The
Coptic
Liturgy
of
Saint Mark
The Apostle

Commonly known as

The Liturgy of St. Cyril

© 1998

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#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1. Prayer of reconciliation
- 2. Another Prayer of reconciliation according to st. john (to the father)
- 3. The Anaphora
- 4. The Consecration
- 5. The Prayer of peace
- 6. Prayer of The King
- 7. Prayer of The Patriarch
- 8. Prayer of The Bishops
- 9. Prayer of The Priests
- 10. Prayer of The Place
- 11. The Prayer of The Present
- 12. Prayer of remembering those who asked us
- 13. Prayer of The Servant
- 14. Prayer of The Priesthood
- 15. Prayer of The Waters, The plants, and The airs
- 16. Prayer of The Oblations
- 17. Commemoration of The saints
- 18. The Diptych
- 19. Introduction to The fraction
- 20. Fraction for The Father
- 21. A Fraction for Holy Lent
- 22. Prayer of Submission to The Father
- 23. The Prayer of congregation
- 24. The Profession
- 25. Psalm 150

#### **Prayer of Reconciliation**

The priest commences as in the liturgy of St. Basil until the reading of the Gospel; he proceeds with the **Prayer of the Veil** according to our father Saint John the tHRice blessed. To the Father (inaudibly):

O Creator of the whole creation, of that which is seen and of that which is not seen, who cares for all things; for Yours they are.

O Lover of Souls; I seek Your compassion O Lord Almighty. I, poor, despised, and unprofit able as I am among Thy servants, now drawing near to Your Holy of Holies, and about to touch this holy and mysterious sacrament give me, O Lord, Thy Holy Spirit: that fire immaterial and incomprehensible that devours all infirmity and consumes wicked inventions.

Let it kill the earthly senses of the flesh; let it restrain the wanderings of the mind that lead it to imaginations full of aches and passion: And as it is proper for priests, let it make me rise above all mortal thoughts, and grant me the sanctifying words in order to fulfill this offer ing now laid on the altar which is the mystery of mysteries; in the fellowship and communion of Your Christ. To whom with You and the Holy Spirit, the Giver-of-Life, and of one essence with You, belongs glory now and unto the of ages, Amen.

#### **Priest:**

Pray

Deacon:

Stand up for prayer.

Priest:

Peace be with you all.

Congregation:

And with your spirit.

#### Priest:

O Prince of Life and King of Ages, God unto whom every knee bows, of those in heaven, of those on earth, and of those under the earth; to whom everything is subject and in the bond of servitude, bowing their heads to the sceptre of Thy kingdom: Unto whom the armies of angels give glory together with the heavenly hosts, and all logical natures, with an unsilenced voice that utters Your divinity. And as You have taken pleasure in us, the poor inhabitants of the earth, that we should service to You, not because of the purity of our hands, for we have not done good upon the earth; but You are willing to grant us, the unfortunate and unworthy, of Your purity: accept us unto You O Good [God] and Lover of Mankind, as we approach Your holy altar according to the multitude of Your mercies. And make us worthy of the heavenly peace that suits Your divinity and is full of salvation that we may give it to one another in perfect love and that we may greet one another with a holy kiss.

Deacon:

Pray for perfect peace, love and the holy apostolic kisses.

#### Congregation:

Lord have mercy.

Priest:

Not with spiteful thoughts, but with thoughts given to Your fear, free from guile and from the wickedness of the traitor so that our conscience is not at one with evil but with the gladness of our souls and joy of our hearts; for we have the great and perfect token of the love of Your Only-Begotten Son. Cast us not away, Your servants, because of the defilement of our sins, for You know, as our Creator, that no one born of a woman shall be justified before You. Therefore, make us worthy O our Master, with a pure heart and a soul full of Your grace, to stand and offer before You this holy, rational and bloodless sacrifice; for the forgiveness of our trespasses and the remission of the ignorances of Your people, for You are a compassionate and merciful God.

And You are to whom we send up the glory, the honor, the majesty and the worship [O God] the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

Deacon:

Greet one another with a holy kiss. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Yes, Lord, who is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy upon us. Offer, offer, offer in order. Stand with trembling. Look towards the east. Let us attend.

# Another Prayer of Reconciliation according to St. John (to the Father)

O God of love and Giver of oneness of heart, who grants the true oneness of mind towards virtue, who has also granted unto us, through Your Only Begotten Son, the new commandment that we love one another as You have loved us we the unworthy and astray, and You gave up Your beloved Son for our life and our salvation.

We ask You, O our Lord, grant us Your servants, throughout our lifetime on earth, and more especially at present, thoughts that do not recall to memory former evil deeds and a conscience without hypocrisy-, but grant us faithful thoughts and a heart full of brotherly love. So we may flee from any likeness to Judas the traitor as we give one another a spiritual kiss. And as we agree together in purity like Your holy disciples and apostles we become cleansed and sanctified through Your Holy Spirit. Congregation:

Through the intercessions of the Mother of God St. Mary, O Lord grant us the forgiveness of our sins. We worship You, O Christ, with Your Good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You have come (were born/risen) and saved us. A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.

#### THE ANAPHORA

Priest:
The Lord be with you all. Congregation:
And with your spirit. Priest:
Lift up your hearts. Congregation:
They are with the Lord. Priest:
Let us give thanks to the Lord. Congregation:
It is meet and right. Priest:

It is meet and right, meet and right, meet and right, for it is truly meet and right, holy and fitting, and beneficial to our souls, bodies and spirits, O Eternal Master, Lord, God, the Father the Pantocrator, that we at all times, and in all places of Your dominion praise You, sing to You, bless You, and serve You; and that we worship You, give

thanks to You, glorify You, and confess to You night and day, with unceasing lips, an unsilenced heart and unending glories. You are He, who created heaven and that which is in heaven, and earth and all that is therein: the seas, the rivers, the springs, the lakes, and all that is in them. You are He who created man according to Your own image and likeness; and created everything in Your wisdom-Your true light Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, tHRough Whom we give thanks, and offer unto You with Him and the Holy Spirit the Holy consubstantial and indivisible Trinity this logical sacrifice and this bloodless service.

(The priest signs the incense box with the cross, puts a spoonfid of incense in the censer and takes it in his hand)

This which all the nations offer unto You

(He signs the oblations with lite censer from east to west and front north to south)

from where the sun rises to where it sets, and from the north to the south.

(he cries out saying)

For great is Your name O Lord, among all the nations, and in all places sweet incense and pure sacrifices are offered to Your Holy Name

(He gives incense above the chalice)

and upon this sacrifice and this oblation. Deacon:

You who are seated stand. Priest:

For You are above every principality, and authority, and above every power, every lordship and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the ages to come.

Look towards the east. Priest:

Deacon:

You are before Whom stand thousands of thousands and myriads of myriads of holy angels and archangels serving You. You are before Whom stand Your two exceedingly honorable living beings, having six wings and a multitude of eyes, the Seraphim and the Cherubim. With two wings they cover their faces, because of Your divinity which none can gaze upon nor comprehend, and with two they cover their feet, and they fly with the other two.

(He cries out saying)

For at all times all things hallow You. But with all them

that hallow You, accept also O Lord our hallowing, as we praise You with them, saying:

(Here the priest shall wash his hands saying: You Sprinkle me with hyssop and I am clean, You wash me and I am whiter than snow; You make me hear of joy in bruised bones rejoice. I shall wash no I hands in purity and go around in Your altar, O Lord, so I may hear the voice of Your praise).

Deacon:

Let us attend. Congregation:

Holy, Holy, Lord of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory.

(the priest takes the covering that is upon the chalice, in his right hand, and says 'Agios' tHRee times while making the sign of floe cross. First upon himself his face being turned towards the east, then upon the servants mid lastly, towards the west, upon the people. Meanwhile the assisting priest circles the altar with the censer)

Holy, Holy, Holy.

Holy, is the Lord of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Your holy glory, O Lord our God. Truly heaven and earth

are full of Your holy glory. THRough Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God, Savior and King of us all, Jesus Christ, fill this sacrifice which is Yours, O Lord, with the blessing that is from You, He signs the paten and the chalice together and says tHRough the coming of Your Holy Spirit upon it.

Congregation:

Amen.

#### THE CONSECRATION

(The priest signs them again and says)

And with the blessing bless... Congregation:

Amen.

(He signs them a third time and says)

And with the sanctification, sanctify.. Congregation:

Amen.

Priest

(points at the bread and wine saving):

... These, Your honored oblations which we have set forth before You; this bread and this cup. For Your Only-Begotten- Son our Lord, God, Savior and King of us all, Jesus Christ, The pries( signs the cross over the incense box then places a spoonful in the censer and censes his on the night that He surrendered Himself to suffer for our sins, and underwent death of His own accord for us all .....

Congregation:

We believe.

Priest

(he takes the bread in his hands):

He took bread in His holy, spotless, unblemished, blessed and life-giving hands.
Congregation:

We believe that this is true. Amen.

Priest:

He looked up towards heaven to You, O God, Who are His Father and Master of every one,

Priest:

(he signs the bread and says)

He gave thanks.

Deacon & Congregation:

Amen.

Priest:

(he signs the bread again)

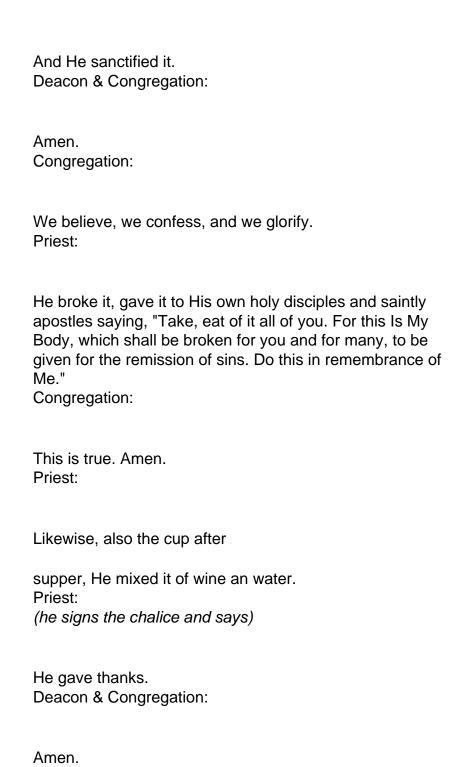
He blessed it.

Deacon & Congregation:

Amen.

Priest:

(he signs the bread again)



Priest: (he signs the chalice)
He blessed it. Deacon & Congregation:
Amen. Priest: (he signs the chalice)
And He sanctified it. Deacon & Congregation:
Amen. Congregation:
Again, we believe, we confess and we glorify.
He tasted, and gave it also to
His honored, holy disciples and saintly apostles saying: "Take, drink of it all of you, for this is My Blood of the new covenant which shall be shed for you and for many, to be given for the remission of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

This is also true. Amen. (Tile assisting priest circles the altar with the censer)

Congregation:

#### Priest: (pointing)

"For every time you shall eat of this bread and drink of this cup, you proclaim My death, confess My resurrection and remember Me till come." Congregation:

[Amen Amen Amen] Your death, O Lord, we proclaim. Your holy resurrection and ascension, we confess. We praise You; we bless You; we thank You, O Lord, and we entreat You, O our God.

Priest:

(Priest circles the altar with the bread and the cup)

And now O God the Father the Pantocrator as we proclaim the death of Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God, Savior, and King of us all,

Jesus Christ, and confess His holy resurrection and His ascension into the heavens and His sitting at Your right hand, O Father, and we await His second coming awesome and full of glory at the end of this age, in which He will come to justly judge the world and reward each one according to his deeds, whether good or evil.... Congregation:

According to Your mercy, O Lord, and not according to our sins.

Priest:

... You are He before whose holy Glory, we set these oblations out of that which is Yours O Our Holy Father.

Worship God in fear. Priest: (Inaudibly)

We ask and entreat Your Goodness O Lover of Mankind, put us not to everlasting shame. Do not cast us-Your servants-away. Turn us not away from Your face. Do not say to us, I know you not", but give water to our heads, and springs of flowing tears to our eyes, that we may weep day and night before You for our transgressions, for we are Your people, and the sheep of Your flock.

Overlook our iniquities and forgive our trespasses, which we have committed willfully and which we have committed unwillfully, those which we have committed knowingly and which we have done unknowingly, the hidden and the manifest, those which we have formerly exposed, and those which we have forgotten those which Your Holy Name knows.

Hear O Lord, the prayer of Your people, attend to the sighs of Your servants. And because of my own sins and the abomination of my heart, deprive not Your people of the coming down of Your Holy Spirit.

Congregation:

Have mercy upon us O God the Father, the Pantocrator.

(3 times)

#### Priest:

(Here the priest with the mat on his hand turns toward the congregation and points to them, then turns to the east and says crying aloud)

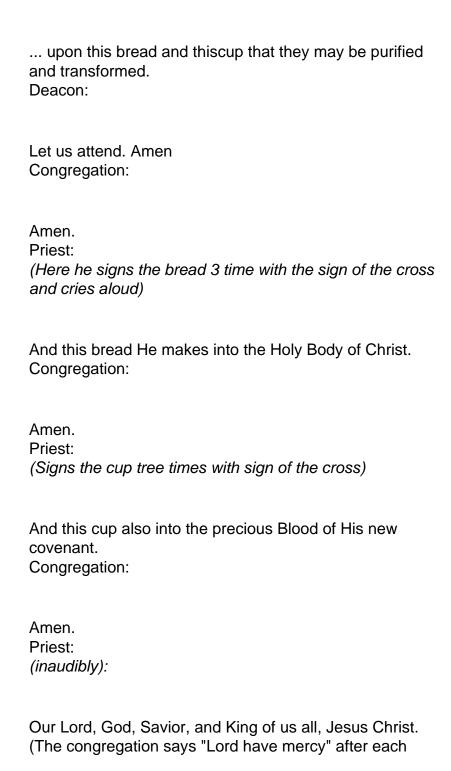
For Your people and Your church beseech You saying:

Have mercy upon us, O God the Father the Pantocrator (3).

Deacon:

Worship God the Father the Pantocrator. Priest: (Inaudibly)

And send down from Your holy height, from Your well prepared dwelling place, and from Your unbounded bosom, from the tHRone of Your kingdom of glory- the ParacleteYour Holy Spirit, the hypostasis unalterable and unchangeable, the Lord, the Life-Giver, Who spoke tHRough the Law, the prophets, and the apostles. Who is in every place, Who fills every place, and yet no place can contain. Who grants holiness, with authority, according to Your goodwill and not as a servant to those He loves; the simple in His nature, and plentiful in deeds, the source of divine graces, 'Who is one in essence with You, and proceeds from You, Who shares the tHRone of Your kingdom of glory with Your Only Begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior and King of us all, Jesus Christ-upon us, Your servants, and upon these honored gifts which are Yours, which we have placed before You... (Priest points to the bread and the cup)



sentence)

Priest:

That they may be to all of us who partake of them .

indisputable faith - love unfeigned.

perfect endurance - firm hope.

faith and watchfulness healing and joy.

renewal of the soul, body and spirit and glory to Your Holy Name

fellowship in eternal life, immortality and remission of sins. (Then he confinues):

Loose those who are bound, rescue those in affliction.

Feed the hungry, comfort the faint-hearted.

Raise the fallen the standing, confirm them.

Turn back the wanderers, lead them all to the way of Your salvation,

count them among Your people, and we also save us from our sins, (be) our guardian and protector in everything.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,

# **The Prayer of Peace**

Priest:	
	d entreat Your goodness O Lover of Mankind. O Lord, the peace of Your one holy Catholic lic church.
Orthodox c	e peace of the one holy Catholic and apostolic nurch, and for God's salvation among the I order in every place, and for the forgiveness on:
Lord have r Priest:	nercy.
That which	exists from one end of the world to the other.

# **Prayer of the King**

Priest:
[Remember, O Lord] the ruler of our land, Your servant Deacon:
Pray that Christ our God, grant us mercy and compassion before the mighty rulers, and incline their hearts with goodness towards us at all times, and forgive us our sins. Congregation:

Keep him in peace, Justice and might, subdue unto him all nations that may desire war for all that is prosperous to us. Speak in his heart for the peace of Your one only holy Catholic and apostolic church. Grant .him to think peacefully of us and of Your Holy Name, so that we also may live a calm and orderly life, and we may exist in every godliness and virtue tHRough You. Congregation:

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Priest:

#### **Prayer of the Patriarch**

Priest: (Here only the Patriarch is mentioned)

(Remember, O Lord] our honorable father, the Patriarch -Papa Abba (Shenouda III)....
Deacon:

Pray for the life and the prevalence of our honorable high priest Papa Abba (Shenouda III), that Christ our God, may preserve his life for us for many years and peaceful times and forgive us our sins.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy. Priest:

In keeping keep him unto us for many years and peaceful times, fulfilling that holy high priesthood with which You have entrusted him according to Your holy and blessed will.

# **Prayer of The Bishops**

D	ri	oct.
$\boldsymbol{r}$	11	

Remember, O Lord, the Orthodox bishops who are in every place.

Deacon:

Pray for our fathers, the Orthodox bishops, who are in all places of the world and for the hegomens the priests, the deacons and all the orders of the church, that Christ our Go may guard them from every evil and forgive us our sins.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy.

# **Prayer of The Priests**

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г	H	ESI.

And the priests, the deacons. the sub-deacons, the readers, the singers, the monks, the virgins, the widows, the orphans, the ascetics, the laics those that art united in marriage, and those who are bringing up children; those who have asked us to remember them, and those who have not, those whom we know and those we know not, our enemies and our beloved, Congregation:

Lord have mercy on them.

Lord have mercy

Prayer of the Rest of the Orthodox Priest:

Remember, O Lord, the rest of the Orthodox [people] who are in all places of the world.

Deacon:

Pray for the rest of the Orthodox [people] in all places of the world; that Christ our God may confirm them in the Orthodox faith and deliver them from all evil all the days of their lives and forgive us our sins. Congregation:

Lord have mercy (prolonged).

#### **Prayer of The Place**

Priest:

Remember, O Lord, this holy place which is Yours, and all places and all the monasteries of our Orthodox fathers.

Pray for the good order of this holy place and all places and all the monasteries of our Orthodox fathers, the deserts and the elders that dwell therein, and the good order of the whole world all together; that Christ our God may deliver them from all evil and forgive us our sins. Congregation:

Lord have mercy. Priest:

And every city, and every region, and the villages, and all the houses of the faithful; keep us all in the Orthodox faith to the last breath, for this alone Is our hope.

### **Prayer of the Present**

D	rioct.	
Г	riest:	

Remember, O Lord, those who are standing in this place who have fellowship with us in prayer.

Deacon:

Pray for those who are standing in this place and have fellowship with us in prayer, that Christ our God may protect and guard them, accept their prayers, and have mercy on them, and forgive us our sins. Congregation:

Lord have mercy.

Priest:

Our fathers and our bretHRen and those that are in all places of the world, keep them and us, with hosts of holy powers. Deliver us from the burning, fiery darts of the devil, and from every diabolic trap and the snare of vain glory.

# Prayer of Remembering Those Who Asked Us

Priest:
Remember, O Lord, those who have bidden us to remember them Deacon:
Pray for all those who have bidden us to remember them in our prayers and supplications, each one by his name, that Christ our God may remember them with goodness at all times and forgive us our sins.  Congregation:
Lord have mercy. Priest:
In our prayers and supplications which we offer up unto You, O Lord our God, as in this particular time of this holy service. Those whom we remember at all times and those who are in the thoughts of each one of us. Let their remembrance-which is now being made-be to them a firm shield; prevailing against all afflictions of the devils and the counsel of evil men. Congregation:
Lord have mercy. Deacon:

Worship God in fear and trembling.

### **Prayer of the Servant**

Priest: (calmly and inaudibly)

Remember, O Lord, my weak and wretched soul, and grant me to understand the magnitude of my standing before Your holy altar. Remove from me all pleasures of ignorance and those of youth, that this may not be a burden in my defense on that fearful judgment day. Deliver me from all works of the adverse powers, and destroy me not for my sins; nor be angry forever, reserving me my evils, but show me also Your goodness in me and save me, the unworthy, according to Your great mercy towards me.

(The Priest sings out in the old manner of Moses)

That I may bless You at all times, all the days of my life.

# **Prayer of the Priesthood**

Priest:
Remember, O Lord, this holy priesthood which is Yours
Pray for this holy priesthood, and all the Orthodox hieratic orders, that Christ our God may hear them, guard them, strengthen them, and have mercy on them, and forgive us our sins.  Priest:
And all the Orthodox hieratic order and all Your people who are standing before You, remember us also O Lord in mercy and compassion and blot out our transgressions as a Good [God] and a lover of mankind. O God have fellowship with us as we serve Your Holy Name. Congregation:
Lord have mercy.

#### Prayer of The Waters, The Plants, And The Airs

Priest:

Graciously accord, O Lord, the air of heaven, the fruits of the earth, the waters of the rivers, the seeds, the herbs, and the plants of the field this year, bless them. Deacon:

Pray for the air of heaven, the fruits of earth, the rising of the waters of the rivers, the seeds, the herbs and the plants of the field, that Christ our God may bless them, bring them to perfection in peace without harm, and forgive us our sins.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. PRIEST:

Raise them to their measure according to Your grace. Give joy to the face of the earth. May Its furrows be abundantly watered and its fruits be plentiful. Prepare it for sowing and harvesting. Manage our lives as deemed fit. Bless the crown of the year with Your goodness for the sake of the poor of Your people, the widow, the orphan, the traveler, the stranger, and for the sake of us all who entreat You and seek Your Holy Name. For the eyes of every one wait upon You, for You give them their food in due season.

Deal with us according to Your goodness, O You who gives food to all flesh. Fill our hearts with joy and gladness, that we too, having sufficiency in every thing may abound in every good deed.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy.

#### **Prayer of the Oblations**

(the priest places some incense in the censer and censes over the paten and chalice)

Priest:

Remember, O Lord, the sacrifices, the oblations and the thanksgivings of Your servants who have offered honor and glory to Your Holy Name.

Pray for those who care for the sacrifices, oblations, first-fruits, oil, incense, coverings, reading books and altar vessels, that Christ our God may reward them in the heavenly Jerusalem, and forgive us our sins. Congregation:

Lord have mercy. Priest:

Accept them upon Your holy, rational, and heavenly altar, a savour of incense to Your greatness in the heavens, tHRough the service of Your holy angels and archangels.

And as You have received the offerings of the righteous Abel, the sacrifice of our father Abraham and the two mites of the widow, so also receive the vows of Your servants; those in abundance and those in scarcity, hidden or manifest. And those who wish to offer to You but have none, and those who have offered these gifts to You this very day, reward them the incorruptible instead

of the corruptible, the heavenly instead of the earthly and the eternal instead of the temporal. Their houses and their stores, fill them with every good thing. (the priest turns his face towards the west, censes the congregation and says)

Surround them, O Lord, with the power of Your holy angels and archangels. And as they have remembered Your holy name on earth, remember them also, O Lord, in Your kingdom, and in this age too, leave them not behind. **Congregation:** 

Lord have mercy

### **Commemoration of The Saints**

Priest:

Our fathers and brothers who have fallen asleep whose souls You have taken repose them; remembering also all the saints who have pleased You since the beginning, our holy fathers the patriarchs, the prophets, the' apostles, the preachers, the evangelists, the martyrs, the confessors and all the spirits of the righteous who were consummated in the faith.

Most of all, the pure, full of glory, ever-virgin, the Holy Theotokos, Saint Mary; and Saint John the forerunner, Baptist and martyr; and Saint Stephen the archdeacon, the proto-martyr, and Saint Mark, the pure apostle, evangelist, and martyr; the Patriarch Saint Severus; Saint Cyril, Saint Basil, and Saint Gregory. Our righteous father the great Abba Antony, and the righteous Abba Paul, and the tHRee Saints Abba Macaril. Our father Abba John, our father Abba Pishoy, my masters the Roman fathers Saints Maximus and Domitius; the forty nine martyrs, the strong Abba Moses. Our father Abba Pachom, the father of fellowship, our father Abba Shenoute the Archimandrite, Our father Abba Nofer the hermit, Abba Samuel the Confessor and all the choir of Your saints.

(The priest continues in a sad tone of JOB)

It is not, O Master, that we are worthy to intercede for the

blessedness of those [saints]; but it is because they stand before the tHRone of Your Only Begotten Son that they, rather, should intercede for our pity and weakness.

(Priest cries aloud)

Forgive us our iniquities for the sake of their holy prayers and for the sake of Your blessed name which is called upon us.

Deacon:

Let those who read, recite the names of our holy fathers, the patriarchs who have fallen asleep, O Lord repose their souls and forgive us our sins.

(The deacons say the Diptych for the patriarchs)

(The Priest says the following Diptych inaudibly:)

Remember, O Lord, our holy Orthodox fathers, the archbishops who have before fallen asleep those who rightly defined the word of truth and grant us also fortune and a share with them- and remember also those who we commemorate today.

## The Diptych

Priest:

Those, and everyone, O Lord, whose names we have mentioned, and those whose names we have not mentioned, those who are In the thoughts of a] I of us, and those who are not in our thoughts, those who have fallen asleep and reposed in the faith of Christ... Deacon:

Pray for our fathers and bretHRen who have fallen asleep and reposed in the faith of Christ since the beginning, our holy fathers, the archbishops and our fathers the bishops, our fathers the hegomens, our fathers the priests, our bretHRen the deacons, our fathers the monks and our fathers the laymen, and for the repose of all the Christians, that Christ our God may repose their souls in the paradise of joy, and we too accord mercy unto us and forgive us our sins.

Priest:

... Graciously, O Lord, repose all their souls in the bosom of our holy fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, sustain them in a green pasture, by the water of rest in the paradise of JOY,

the place out of which grief, sorrow and groaning have fled away in the light of Your saints (Priest may continue with the Prayer of the Departed) Congregation:

As it was, and shall be, from generation to generation. And unto the ages of all ages. Amen Priest:

So that in this also, as in all things, Your great and holy Name may be glorified, blessed and exalted, in everything honored and blessed together with Jesus Christ, Your Beloved Son and the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with all. Congregation:

And with your spirit.

## **Introduction To The Fraction**

Priest:
Again let us give thanks unto God the Pantocrator, the Father of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, for He also has made us worthy now to stand up in this holy place, to lift up our hands and to serve His Holy Name. Let us also ask Him to make us worthy of the communior and partaking of His divine and immortal mysteries. Congregation:
Amen. Priest:
The Holy Body, and the precious Blood, of His CHRis the Pantocrator the Lord, our God. Deacon:
Amen, Amen, Pray. Congregation:
Lord have mercy. Priest:
Peace be with all.

Congregation:

And with your spirit.

# PRAYER OF FRACTION FOR THE FATHER

#### Priest:

O God, Who has before ordained us to sonship, tHRough Jesus Christ our Lord, according to Your goodwill; a honor to the glory of Your grace, that which You granted unto us tHRough Your Beloved. He by Whom we were redeemed, tHRough His Holy Blood for the remission of sins.

We thank You O Lord God the Pantocrator for You have made us the sinners worthy to stand in this holy place and fulfill this holy heavenly mystery-as You have made us worthy to fulfill it-so also may we be worthy of its fellowship and communion.

O You who did open the I eyes of the blind, open the eyes of our hearts, so we may cast out from us all the darkness of wickedness and the guile that resembles defilement, that we may be able to raise our eyes up towards the brilliance of Your holy glory. And as You cleansed the lips of Your servant Isaiah the prophet, when one of the Seraphim took a live coal with tongs from the altar and placed it on his mouth saying: "Behold, this has touched your lips, and will take away your iniquities and will purge off your sins"; so also vouchsafe unto us the weak and sinful. Your servants who seek Your mercy-to cleanse our souls and bodies, our lips and our hearts and give us this true and live coal-that gives life to the soul the body and the spirit-which is the holy Body and precious Blood of Your Christ. Not for judgment nor for being brought to judgment, nor for shame and

reproach on account of our sins, lest we partake of them undeservingly and become judged by them, and lest Your excessive generosity, O our Master, be a cause for increasing our burden (of our sins) and become unto us judgment should we be thankless to You Who does us good.

But grant us Your Holy Spirit so that with a pure heart, an enlightened conscience, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, a perfect love, and a firm hope we may dare with boldness, without fear to say the holy prayer which your Beloved Son gave to His disciples and pure apostles saying to them, at all times when you pray, pray in this manner and say "Our Father Who Art in Heaven..."

### A FRACTION FOR HOLY LENT

O Master and Lord, God the Pantocrator, Who sent His Only-Begotten Son to the world- He taught us the law and commandments written in the Holy Gospel-, and taught us that fasting and prayer cast out devils, as He said that "this kind cannot come out by anything, except by prayer and fasting."

Fasting and prayer are those which raised Elijah to heaven and saved Daniel from the lions' den. Fasting and prayer are those which Moses pursued until he received the Law and commandments, written with the finger of God. Fasting and prayer are those which the people of Nineveh pursued, so God had mercy upon them and forgave them their sins, and lifted His wrath away from them.

Fasting and prayer are those, which the prophets pursued, and prophesied concerning the advent of Christ many generations before His coming. Fasting and prayer are those, which the apostles pursued, and they preached all nations and made them Christians, and baptized them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Fasting and prayer are those, which the martyrs pursued, until they shed their blood for the name of Christ, Who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate.

Fasting and prayer are those which the righteous, the just and cross-bearers pursued, and dwelt in the mountains, deserts and holes of the earth, because of their great love for Christ the King. And we too, let us fast from all evil, in purity and righteousness; and let us proceed forth to this holy sacrifice, and partake of it with thanksgiving, so that with a pure heart, an enlightened soul, an unashamed face, a faith unfeigned, perfect love, and firm hope, we may dare with boldness, without fear, to pray to You, O God, The Holy Father, Who are in Heavens and say "Our Father Who Arts in Heaven..."

#### Congregation:

Our Father Who art in 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, 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 tHRough Christ Jesus our Lord, for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

(The priest says this prayer to the Father inaudibly):

We ask You O God the Father the Pantocrator, lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil (one). Cast the various deeds of Satan away from us, make the plots and counsels of evil men as nothing, and shelter us at all times with Your life giving right hand, for You are our helper and defender, in Jesus Christ our Lord tHRough Whom the glory the honor the adoration and the worship is due unto You with Him and the Holy Spirit the Life-Giver, Who is of one essence with You, now and forever and unto the age of ages. Amen

(Another prayer after "Our Father said in place of the previous one)

We ask You O Lord our God lead none of us Into temptation, that which we are not able to endure due to out weakness. But grant us to emerge from temptation also, that we may be able to quench all the fiery darts of Satan. And deliver us from the evil one and his works, tHRough Jesus Christ our Lord, tHRough Whom Amen.

# PRAYER OF SUBMISSION TO THE FATHER

(The priest says inaudibly)

O God Who so loved us and granted us the order of sonship, that we may be called the sons of God-, and we are heirs to You O God the Father and joint-heirs in the inheritance of Your Christ. Give Your ear, O Lord, and hear us, who now submit to You, cleanse our inner person as Your Only Begotten Son is pure, He Who we wish to partake of. Let adultery and every defiled thought flee from us for the sake of He Who is born of the Virgin.

[Let] boasting and the original sin which is pride: [flee from us], for the sake of He Who alone humbled Himself for our sakes.

[Let] fear [flee from us] for the sake of He Who suffered in the flesh for our sake and wrought out the victory of the cross.

[Let] Vain glory [flee from us] for the sake of He Who was smitten and scourged for our sake and did not turn his face from the shame of spitting.

[Let] All envy, murder, divisions and hatred for the sake of the Lamb of God Who carries the sin of the world [flee from us].

[Let] Anger and the remembrance of evil [flee from us], for the sake of He Who nailed the handwriting of our sins in the cross.

The devils and Satan let them flee for the sake of He Who scattered the masters of evil and shattered the princes of darkness.

Every evil earthly thought, let it be far from us for the sake of He Who ascended to heaven,

So that we, may partake with purity from these pure mysteries and be thoroughly cleansed in our souls, bodies and spirits as we take fellowship in the Body and in the form and the succession of Your Christ; He with Whom You are blessed with the Holy Spirit the Life-Giver, Who is of one essence with You, now and forever Amen Congregation:

In Christ Jesus our Lord. Deacon:

Bow your heads to the Lord. Congregation:

Before You, O Lord.... Deacon:

Let us attend in the fear of God. Priest:

Peace be with all. Congregation:

And with your spirit.

Priest:

(The priest continues inaudibly: a prayer of absolution to the Father)

O Master, Lord God the Pantocrator, Healer of our souls, our bodies, and spirits, You are He Who said unto our father Peter, "You are Peter, upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens." That which you will bind upon the earth shall be bound in the heavens, and that which you will loose upon the earth shall be loosed in the heavens. Therefore. O Lord, let Your servants, my fathers and my bretHRen and my own weakness, be absolved by my mouth, tHRough Your Holy Spirit, O You, Good (God) and Lover of Mankind. O God, Who takes away the sins of the world, hasten, to accept the repentance of Your servants for a light of understanding and forgiveness of sins. For You are a compassionate and merciful God; You are patient; Your mercy is great and true. I we have sinned against You either by word or by deeds, pardon and forgive us, as a Good (God) and a Lover of Mankind. O God, absolve us and absolve all Your people from every sin, and from every curse and from every denial, and from every false oath, and from every encounter with the heretics and the heathens.

O our Lord, grant us a reason and power and understanding to flee from any evil deed of the adversary, and grant us to do what is pleasing unto You at all times. Inscribe our names with all the choir of Your saints in the Kingdom of the heavens, in Christ Jesus, our Lord, THRough Whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the adoration are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Life-Giver Who is of one essence with You,

now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.

(Here the priest mentions whoever he wishes, then continues with this prayer inaudibly)

Remember, O Lord, my own weakness and forgive me my many sins, and where transgression has abounded, Let Your Grace be multiplied in abundance. Because of my own sins and the abomination of my heart, deprive not Your people of the grace of Your Holy Spirit. Absolve us and absolve all Your people

(The priest says the prayer of peace and the prayer of the fathers inaudibly).

# THE PRAYER OF CONGREGATION

Remember, O Lord, our congregations; bless them. Deacon:

Saved, Amen. And with your spirit. Amen. In the fear of God, let us attend. Congregation:

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. Priest:

(he raises the ESPADIKON [the center portion of the Body] carefully and signs the Blood with It, dips it in the Blood, then signs the Blood with It again and says)

The holies for the holy.

Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God, the sanctification of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Congregation:

One is the (All) Holy Father One is the (All) Holy Son. One is the (All) Holy Spirit. Amen. Priest:

Peace be with all.

Cond	regation:

And with your spirit.

Priest:

(lowers his hand with the ESPADIKON and signs the Body with it saying)

The Holy Body, and the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen. Congregation:

Amen.

Priest:

(Signs the Body again with the signof the cross)

The Holy and Precious Body, and the True Blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Amen. Congregation:

Amen.

Priest:

(He signs the Body a third time with the ISPADIKON, raises his hand and signs the Blood, then places the ISPADIKON in the chalice and says):

The Body and the Blood of Emmanuel our God, this is in truth. Amen.

Congregation:

Amen. I believe.

### THE PROFESSION

Priest: (lifts the paten with the Body in it and says the profession)

Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe and confess to the last breath, that this is the life-giving flesh that Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ took from our Lady, the Lady of us all, the holy Theotokos, Saint Mary. He made It one with His Divinity without mingling, without confusion and without alteration. He witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate. He gave It up for us upon the holy wood of the Cross, of His own will, for us all. Truly I believe that His Divinity parted not from His Humanity for a single moment nor a twinkling of an eye. Given for us for salvation, remission of sins and eternal life to those who partake of Him. I believe, I believe, I believe that this is so in truth. Amen.

(The priest places the paten on the altar and kneels to God)

Deacon:

Amen. Amen. I believe, I believe, I believe that this is so in truth. Amen. Pray for us and for all Christians who said to us concerning them, remember us (in the house of the Lord). The peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you. Sing: Alleluia. Pray for the worthy communion of the immaculate heavenly, and holy mysteries. Lord have

mercy.
Congregation:

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

#### **PSALM 150**

Praise God, in all His saints. Alleluia

Praise Him, in the firmament of His power. Alleluia

Praise Him, for His mighty acts. Alleluia.

Praise Him, according to the multitude of His greatness. Alleluia.

Praise Him, with the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia.

Praise Him, with the psaltery and harp. Alleluia.

Praise Him, with the timbrel and chorus. Alleluia.

Praise Him, with strings and organs. Alleluia.

Praise Him, with pleasant sounding cymbals. Alleluia.

Praise Him, upon the cymbals of joy. Alleluia.

Let every thing that has breath praise the Name of the Lord our God. Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Alleluia.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia.

Glory be to You our God. Alleluia.

Glory be to our God.

Alleluia.

O Jesus Christ, the Son of God, hear us and have mercy upon us.