

# HOLY MASS ACCORDING TO THE BYZENTINE RITE

## Standing

O Heavenly King, Consoler, the Spirit of Truth, present in all places and filling all things, the Treasury of blessings and the Giver of Life, come, O Good One, and dwell in us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls.

Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will to men. **(Twice)**

O Lord, You shall open my lips and my mouth will declare Your praise. **(Once)**

Blessed is the Kingdom ✠ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

## Sitting

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the whole world, the well-being of the holy Churches of God and the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For (our Father and Patriarch **N.**, if present) our Father and (Arch)Bishop **N.**, his honourable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the government and for the armed forces, that they may be upheld in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this city (or For this holy monastery), for every city and country place and the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

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

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us remember our all-holy, spotless, most highly blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, and let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ God.

**To You, O Lord.**

O Lord our God whose power is without compare, whose glory is incomprehensible, whose mercy is beyond measure and whose love for mankind is beyond words: be pleased, Master, in the depth of Your compassion, to look upon us and upon this holy place, and grant us and those praying with us the riches of Your compassion and tender mercy.

For all glory, honour and worship, are Your due, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

**(Or)** O You who have granted us to pray together in harmony, and who promised that when two or three are gathered to call upon Your name, You will give what they ask, do You now fulfill

what Your servants ask, so far as it is good; Granting us in this world the knowledge of Your truth; and in the world to come, eternal life.

For You are good, O our God, and You love mankind and we render glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

## Standing

**All:** Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us! **(3)**

**(Or)** Through the prayers of Your saints, O Lord, save us! **(3)**

**(Or)** O Son of God who are wonderful in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia! **(3)**

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

**O Only-Begotten Son and Word of God, immortal as You are, You condescended for our salvation to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, and without undergoing change, You became man; You were crucified, O Christ God, and You crushed death by Your death; You who are One of the Holy Trinity, equal in glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, save us.**

*As the people sing the previous hymn, the priest proceeds to the Holy Doors carrying the Holy Gospel, raises the Gospel Book with both hands and making with it the sign of the Cross, he proclaims with a mighty voice:*

Wisdom. Let us stand. **(Sophia. Orthee.)**

Come let us worship and bow down before Christ.

**On ordinary weekdays:** O Son of God, who are wonderful in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

**On ordinary Sundays:** O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

**On feasts of our Lord and of the Theotokos:** Special hymns.

## Sitting

**Here the The Troparia & Kontakion are read according to the seasonal orders, in the end the priest proclaims:**

For You are Holy, O our God, and we render glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, both now and ever. **Amen.**

## Standing

**Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us. (3)**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen. Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.**

**Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.**

**On some days this hymn is replaced by the baptism hymn:**

**All of you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.**

**On other days it is replaced by the hymn of the cross:**

**We bow in worship before Your Cross, O Master, and we give praise to Your Holy Resurrection.**

Let us be attentive! **The reader reads the letter opening**

Wisdom! **(So-phi-a or al-hikma)**

A reading from the Epistle of St. N to ... **(or)** a reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.

Let us be attentive! *(The Reader, facing the people, recites the Epistle in a liturgical melody, with a calm and articulate voice, without dragging. In the end the priest blesses him saying):*

Peace be to you, Reader. ✠

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Standing

Shine in our hearts, Master who love mankind, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our mind that we may understand the announcing of Your Good News; set in us the fear of Your blessed commandments, so that, trampling all carnal desires, we may live according to the Spirit, both willing and doing everything that pleases You.

For You are the light of our souls and bodies, O Christ God, and we render glory to You, and to Your Eternal Father and to Your All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

Wisdom. Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all. ✠

**And to your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint **(N.)** the Evangelist.

**Glory to You, O Lord. Glory to You.**

## (The Homily)

## Sitting

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

**Lord have mercy (3)**

Lord Almighty, God of our fathers, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

**Lord have mercy (3)**

Have mercy on us, O God, in Your great mercy, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy. **Lord have mercy (3)**

*After this petition, some other petitions may be said appropriate to seasonal time or special intentions:*

Again, we pray for our Father and Patriarch **(or)** (Arch)Bishop **N)** and for his honourable presbyterate. **Lord have mercy (3)**

Again, we pray for the priests, the deacons, the monks, the nuns, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ. **Lord have mercy (3)**

Again, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness and remission of sins for the servants of God who live in this city **(or:** for the brethren of this holy monastery). **Lord have mercy (3)**

Again, we pray for the blessed and ever to be remembered founders of this holy church **(or:** monastery), and for our Orthodox fathers and brethren who here or elsewhere lie asleep in the Lord. **Lord have mercy (3)**

Again, we pray for those who bear offerings, those who do good works in this holy and most venerable church, those who toil, those who sing and all the people here present who await from You great and abundant mercy. **Lord have mercy (3)**

Wisdom—Again and many times, we fall down before You, O Good One and Lover of Mankind and ask you to regard our supplications and to cleanse our souls and bodies from all defilement of flesh and spirit. Grant that we may stand without blame or condemnation before Your Holy Altar. Upon these also who pray with us, O God, bestow increase of life and faith and spiritual insight. Grant that they may always serve You in fear and love, to share without blame or condemnation in Your holy mysteries and to be made worthy of Your heavenly Kingdom. That being ever protected by Your power, we may render glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen**

## Standing

**We who mystically represent the Cherubim, and sing to the Life-Giving Trinity the thrice-holy hymn, let us lay aside all**

**earthly cares, to receive the King of all.**

**The Priest proceeds with the Diskos and the Chalice from the Prothesis to the Altar proclaiming:**

May the Lord God remember us all in His kingdom at all times, now and always and forever and ever.

**Amen. Invisibly escorted by angel hosts. Alleluia! (3)**

## Sitting

Let us complete our prayer to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the precious gifts here offered, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God Almighty who alone are holy, who accept the sacrifice of praise from those who call upon You with their whole heart, Accept also the prayer of us sinners and bring us to Your Holy Altar. Make us fit to offer You spiritual gifts and spiritual sacrifices for our sins and the faults of the people. Make us worthy to find grace in Your eyes, that our sacrifice may become acceptable to You, and that the good Spirit of Your grace may abide with us and with the gifts here laid out and with all Your people.

Through the mercies of Your Only-Begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

## Standing

Peace be to all. ✠

**And to your spirit.**

Let us love one another that with one mind we may confess:

**The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Trinity, one in essence and undivided.**

Christ is among us.

**He is and always will be.**

**I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from Heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, suffered, and was buried.**

**He rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ascended into Heaven, and is enthroned at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead and of His Kingdom there shall be no end.**

**And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father, who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who spoke through the prophets.**

**And in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I profess one baptism for the remission of sins. I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Let us stand well, let us stand in awe, let us be attentive to offer the holy oblation in peace.

**A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit ✠ be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

Let us lift up our hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**It is fitting and right.**

It is fitting and right to sing to You, to bless You, to praise You, to give thanks to You, to worship You in every place of Your dominion; For You are God, beyond description, beyond understanding, Invisible, incomprehensible, always existing, always the same, You and Your Only-Begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit. Out of nothing, You brought us into being, and when we had fallen, raised us up again; and You have left nothing undone until You brought us to Heaven and graciously gave us Your future Kingdom. For all these things, we thank You and Your Only-Begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit: for all these blessings, known and unknown, manifest and hidden, that were lavished upon us. We thank You also for this Liturgy which You are pleased to accept from our hands, though there stand before You thousands of archangels and myriads of angels, Cherubim and Seraphim, six-winged, many-eyed, soaring on their pinions

Singing, proclaiming, shouting the hymn of victory and saying:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth, Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

With these blessed powers, O Master who love mankind, we too cry out and say: Holy are You and all-holy, You and Your Only-Begotten Son and Your Holy Spirit. Holy are You and all-holy and magnificent is Your glory. Who so loved Your world as to give Your Only-Begotten Son, that every one who believes in Him shall not perish but may have eternal life. When He had come and fulfilled all that was appointed Him to do for our sake, On the night on which He was delivered up, or rather delivered Himself up for the life of the world, taking bread in His holy, spotless and blameless hands, Giving thanks and blessing, sanctifying ✠ And breaking it, gave it to His holy Disciples and Apostles and said:

Take, eat, this is My Body, which is broken for you for the remission of sins. **Amen.**

Likewise the Chalice after He had supped saying: ✠

Drink of this all of you, this is My Blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins. **Amen.**

We offer You Your own, from what is Your own, in all and for the sake of all.

**We praise You, we bless You, we give thanks to You, O Lord, and we pray to You, O our God.**

**Invocation of the Holy Spirit (Epiclesis)**

Moreover, we offer You this spiritual and unbloody worship, And we ask and pray and entreat: Send down Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts here offered.

And make ✠ this bread the precious Body of Your Christ. **Amen**

**Priest (blesses it, saying):** And that which is in this Chalice ✠ the precious Blood of Your Christ. **Amen**

Changing them ✠ by Your Holy Spirit.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Especially for our all-holy, spotless, most highly-blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary.

**Sitting**

**It is truly right to call you blessed, O Theotokos. You are ever-blessed and all-blameless, and the Mother of our God. Higher in honour than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, you gave birth to God the Word in virginity. You are truly Theotokos, you do we exalt.**

First, Lord, remember our Father (N.) Pope of Rome, our Most Blessed Patriarch (N.), Our Father and (Arch)bishop (N.) May

they grace Your holy Churches in peace, safety, honour, health, long life, rightly dispensing the word of Your truth.

**Sanctify them in their ministry and protect all the faithful.**

And grant that with one mouth and one heart we may glorify and extol Your most noble and magnificent name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

**Amen**

**Standing**

And may the mercies of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all. ✠

**And with your spirit.**

**Sitting**

Now that we have remembered all the saints, again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the precious gifts here offered and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

That our God who loves mankind, having received these gifts on His holy and mystical altar in Heaven as a sweet spiritual fragrance, may send down upon us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray. **Lord have mercy.**

That this whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful and without sin, let us ask the Lord. **Grant this, O Lord.**

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

For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask the Lord. **Grant this, O Lord.**

For what is good and profitable to our souls and for peace in the world, let us ask the Lord. **Grant this, O Lord.**

That the rest of our life may be spent in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord. **Grant this, O Lord.**

That the end of our life may be Christian, painless, unashamed and peaceful, and for a good defense before the awesome Judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord. **Grant this, O Lord.**

Let us ask for unity of faith and the communion of the Holy Spirit, and let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ God. **To You, O Lord.**

To You, Master who love mankind, we commend our whole life and hope. We ask You, we pray You, we entreat You: Make us worthy to partake of Your heavenly and awesome mysteries of this sacred and spiritual Table, with a pure conscience, for the remission of sins, for indulgence towards failures, for the communion of the Holy Spirit, for the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven and intimate confidence in You, and not for judgment or condemnation. And make us worthy, Master, to dare with confidence and without condemnation to call You Father, O God of Heaven and to say:

**Standing**

**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.**

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

Peace be to all ✠

**And to your spirit.**

Bow your heads to the Lord.

**To You, O Lord.**

Through the grace and mercies and love for mankind of Your Only-Begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

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

Let us be attentive! (Pros-kho-men) Holy gifts for the holy.

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

**On Sundays:** Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.

**Monday:** You make Your angels like winds and Your ministers like blazing fires. Alleluia.

**Tuesday:** The just shall be remembered forever. Alleluia.

**Wednesday:** I will take the Chalice of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia.

**Thursday:** Their voice has gone forth over the whole world, and their words to the limits of the universe. Alleluia.

**Friday:** Let the light of Your face shine on us, O Lord. Alleluia. (Or:) O Christ God, You brought about salvation in the midst of the earth. Alleluia.

**Saturday:** Rejoice in the Lord, you just. Praise Him, all you upright of heart. (Or:) O Lord, blessed are those You chose and adopted. Alleluia.

I believe, Lord, and profess that You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God, come to this world to save sinners, of whom I am the greatest. I believe also that this is really Your spotless Body and that this is really Your precious Blood. Wherefore, I pray to You: have mercy on me and pardon my offenses, the deliberate and the indeliberate, those committed in word and in deed, whether knowingly or inadvertently, And count me worthy to share without condemnation Your spotless Mysteries, for the remission of sins and for eternal life. Amen.

Receive me now, O Son of God, as a participant in your Mystical Supper, For I will not reveal Your mystery to Your enemies, nor give You a kiss like Judas, But like the thief, I confess You: remember me, Lord, in Your kingdom.

May the reception of Your Holy Mysteries, Lord, be for me not to judgment or condemnation, but to the healing of my soul and body.

**Here the Priest receives Holy Body and Blood. Then he takes the Chalice and the Diskos and heads towards the people announcing:**

Approach with fear of God, with faith and with love.

**Amen, Amen. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God and He has appeared to us.**

**During Communion, the Choir sings:**

**Receive me now, O Son of God, as a participant in Your mystical supper, for I will not reveal Your mystery to Your enemies, nor give You a kiss like Judas, but like the thief I confess You: Remember me, O Lord, in Your kingdom.**

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

**We have seen the True Light, we have received the heavenly Spirit, we have found the true faith, worshipping the undivided Trinity who has saved us.**

Blessed is our God at all times, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

**Let our mouth be filled with Your praise, O Lord, for You have counted us worthy to share Your holy, immortal, and spotless Mysteries; Keep us in sanctification that we may sing Your glory, meditating on Your holiness all the day. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Let us stand. Now that we have received the divine, holy, spotless, immortal, heavenly, life-giving, awesome Mysteries of Christ, Let us give worthy thanks to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We thank You, Master who love mankind, benefactor of our souls, for having today made us worthy of Your heavenly and immortal Mysteries. Make straight our paths, establish us in Your fear, guard our lives, steady our footsteps, Through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary and all Your saints.

For You are our sanctification, and we render glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace.

**In the name of the Lord.**

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

O Lord who bless those who bless You, and sanctify those who trust in You, Save Your people and bless Your inheritance; safeguard the fullness of Your Church; sanctify those who love the beauty of Your house; In return, raise them to glory by Your divine power and do not forsake us who put our hope in You. Give peace to Your world, to Your Churches, to Your priests, to the government and to the armed forces, and to all Your people; for every good gift and every perfect grace is from above, coming down from You, the Father of Lights; And to You we render glory, thanksgiving and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

**Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord, now and forever. (3)**

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the blessing of the Lord and His mercy be upon you ✠ through His grace and love for mankind, at all times, now and always and forever and ever. **Amen.**

Glory to You, Christ God, our hope, glory to You.

May Christ our True God (on Sundays: who is risen from the dead), through the prayers of His all-pure Mother, and of His glorious Apostles who are worthy of all praise, and of our father among the saints John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople, and through the intercession of St. (N.), patron of this holy church, and of St. (N.) whose memory we celebrate today, and of the holy and just ancestors of Christ God, Joachim and Ann, and of all the saints, may this same Christ have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

**Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.**