

# THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

**Great and Holy Monday** 

~ Please Stand

*Priest:* Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Come, let us adore the King our God.

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

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

# **PSALM 103**

Bless the Lord, 0 my soul! You are very great, O Lord, my God; clothed in pomp and brilliance; arrayed with light as with a cloak.

Stretching out the sky as a tent-cloth, covering Your lofty halls with water, You make the clouds Your conveyance.

You surge on the wings of the wind.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.

I will praise my God as long as I last.

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

The sun knows the time of its setting.
You establish darkness, and it is night.
How great are Your works, 0 Lord!
in wisdom You have wrought them all.

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! + Glory be to You. 0 God! (3x)

# LITANY OF PEACE

~ Please be Seated

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For our most holy Pontiff, (N), Pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For our most blessed Major Archbishop (N), our most reverend Metropolitan, (N), our God-loving Bishop, (N), the reverend priesthood. the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: To You O Lord.

*Priest:* (Silently) Lord, our God, Whose power is beyond comparison, Whose glory is beyond comprehension, Whose mercy is beyond measure, and Whose love for us all is beyond expression, in the kindness of your hear, O Master, look upon us and upon this holy church, and bestow on us and on those praying with us, the riches of Your mercy and compassion.

(aloud)

For all gory, honor, and workshop befit You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

All: Amen.

(During the reading of the Kathisma, the priest solemnly transfers the Sacred Gifts to the Proskomedia Table and prepared the vessels. The people kneel at this time.)

# KATHISMA PSALM 120

In my distress I called to the Lord,and he answered me.O Lord deliver me from lying lip,

from treacherous tongue.

What will he inflict on you, with more besides,
O treacherous tongue?
Sharp arrows of a warrior
with fiery coals of brushwood.

Woe is me that I sojourn in Meshech, that I dwell amid the tents of Kedar! All too long have I dwelt with those who hate peace. When I speak of peace, they are ready for war.

# **PSALM 121**

I lift up my eyes to the mountains, whence shall help come to me? My help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

May he not suffer your foot to slip; may he slumber not who guards you: Indeed, he neither slumbers nor sleeps, the guardian of Israel.

The Lord is your guardian; the Lord is your shade,
He is beside you at your right hand.
The sun shall not harm you by day.
Nor the moon by night.

The Lord will guard you from all evil;
He will guard your life.
The Lord will guard your coming and your going
Both now and forever.

#### **PSALM 122**

I rejoiced because they said to me,
We will go up to the house of the Lord."
And now we have set foot within your gales, O Jerusalem Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity.

To it the tribes go up,

The tribes of the Lord,

According to the decree for Israel,

To give thanks to the name of the Lord.

In it as set up judgment seats,

seats for the house of David.

Pray for peace of Jerusalem!

May those who love you prosper!

May peace be within your walls,

prosperity in your buildings.

Because of my relatives and friends

I will say, "Peace be within you!"

Because of the house of the Lord, our God,

I will pray for your good.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen Alleluia, Alleluia! + Glory be to You, O God (3x)

#### **SMALL LITANY**

*Priest:* Again, and again in peace let us pray to Lord. *All:* Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: To You O Lord.

*Priest:* (Silently) O Lord our God, be mindful of us sinners and your unprofitable servants, as we call upon your holy name, and put us not to shame for having placed our hope in your mercy, but graciously grant us, O Lord, all the means of salvation; make

us worthy to love and fear You with all our heart and to accomplish your will in all things.

(aloud)

For You are a good and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

# O LORD, I HAVE CRIED

# **PSALM 140 (Tone 1)**

~ Please Stand

O Lord, I have cried out to You, hear me; Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried out to You, hear me. Receive the voice of my prayer When I call upon You Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer rise like incense before You; And the lifting of my hands as an evening sacrifice Hear me, O Lord!

~ Please be Seated

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him there is plentiful redemption;\* and it is He who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Tone 1: Going freely to His Passion,\* the Lord said to His disciples along the way:\* Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem,\* and the Son of man shall be delivered up, as it is written.\* Come, let us purify our thoughts that we may go with Him;\* let us be crucified with Him;\* in Him we shall die to the pleasures of this life,\* that we may live with Him and hear Him say to us:\* I am no longer going to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer,\* but I am going to My Father and your Father,\* to My God and your God;\* you shall go with Me to the heavenly Jerusalem\* in the Kingdom of Heaven.

# Praise the Lord all you nations, Proclaim His glory, all you people!

Tone 5: O faithful, let us hasten to the saving Passion of Christ our God;\* let us glorify His long-suffering which is beyond expression,\* that He may save us from sin and death,\* and that He may also raise us in His goodness and love for mankind.

# Strong is the love of the Lord for us; Eternally will His truth endure.

Tone 5: Not understanding the depth of the ineffable mystery of Your plan of salvation,\* the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to You, O Lord;\* she asked You to grant them the places of honour in a temporal kingdom.\* But in place of these honours,\* You proclaimed to Your friends that they would drink from the cup of death,\* the same cup from which You shall first drink\* to cleanse us of our sins.\* Therefore, we cry out to You:\* O Saviour of our souls, glory to You!

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

Tone 8: The Serpent thought he found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman,\* who tried to make Joseph succumb to her words of flattery.\* But he avoided sinning;\* he left his garment behind, but was not ashamed of his nudity,\* as were our first parents after their disobedience.\* Through his prayers, O Christ, have mercy on us.

(ENTRANCE with candles and incense)

**Priest:** Wisdom! Stand aright!

### **HYMN OF THE EVENING**

O Joyful Light! Light and Holy Glory of the Father Immortal The heavenly, holy the Blessed One, O Jesus Christ! Now that we have reached the setting of the sun, And see the evening light we sing to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is fitting at all times to raise a song of praise in measured melody to You. O Son of God, the Giver of Life. Behold the universe sings Your Glory.

*Priest:* Let us be attentive! Peace be with all. Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

Prokimen I, Tone 6
MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU FROM SION,\* AND MAY
YOU SEE PROSPERITY OF JERUSALEM.
verse: Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who walk in His

ways.

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Reader:** A Reading from the Book of Exodus (1:1-20)

*Priest:* Let us be attentive!

*Reader:* These are the names of the sons of Israel who, accompanied by their households, migrated with Jacob into Egypt: Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah; Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamim; Dan and Naphtali; Gad, and Asher. The total number of the direct descendants of Jacob was seventy. Joseph was already in Egypt.

Now Joseph and all his brothers and that whole generation died. But the Israelites were fruitful and prolific. They became so numerous and strong that the land was filled with them.

Then a new king, who knew nothing of Joseph, came to power in Egypt. He said to his subjects, "Look how numerous and powerful the Israelite people are growing, more so than we ourselves! Come, let us deal shrewdly with them to stop their increase; otherwise, in time of war they too may join our enemies to fight against us, and so leave our country."

Accordingly, taskmasters were set over the Israelites to oppress them with forced labor. Thus they had to build for Pharaoh the supply cities of Pithom and Raamses. Yet the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread. The Egyptians, then, dreaded the Israelites and reduced them to cruel slavery, making life bitter for them with hard work in mortar and brick and all kinds of field work – the whole cruel fate of slaves.

The king of Egypt told the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was called Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives for the Hebrew women and see them giving birth, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she may live." The midwives, however, feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt had ordered them, but let the boys live. So the king summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you acted thus, allowing the boys to live?" The midwives answered Pharaoh, "The Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women. They are robust and give birth before the midwife arrives." Therefore God dealt well with the midwives. The people, too, increased and grew strong.

Prokimen II, Tone 8
WE BLESS YOU\* IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
verse: "They have oppressed me from my youth," this is the song of Israel.

(Then the celebrant taking a candle and the incense blessed the altar and the people sing....)

*Priest:* Wisdom! Let us be attentive! (Blessing the people) The Light of Christ enlightens all.

(The people make three prostrations)

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Reader:** A Reading from the Book of Job (1:1-12)

*Priest:* Let us be attentive!

Reader: At that time in the land of Uz there was a blameless and upright man named Job, who feared God and avoided evil. Seven sons and three daughters were born to him; and he had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred she-asses, and a great number of work animals, so that he was greater than any of the men of the East. His sons used to take turns giving feasts, sending invitations to their three sisters to eat and drink with them. And when each feast had run its course, Job would send for them and sanctify them, rising early and offering holocausts for every one of them. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and blasphemed God in their hearts." This Job did habitually.

One day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, Satan also came among them. And the Lord said to Satan, "Whence do you come?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming the earth and patrolling it." And the Lord said to Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job, and that there is no one on earth like him, blameless and upright, fearing God and avoiding evil?" But Satan answered the Lord and said, "Is it for nothing that Job is God-fearing? Have you not surrounded him and his family and all that he has with your protection? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock are spread over the land. But now put forth your hand and touch anything that he has, and surely he will blaspheme you to your face." And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand upon his person." So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.

*Priest:* A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew (24: 3-35)

# All: + Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

*Priest:* Let us be attentive!

As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs. Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another. Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! But pray that your flight will not

be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' do not believe him. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told you in advance. So if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out, or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them. For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."

Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take

place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

All: + Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

#### THE GREAT INCENSING

~ Please Kneel

*Priest:* Let my prayer rise like incense before You, and the lifting of my hands, like an evening sacrifice.

~ Please Stand

All: Let my prayer rise like incense before You, and the lifting of my hands, like an evening sacrifice.

~ Please Kneel

*Priest:* O Lord, I have cried to You, hear me. Receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon You.

~ Please Stand

All: Let my prayer rise like incense before You, and the lifting of my hands, like an evening sacrifice.

~ Please Kneel

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

~ Please Stand

All: Let my prayer rise like incense before You, and the lifting of my hands, like an evening sacrifice.

~ Please Kneel

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

~ Please Stand

All: Let my prayer rise like incense before You, and the lifting of my hands, like an evening sacrifice.

~ Please Kneel

*Priest:* Let my prayer rise like incense before You,

~ Please Stand

All: and the lifting of my hands, like an evening sacrifice.

(All make three prostrations)

#### INSISTENT EKTENIA

~ Please be Seated

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

All: Lord have mercy.

*Priest:* Almighty Lord, God of our Fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

**All:** Lord have mercy.

*Priest:* Have mercy on us, O God, in the greatness of Your compassion, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

*All:* Lord have mercy. (3x)

*Priest:* We also pray for our most holy universal Pontiff, (N.), Pope of Rome; for our most blessed Major Archbishop (N.), our most reverend Metropolitan, (N.), our God-loving Bishop, (N.), for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

*All:* Lord have mercy. (3x)

*Priest:* We also pray for our nation under God, for our government, and for all the military.

*All:* Lord have mercy. (3x)

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

*All:* Lord have mercy. (3x)

*Priest:* For You are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

*Priest:* Again, and again in peace for the faithful pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy.

*Priest:* (silently) Holy Mother, infinitely good, we beseech You who are rich in mercy to have pity on us sinners and to make us worthy of receiving your only Son and our God, the King of Glory. For behold, his spotless body and life-giving blood are about to make their entrance at this time and to be laid on the

mystical table, escorted by angel hosts unseen. Make us receive them in blameless communion, that when the eyes our understanding are enlightened, we may become children of light and day.

(aloud)

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

All: Amen.

~ Please Kneel

#### GREAT AND SOLEMN ENTRANCE

Now the Powers of heaven minister with us invisibly.

For behold the King of glory is entering.

This is a mystical Sacrifice perfected being carried high.

Let us approach with faith and love

So that we may be partakers of enteral life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

(All make three prostrations)

~ Please be Seated

#### LITANY

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

All: Lord have mercy.

*Priest:* For the precious gifts which have been presented and presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy.

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

All: Lord have mercy.

*Priest:* That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, misfortune, Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy.

*Priest:* Help and save, have mercy, and protest us, O God, by Your grace.

All: Lord have mercy.

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

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: Grant this, O Lord.

*Priest:* For a Christian end to our lives, one that is painless, unashamed, and peaceful, and for a good defense at the awesome tribunal of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* (silently) O God of ineffable and invisible mysteries with whom are the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge, who have revealed to us, the service of this liturgy and who, through your great love for us all, have established us sinners for the offering of gifts and sacrifices to You for our sins and for the people's faults; O You, King invisible, who perform great works, inscrutable and glorious marvels which cannot be numbered: look upon us your unworthy servants who stand, as before your throne of the cherubim, at this holy altar where your only begotten Son, our God, reposes under these awesome mysteries offered here. And deliver us all and your faithful people from impurities; sanctify the souls and bodies of all of us with a sanctification that cannot be taken away, so that partaking of these divine mysteries with a pure conscience, faces unashamed and enlightened hearts, and being enlivened by them, we may to be united with your Christ Himself, our true God, who said "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood

abides in me and I in him." Thus, your Word having his abode in us and walking in our midst, O Lord, we become a temple of your all-holy and adorable Spirit, being delivered from every wile of the devil working in our acts, words, and thoughts: and we shall obtain the blessings your promised us, together with all the saints who pleased you since time began.

(aloud)

Make us worthy, O Master, with confidence and without condemnation to dare call You, the heavenly God, Father and say:

~ Please Stand

All: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come. They will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**Priest:** For the kingdom, the power, and the gory are Yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. **All: Amen.** 

Priest: + Peace be with all.
All: And with your spirit.

*Priest:* Bow you heads to the Lord.

All: To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* (silently) O God, the only one good and compassionate, who dwell on high and look upon the humble: look with compassionate eyes upon your people and preserve them. Grant us all to partake without condemnation of these your lifegiving mysteries, for it is before You that we bow our head in the hope of your abundant mercy.

(aloud)

Through the grace, mercies and loving-kindness of Your only begotten Son with Whom You are blessed together with Your most holy, good and life- giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

~ Please Kneel

*Priest:* (silently) Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, from Your holy dwelling and from the throne of glory in Your kingdom, and come to sanctify us, You Who are seated on high with the Father and are invisibly present here with us. Deign to give us with Your mighty hand Your most pure Body and precious Blood, and through us, to all the people. God be merciful to me a sinner (three times)

#### **COMMUNION SERVICE**

(aloud)

Let us be attentive! Holy Presanctified Things for the holy!

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

Taste and see, taste and see how good is the Lord, how good is the Lord, how good is the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I believe, O Lord, and confess that You are truly Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical Supper. I will not tell the mystery of Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief, I confess to You:

Remember me, O Lord, when You come into Your kingdom. Remember me, O Master, when You come into Your kingdom.

Remember me, O Holy One, when You come into Your kingdom.

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

God be merciful to me, a sinner.

God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me. I have sinned without number, forgive me, O Lord.

Priest: Approach.

All: I will bless the Lord at all times, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

(The faithful approach with reverence to receive the most precious Body and Blood of our Saviour).

~ Please Stand

*Priest:* Blessed be our God, always now and for ever and ever. *All:* **Amen.** 

We thank You, O Christ our God that you have made us worthy to be partakers of your most pure body and your previous blood which is poured out unto the whole world for the forgiveness of sins the mystery of your concern. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

*Priest:* Help and save, have mercy, and protest us, O God, by Your grace.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* (silently) We thank You, Saviour and God of the universe, for all the blessings You bestowed upon us and for our partaking of the holy body and blood of your Christ. And we pray You, Master who love us all: keep us under the shadow of your wings, and grant us to partake worthily, even until our last breath, of your holy mystery for the enlightening of our souls and body and the inheritance of your heavenly kingdom.

(aloud)

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

All: Amen.

**Priest:** Let us go forth in peace. **All:** In the name of the Lord.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* Almighty Lord who created the whole universe in wisdom; who by your ineffable providence and great goodness have brought us to these salutary days for the purification of our souls and bodies, for the control of our passions and for hope in the resurrection; You who are forty days gave Moses, your servant, the tablets of the law inscribed by your divine hands: enable us also, O Good One, to fight the good fight, to run the course of the fast, to keep the faith, to crush the heads of the invisible dragons, to come out victorious over sin to attain without reproach unto the worship of your holy resurrection. For blessed and glorified is you most honorable and magnificent name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

# All: Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord now and for ever. (3x)

*Priest:* (silently) O Lord our God, who brought us to these most salutary days and permitted us to partake of your awesome mysteries: unite us to your spiritual flock and make us heirs of your kingdom, now and for ever and ever. Amen

The blessing of the Lord be upon you with His grace and love for us all, always, now and forever and ever.

All: Amen.

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

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

*Priest:* Christ our true God, through the prayers of His immaculate Mother, the holy, glorious, and all-praiseworthy apostles, of our father among the saints, Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, and of all the saints, will have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and love us all.

All: Amen.