistress, so do our eyes look unto the Lord our God, until He take pity on us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for greatly are we filled with abasement. Greatly hath our soul been filled therewith; let reproach come upon them that prosper, and abasement on the proud.**

***Psalm 123***

**Had it not been that the Lord was with us, let Israel now say, had it not been that the Lord was with us, when men rose up against us, then had they swallowed us up alive. When their wrath raged against us, then had the water overwhelmed us. Our soul like a sparrow was delivered out of the snare of he hunters. The snare is broken, and we ae delivered. Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God.**

***The Little Litany*.**

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

***Choir:*  Lord have mercy**

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

***Choir:*  Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* Calling to remembrance our most holy, immaculate, exceedingly blessed. Glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life unto Christ our God.**

*The priest says secretly:* O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten us in Thy wrath, but deal with us according to Thy mercy, O Physician and Healer of our souls. Guide us unto the haven of Thy will; enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of Thy truth; and grant unto us that the remainder of the present day and the whole time of our life may be peaceful and sinless, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints.

***Priest:* For Thine is the dominion, and Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

***Choir:*  Amen.**

*During the Second Stasis which follows the priest censes round the Holy Table the priest censes three times round the Holy Table*

***The Second Stasis of the 18th Kathisma***

*This is chanted simply by the Reader or a member of the Choir and may be abbreviated to two Psalms.*

***Psalm 124***

**They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Sion; he that dwelleth at Jerusalem, nevermore shall he be shaken. Mountains are around her, and the Lord is around His people from henceforth and for evermore. For the Lord will not permit the rod of sinners to be upon the lot of the righteous, lest the righteous stretch forth their hands unto iniquities. Do good, O Lord, unto them that are good and unto the upright of heart. But them that turn aside unto crooked ways shall the Lord lead away with the workers of iniquity; peace be upon Israel.**

***Psalm 125***

**When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion, we became as men that are comforted. Then was our mouth filled with joy, and our tongue with rejoicing. Then shall they say among the nations: the Lord hath done great things unto them. The Lord hath done great things among us, and we ae become glad. Turn again, O Lord, our captivity, like streams in the south. They that sow with tears shall reap with rejoicing. In their goings they went, and they wept as they cast their seeds. But in their coming shall they come with rejoicing, bearing their sheaves.**

***Psalm 126***

**Except the Lord build the house, in vain do they labour that build it. Except the Lord guard the city, in vain doth he watch that guardeth her; it is vain for you to rise at dawn. Ye that eat the bread of sorrow, rouse yourselves after resting, when He hath given sleep to His beloved. Lo, sons are the heritage of the Lord, the reward of the fruit of the womb. Like arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the sons of them that were outcasts. Blessed is he that shall fulfil his desires with them; they shall not put to shame when they speak to their enemies in the gates.**

***Psalm 127***

**Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, that walk in His ways. Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labours; blessed art thou, and well shall it be with thee. They wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the sides of thy house, thy sons like young olive trees round about thy table. Behold, so shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The Lord bless thee out of Sion, and mayest thou see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. And mayest thou see thy children’s children; peace be upon Israel.**

***Psalm 128***

**Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, let Israel now say, many a time have they warred against me from my youth, and yet they have not prevailed against me. The sinners wrought upon my back, they lengthened out their iniquity. The Lord is righteous; He hath cut asunder the necks of sinners. Let them be put to shame and turned back, all they that hate Sion. Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which before it is plucked up is withered away. Wherefore the reaper filleth not his hand, nor he that gathereth sheaves his bosom. Nor have they that passed said: the blessing of the Lord come upon you; we have blessed 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 the ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God.**

***The Little Litany***

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

***Choir:*  Lord have mercy**

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

***Choir:*  Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* Calling to remembrance our most holy, immaculate, exceedingly blessed. Glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life unto Christ our God.**

*The Priest says secretly:* O Lord our God, remember us, Thy sinful and unprofitable servants, when we call upon Thy holy, venerable name, and turn us not away in shame from the expectation of Thy mercy; but grant us, O Lord, all our petitions, which are unto salvation, and vouchsafe us to love and fear Thee with our whole heart, and do Thy will in all things.

***Priest:* For a good God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

*During the Third Stasis the priest makes two prostrations, then gives the candle to the server. The priest goes down on one knee and lifts the discos. The curtain closes as the discos is raised. The priest transfers the discos to the Proscomede holding it level with his forehead via the high place. A server meets him with the censer and the candle. The priest puts the discos onto the Proscomede to the right of the chalice, and the server opens the curtain. He fills the chalice and he covers the Holy Gifts as usual. He censes three times, places the candle on the Proscomede and prostrates before the covered gifts. He returns to the Holy Table, folds the Antimins and replaces the Gospel Book.*

***The Third Stasis of the 18th Kathisma***

*This is chanted by the Reader or a member of the choir selecting at least three or four psalms*

***Psalm 129***

**Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice. Let mine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness. For Thy name’s sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.**

***Psalm 130***

**O Lord, my heart is not exalted, not are mine eyes become lofty. Nor have I walked in things too great or too marvellous for me. If I were not humble-minded but exalted my soul, as one weaned from his mother, so wouldest Thou requite my soul. Let Israel hope in the Lord, from henceforth and for evermore.**

***Psalm 131***

**Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. How he made an oath unto the Lord, and vowed unto the God of Jacob: I shall not go into the dwelling of my house, I shall not ascend upon the bed of my couch, I shall not give sleep to mine eyes, nor slumber to my eyelids, nor rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, a habitation for the God of Jacob. Lo, we have heard of it in Ephratha, we have found it in the plains of the wood. Let us go forth into His tabernacles, let us worship at the place where His feet have stood. Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness. Thy priests shall be clothed in righteousness, and Thy righteousness shall rejoice. For the sake of David Thy servant, turn not Thy face away from Thine anointed one. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not annul it: of the fruit of thy loins will I set upon thy throne. If thy sons keep My covenant and these testimonies which I shall teach them, their sons shall sit for ever on thy throne. For the Lord hath elected Sion, He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself. This is My rest for ever and ever: here will I dwell, for I have chosen her. Blessing, I will bless her pursuit; her beggars will I satisfy with bread. Her priests will I clothe with salvation, and her saints with rejoicing shall rejoice. There will I make to spring forth a horn for David, I have prepared a lamp for My Christ. His enemies will I clothe with shame, but upon Him shall My sanctification flourish.**

***Psalm 132***

**Behold now, what is so good or so joyous as for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the oil of myrrh upon the head, which runneth down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, which runneth down to the fringe of his raiment. It is like the dew of Aermon, which cometh down upon the mountains of Sion. For there the Lord commanded the blessing, life for evermore.**

***Psalm 133***

**Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. In nights lift up your hands unto the holies, and bless he Lord. The Lord bless the out of Sion, He that made heaven and he earth.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee our God.**

***The Little Litany***

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

***Choir:*  Lord have mercy**

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

***Choir:*  Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* Calling to remembrance our most holy, immaculate, exceedingly blessed. Glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life unto Christ our God.**

***Choir:* To Thee O Lord.**

***Priest:* For Thou art our God, the God Who hath mercy and saveth, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

***Choir:* Amen**

*The priest censes the whole altar in the usual manner, the Holy Table, the Proscomede, the altar and servers, exits the South door then censes the Iconostas, choir and people, then the whole church as in the Divine Liturgy. The censer should be well charged.*

***The “Lord I have cried…” is sung to the chant below in the 6th Tone***

***Choir:* Lord I cry unto Thee hear me; hear me O Lord. Lord I cry unto Thee, hear me; attend to the voice of my prayer when I cry to Thee. Hear me O Lord. Let my prayer arise before Thee like incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. Hear me O Lord.**

*And then the rest of the verses are chanted simply with the stichera inserted as laid out below which may be chanted antiphonally by the reader and /or members of the choir. For convenience, only one set of stichera is included. As we get to know the Liturgy of the Presanctified, this section may be expanded*

***The verses and stichera of the “Lord I have cried…”***

**Set, O Lord. A watch before my mouth, and a door of enclosure round about my lips.**

**Incline not my heart unto works of evil, to make excuse with excuses in sins.**

**With men that work iniquity; and I will not join with their chosen.**

**The righteous man will chasten me with mercy and reprove me; as for the oil of the sinner, let it not anoint my head.**

**For yet more is my prayer in the presence of their pleasures; swallowed up near by the rock have their judges been.**

**They shall hear my words, for they be sweetened; as a clod of earth is broken upon the earth, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hades.**

**For unto Thee, O Lord, O Lord, are mine eyes, in Thee have I hoped; take not my soul away.**

**Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, an from the stumbling-blocks of them that work iniquity.**

**The sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone until they pass by.**

**With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto the Lord have I made supplication.**

**I will pour out before Him my supplication, mine affliction before Him will I declare.**

**When my spirit was fainting within me, then Thou knewest my paths.**

**In this way wherein I have walked they hid for me a snare.**

**I looked upon my right hand, and beheld, and there was none that did know me.**

**Flight hath failed me, and there is none that watcheth out for my soul.**

**I have cried unto the, O Lord; I said: Thou art my hope, my portion in the land of the living.**

**Attend unto my supplication, for I am brought very low.**

**Deliver me from them that persecute me, for they are stronger than I.**

**Bring my soul out of prison; that I may confess Thy name.**

**The righteous wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.**

**Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, O Lord*,* hear my voice.**

**Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

**If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.**

**For Thy name’s sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.**

**Walk about Sion O ye people/ and encompass her./ Give glory unto Christ, / for He is our God who has delivered us from all our iniquities.**

**From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope in the Lord.**

**Walk about Sion O ye people/ and encompass her./ Give glory unto Christ, / for He is our God who has delivered us from all our iniquities.**

**For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.**

**Ye heavens be glad, sound the trumpets ye foundations of the earth./ shout for joy, O ye hills,/ for behold, Emmanuel hath nailed our sins to the Cross./ He hath put death to death by raising Adam, / because He loveth mankind.**

**O praise the Lord, all ye nations, praise Him all ye peoples.**

**Ye heavens be glad, sound the trumpets ye foundations of the earth./ shout for joy, O ye hills,/ for behold, Emmanuel hath nailed our sins to the Cross./ He hath put death to death by raising Adam, / because He loveth mankind.**

**For He hath made His mercy prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abideth for ever.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,** (*here the doors open and the Priest and servers with candles exit the North door with the incense. He censes the lintel, the Saviour and the Mother of God and waits censing quietly)*

**Let us praise the Virgin Mary, glory of all the world and doorway to heaven,/ who, begotten of man, hast borne the Lord./ She is the adornment of the faithful and proclaimed by the heavenly hosts./ She it is who, as temple of the Godhead, hath broken down the wall of enmity / and shown forth the way unto the Kingdom.**

**now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen**

***Priest:*** **Wisdom, upright** *(+ with censer, then censes the lintel, the Saviour and the Mother of God.)*

 ***Choir:* O Joyous Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of life: therefore all the world doth glorify Thee.**

*(Enter, cense the front of the Holy Table, put censer into left hand, turn, kiss the little icon of the Saviour, bless servers, kiss the little Icon of the Mother of God, re-enter the altar, wait for the servers to return to the high place, bow, kiss the Gospel and the edge of the Holy Table. Offer the censer to the server to be re-charged fully. The priest stays before the Holy Table.)*

***Let my prayer be set forth…***

***Choir:* Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.** *(Priest censes the front of the Holy Table)*

***Choir:* Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.** *(Priest censes the front of the Holy Table)*

***Choir:*** *(People and servers prostrate)* **Lord I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me: attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry to Thee.** *(Priest censes the front of the Holy Table)*

***Choir:*** *(People and servers rise)* **Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.** *(Priest censes the front of the Holy Table)*

***Choir:*** *(People and servers prostrate)* **Set O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a door of enclosure round about my lips.** *(Priest censes the front of the Holy Table)*

***Choir:*** *(People and servers rise)* **Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.** *(Priest moves to the Proscomede via the high place)*

***Choir:*** *(People and servers prostrate)* **Incline not my heart unto words of evil, to make excuse with excuses in sins.** *(Priest censes the Holy Gifts on the Proscomede)*

***Choir:*** *(People and servers rise)* **Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.** *(Priest censes the Holy Gifts on the Proscomede and, giving up the censer, immediately returns to the front of the Holy Table)*

***Choir:*** *(Priest, people and servers prostrate)* **Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee.**

***Choir:*** *(Priest, people and servers rise)* **The lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.**

***The Prayer of St Ephraim*** *(Short form)*

**Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, despondency, ambition, and idle talking give me not.** *(Priest, people and servers prostrate)*

**But rather a spirit of chastity, humble-mindedness, patience and love bestow upon me Thy servant.** *(Prostration)*

**Yea, O Lord King, grant me to see my failings and not condemn my brother: for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.** *(Prostration)*

*The Holy Doors are closed*

***The Litany of Fervent Supplication***

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

*(Here the priest takes the Holy Gospel from on top of the antimins and places it upright in the usual place, opening the eliton)*

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray Thee hearken and have mercy.**

*(Here the priest continues to open the eliton)*

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.**

*(Here the priest opens the still folded antimins right and left)*

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Again we pray for our great lord and father, His Holiness, Patriarch Kyrill, Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia;** *(Here the priest open the lower fold of the antimins)* **for our lord, the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; and the Right Reverend Bishop Irenei of Richmond and Western Europe;** *(Here the priest kisses the edge of the antimins)***and all our brethren in Christ.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.** *(Priest says secretly:)* O Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication from Thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Thy mercies, and send down Thy compassions upon us, and upon all Thy people that await of Thee abundant mercy.

***Priest:* Again we pray for this land, for our sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth and all her Royal House, her government and armed forces.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Again we pray for the God-preserved Russian Land and its Orthodox peoples both in the homelands and in the diaspora and for heir salvation.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Again we pray for our brethren, the priests, priestmonks, and all our brethren in Christ.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable, holy Orthodox Patriarchs; for pious kings and right-believing queens; for the founders of this holy temple and for all our fathers and brethren gone to their rest before us, and the Orthodox here and everywhere laid to rest.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all venerable temple; for those who minister and those who chant, and for all the people here present, that await of Thee great and abundant mercy.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* For a merciful God art Thou and the Lover of Mankind, and unto The do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

***The Litany of the Catechumens***

***Priest:* Pray ye catechumens to the Lord**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy** *(continuously)*

***Priest:* Ye faithful, for the catechumens let us pray, that the Lord will have mercy on them. That He will catechise them with the word of Truth. That He will reveal unto them the Gospel of righteousness.***(Here the priest opens the upper fold of the antimins.)* **That He will unite them to His Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Save them, have mercy on them, and keep them, O God, by Thy grace. Ye Catechumens, bow your heads unto the Lord.**

***Choir:* To Thee, O Lord.** *(The priest says secretly:)* O God our God, the Creator and Maker of all things, Who willest that all men should be saved, and should come to the knowledge of the truth, look upon thy servants the catechumens and deliver them from their former delusion and from the whiles of the adversary. And call them unto life eternal, illumining their souls and bodies and numbering them with Thy rational flock, which is called by Thy holy name. *(Here the priest takes the sponge into his right hand)*

***Priest:* That they also with us may glorify Thy most honourable and majestic name:** *(Here the priest makes the sign of the Cross with the sponge)* **of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.** *(Here the priest lays the sponge on the upper part of the antimins)*

***Choir:* Amen**

***The First Litany of the Faithful***

***Priest:* As many as are catechumens, *Priest:* As many as are catechumens, depart, catechumens, depart. As many depart, as many as are as are catechumens depart. Let none of the preparing for illumination, draw nigh. Let none of the catechumens remain. Pray, ye who are preparing for many as are of the faithful, again and illumination. again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.**

*The priest says secretly:* O God, great *The priest say secretly:* Show the light of and worthy to be praised, Who through Thy countenance, O God, upon those the life-giving death of Thy Christ hast who are preparing for holy illumination, translated us from corruption to in- and who desire to put away to put away corruption: Deliver Thou all our senses the defilement of sin. Enlighten them in from deadly passions; setting over their understanding. Establish them in them as a good ruler the under- the faith. Strengthen them in hope. Standing that is in us. Let our eye Perfect them in Love. Make them have no part in any evil sight; let honourable members of Thy Christ, Who our hearing be inaccessible to all gave Himself as a ransom for our souls. to all idle words; and let our tongue be purged from unseemly speech. Purify our lips which praise Thee, O Lord. Make our hands to abstain from evil deeds and to work only such things as are acceptable unto Thee, establishing all our members and our minds by Thy grace.

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy**

***Priest:* Wisdom. For unto Thee is due all glory, honour and worship: to the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

***The Second Litany of the Faithful***

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

*The priest says secretly:* O Master, holy and exceedingly good, we beseech Thee, Who art rich in mercy, that Thou wilt show compassion on us sinners, and render us worthy to receive Thine Only-begotten Son and our God, the King of Glory. For behold, His most pure Body and His life-creating 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 the day.

***Priest:* Wisdom. Through the gift of Thy Christ, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

*The Holy Doors are opened*

***The Great Entrance***

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

*The server brings the censer to the priest who censes the Holy Table, the Proscomede and Altar. He censes the servers in the Altar and returns to the Holy Table giving up the censer. He stands before the Holy Table with raised arms.*

***Priest:*** *(Priest with raised arms)***Now the hosts of Heaven invisibly minister with us. For behold: the King of Glory doth enter. Behold the accomplished mystical Sacrifice is escorted in.**

***Priest:* With faith and love let us draw nigh, that we may become partakers of life everlasting.** *(Priest’s arms down)* **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** *(With bows)*

***Priest:*** *(Priest with raised arms)***Now the hosts of Heaven invisibly minister with us. For behold: the King of Glory doth enter. Behold the accomplished mystical Sacrifice is escorted in.**

***Priest:* With faith and love let us draw nigh, that we may become partakers of life everlasting.** *(Priest’s arms down)* **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** *(With bows)*

***Priest:*** *(Priest with raised arms)***Now the hosts of Heaven invisibly minister with us. For behold: the King of Glory doth enter. Behold the accomplished mystical Sacrifice is escorted in.**

***Priest:* With faith and love let us draw nigh, that we may become partakers of life everlasting.** *(Priest’s arms down)* **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** *(With bows)*

*Then the priest kisses the Antimins and the edge of he Holy Table. He turns, bows to the faithful and moves to the Proscomede. Here he prostrates three times, each saying****:***God be gracious to me a sinner and have mercy on us.

*The priest takes the censer and censes the Holy Gifts three times, gives the candle to the server, lifts the aer and folds it laying over his arm (or over his head). He lifts the Holy Gifts with the discos in his right hand at forehead height and the chalice in his left at the usual height. The south door is opened and the Great Entrance proceeds as usual with candles( and fans if there are sufficient servers). The Priest says nothing until he enters the Holy Doors when he says:*

***Priest:* With faith and love let us draw nigh, that we may become partakers of life everlasting. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

***Choir:* Let us draw near in faith and love and become communicants of life eternal. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*The priest places the discos and the chalice in their usual places on the antimins and removes the small veils, placing them under the altar crosses on the left and right of the front of the Holy Table. He takes the aer from his arm and wraps it round the censer as usual, covers the Holy Gifts and censes them three times. He gives up the censer and remains standing before the Holy Table.*

***The Prayer of St Ephraim*** *(Short form)*

**Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, despondency, ambition, and idle talking give me not.** *(Priest, people and servers prostrate)*

**But rather a spirit of chastity, humble-mindedness, patience and love bestow upon me Thy servant.** *(Prostration)*

**Yea, O Lord King, grant me to see my failings and not condemn my brother: for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.** *(Prostration)*

*The Holy Doors are closed and the curtain is drawn half way*

***The Litany before the Lord’s Prayer***

***Priest:* Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* For the precious gifts here set forth and presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* That our God, the Lover of mankind, having accepted them upon His holy and most heavenly altar as an odour of spiritual fragrance, will send down upon us divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

*The priest prays secretly:* O God of ineffable and invisible Mysteries, with Whom are the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge, Who hast revealed unto us the service of the Ministry, and hast appointed unto us sinners, through Thy great love towards mankind, to offer unto Thee gifts and sacrifices for our own sins, and for the errors of Thy people: Do Thou, the same Invisible King, who doest things great and inscrutable, glorious and marvellous, which cannot be numbered, look upon us, Thine unworthy servants who stand at this Holy Altar as at Thy Cherubic Throne, upon which lieth thine Only-begotten Son and our God, in the dread Mysteries set forth thereon; and having delivered us and all Thy 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 Thy Christ Himself, our True God, who hath said: Whosoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood abideth in me and I in him; that Thy Word, O Lord, making its abode in us and accompanying our path, we may become the temple of Thine all-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 Thy saints, who in all the ages have been acceptable in Thy sight.

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

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

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

***Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.**

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

***Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.**

***Priest:* Pardon and remission of our sins and offences, let us ask of the Lord.**

***Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.**

***Priest:* That we may complete the remaining tie of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.**

***Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.**

***Priest:* A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defence before the dread judgement seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.**

***Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.**

***Priest:* Calling to remembrance our most-holy, immaculate, exceedingly blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life unto Christ our God.**

***Choir:* To Thee, O Lord.**

 ***Priest:* And vouchsafe us, O Master, with boldness and without condemnation to dare to call upon Thee the heavenly God as Father and to say:**

*Priest, servers and people all prostrate:*

***All:* Our Father, who art in the heavens, 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, an forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.**

***Priest:* For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

*The priest turns to the people and blesses them saying:*

***Priest:* Peace be unto all.**

***Choir:* And to thy spirit.**

***Priest:* Bow your heads unto the Lord.**

***Choir:* To Thee, O Lord.**

*The priest prays secretly:* O God, Who alone art good and of tender compassion; Who dwellest on high and regardest the humble of heart: Look with the eye of Thy tender loving kindness upon all Thy people, and preserve them. Graciously enable us all to partake without condemnation of these Thy life-creating Mysteries: for unto Thee have we bowed our heads, in the hope of Thy rich mercies.

***Priest:* Through the grace and compassions and love for mankind of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thy most holy good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:* Amen**

*The priest prays secretly:* Hear us, O Lord Jesus Christ, from Thy holy dwelling-place, and glorious throne of Thy Kingdom; and come and cleanse us, O Thou Who sittest on high with the Father, and art here invisibly present with us: an graciously vouchsafe, by Thy mighty hand to impart unto us Thy most holy Body and Thy precious Blood, and by us, to all Thy people.

*The priest, bowing three times says:* O God, be gracious unto me a sinner and have mercy on me. *(thrice)*

*Then the priest places his hand under the aer and touches the Lamb with great reverence.*

***Priest:* Let us attend. The Presanctified Holies are for the holy.**

*The curtain is now slowly drawn completely and a server places the standing candle outside before the Holy Doors.*

***Choir:* One is Holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. O taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*As this is sung, the priest lays the aer aside, folds it and puts it on the left of the Holy Table. He folds the star and kisses it, placing it upon the folded aer. The priest lifts the Lamb as usual, breaking it into four parts saying.*

***Priest:* Broken and distributed is the Lamb of God: broken, yet not divided: ever eaten, though never consumed, but sanctifying them that partake thereof. Yesus, Christos, Nika.**

*The priest places the IC portion into the chalice saying nothing. The server brings the hot water. The priest pours in hot water crosswise, saying nothing. The server brings the wooden plate and the communion cloths.*

***Communion of the clergy***

***Priest:* O God, be gracious unto me a sinner.** *(Twice with full prostrations, he kisses the antimins and again prostrates and says this prayer audibly.*

***Priest:* Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offences, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and in thought: forgive us all things, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.**

*The priest takes the XC portion into his cupped right hand saying secretly:*

Behold, I approach unto the Immortal King and our God. The precious and most holy Body and Blood of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ is imparted unto me, the unworthy Archpriest/Priest *N*, unto remission of sins and unto life everlasting.

*Bowing his head with compunction, he continues secretly:*

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. Moreover, I believe that this is truly Thy most pure Body, and this is truly Thine own Precious Blood. Wherefore, I pray Thee: Have mercy on me and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, whether in word or deed, in knowledge or in ignorance. And vouchsafe me to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries unto remission of sins and life everlasting. Amen

Of Thy mystic Supper, O Son of God, today admit me a partaker: for I will not tell of Thy Mysteries unto Thine enemies, neither will I give Thee a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief will I confess Thee: remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest into Thy kingdom. Not unto judgement, not unto condemnation, be the communion of these Sacred Mysteries be unto me, O Lord, but for healing of my soul and body.

*And the priest receives the sacred Body and Blood, he does not partake of the chalice, but wipes his hands with the sponge saying:* Glory to Thee, O God. Glory to Thee, O God. Glory to The, O God. *He then kisses the sponge and lays it on the antimins as usual.*

***Priest:* We give thanks unto Thee, O God, the Saviour of all men, for all the good things which Thou hast vouchsafed unto us, and for the Communion of the Holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ. And we beseech Thee, O Lord, Who lovest mankind, to keep us under the shelter of Thy wings. And grant that, even to our last breath, we may worthily partake of Thy Holy Things, unto enlightenment of soul and body, and unto the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven.**

*The priest then divides the remaining two portions of the Lamb as usual and wipes the discos into the chalice saying nothing. The aer, the spear and the star are placed on the discos, the curtain and doors are opened and the standing candle placed to the side. The priest comes to the solea with the chalice, cloth and spoon.*

***Priest:* With fear of God, with faith draw near.**

***Choir chant simply:* I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

*The faithful come forward to the central icon, reverence or prostrate twice, kiss the icon and reverence a third time. They come forward in silence, and may prostrate again. As they approach, the priest says:*

***Priest:* I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. Moreover, I believe that this is truly Thy most pure Body, and this is truly Thine own Precious Blood. Wherefore, I pray Thee: Have mercy on me and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, whether in word or deed, in knowledge or in ignorance. And vouchsafe me to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries unto remission of sins and life everlasting. Amen**

**Of Thy mystic Supper, O Son of God, today admit me a partaker: for I will not tell of Thy Mysteries unto Thine enemies, neither will I give Thee a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief will I confess Thee: remember me, O Lord, when Thou comest into Thy kingdom. Not unto judgement, not unto condemnation, be the communion of these Sacred Mysteries be unto me, O Lord, but for healing of my soul and body.**

*The faithful approach and receive in the usual way as the priest says to each one.*

***Priest:* The servant / handmaiden of God N. partaketh of the precious and holy Body and Blood of our Lord God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, unto remission of sins and life everlasting.**

*After the communion of the faithful the priest re-enters the altar, places the chalice back onto the Holy Table, places the spoon and cloth on the discos, covers the chalice and discos turns as usual but saying nothing and says****,***

***Priest:* O Lord save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.**

***Choir chant simply:* Taste ye the heavenly Bread and the Cup of Life, and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*The priest blesses the incense and censes the chalice nine times. He gives up the censer to the server, takes the discos into his left hand and the chalice into his right hand and makes the sign of the Cross over the antimins with the chalice saying:*

*The Priest says secretly:* Blessed is our God +

***Priest:*** **Always now and ever and unto the ages of ages.**

***Choir:*** **Amen**

*The priest turns and blesses the people with the chalice and takes the Holy Gifts to the Proscomede. The server meets him there with the censer. He censes the Gifts three times, gives up the censer, and returns to the Holy Table via the High Place. The standing candle is placed by the Proscomede.*

***Choir:*** **Let our mouth be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we may sing of Thy glory; for Thou hast made us worthy to partake of Thy Holy, Divine, Immortal and Life-creating Mysteries. Preserve us in Thy holiness, that all the day we may meditate upon Thy righteousness. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

***The Litany of Thanksgiving***

***Priest:* Upright. Having partaken of the divine, holy, most pure, immortal, heavenly and life-giving fearful mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.** *(Here he folds the antimins)*

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.** *(Here he begins to fold the eliton)*

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* Having asked that the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our life unto Christ our God.** *(He completes the folding and takes the Gospel Book into his hands)*

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.** *(He makes the sign of the Cross over the antimins with the Gospel Book and lays it flat)*

***Choir:* Amen**

*The priest exits the altar through the Holy Doors and goes to stand before the central icon saying*

***Priest:* In peace, let us depart.**

***Choir:* In the name of the Lord.**

***Priest:* Let us pray to the Lord.**

***Choir:* Lord have mercy.**

***Priest:* O Almighty Lord, Who hast made all created things in wisdom, and in Thine inexpressible Providence and great goodness, hast brought us to these all-holy days, for the purification of body and of soul, for the controlling of carnal passions, and for the hope of the Resurrection; Who, during the forty days didst give into the hand of Thy servant Moses the Tablets of the Law, in characters divinely traced by Thee: Enable us also, O Good One, to fight the good fight; to accomplish the course of the Fast; to preserve inviolate the faith; to crush underfoot 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 Thine all-honourable and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now an ever, and unto the ages of ages.**

*The priest returns to the altar through the Holy Doors.*

***Choir:* Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord from henceforth and for ever more. Blessed be the name of the Lord from henceforth and for ever more. Blessed be the name of the Lord from henceforth and for ever more.**

*The priest turns to the people, making the sign of the Cross with his hand and says*

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

***Choir:* Amen.**

***Priest:* Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our hope, glory to Thee.**

*The priest returns to the Holy Table and returns to bless the people from the solea. He does not use a blessing Cross.*

***Choir:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to he Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy. Father bless…**

***Priest:* May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His most-pure Mother, of the holy, glorious and all-praised Apostles; of our father amongst the saints, Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, Of St Elisabeth the New Martyr and her nun companion, the Martyr Barbara, of our father among the saints, Gregory the Great, Pope of Rome and Apostle of the English: and of all the saints, have mercy upon us and save us, for He is a good God and the friend of man.** *The priest blesses the faithful with his hand and distributes antidoron if there be any)*

*The priest returns to the Altar. The doors are closed and the curtain drawn.*

*The priest moves to the Proscomede, bows thrice and says secretly:* O Lord our God, Who hast brought us to these all-holy days, and hast made us partakers of Thy dread Mysteries: Unite us to Thy rational flock, and make us heirs of Thy kingdom, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*The priest consumes the Gifts and cleanses the vessels as usual during the prayers of Thanksgiving.*

*The thanksgiving prayers are as usual except that, instead of the Troparia and Kontakia of St John Chrysostom or St Basil we use the following of St Gregory:*

Reader / Choir: **Thou who hast received of God divine grace from on high, O glorious Gregory, and hast been fortified by His power, thou didst will to walk according to the Gospel; wherefore, thou hast received Christ the reward of thy labours. Entreat Him that He save our souls.**

**Glory be…**

**Thou hast shown thyself to be a leader like unto the Chief Shepherd Christ, O Father Gregory, guiding flocks of monks into the heavenly sheepfold, and from whence thou didst teach the flock of Christ His commandments. And now thou dost rejoice with them and dance in the heavenly mansions.**