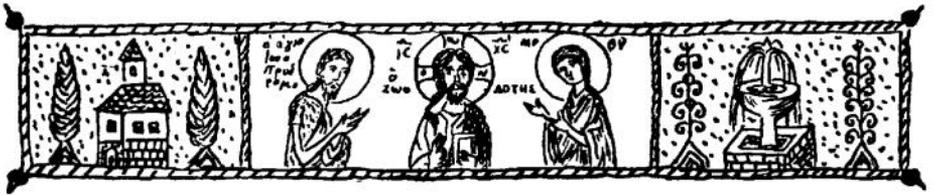


Great Vespers
with the
Divine Liturgy of
St. Basil the Great
on the Eve of Theophany





Great Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great on the Eve of Theophany

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Come, let us bow in worship before our King and God!

Come, let us bow in worship before Christ, our King and God!

Come, let us bow in worship and fall down before the very Lord Jesus Christ, our King and God!

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, my God, You are great indeed!

Clothed in majesty and splendour,
robed in light as with a cloak.

You spread out the heavens like a tent-cloth,
You built Your towering palace far above the waters,
making the clouds Your chariot,
You travel on the wings of the wind.

You use the winds for messengers,
for servants the flaming fire.

You fixed the earth on its foundations,
never to be disturbed.

With the deep You covered it,
as with a garment.

The waters rose higher than the mountains,
You rebuked them and they took to flight.
At the sound of Your thunder they fled,
cascading down through the mountains
they flowed down through the valleys
to the place you gave them.
You set a limit they may not pass,
lest they cover the earth again.
From the ravines you make springs rush forth into watercourses
that wind among the mountains.
They give drink to all the beasts of the field,
the wild asses quench their thirst.
The birds of heaven dwell on their banks,
from among their branches they send forth their song.
From Your towering palace You water the hills,
the earth drinks its fill of Your gift.
You make grass grow for the cattle and plants for man's use,
that he may bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to gladden man's heart.
Oil to make his face glisten,
and bread to strengthen his heart.
The trees of the Lord drink their fill,
the cedars He planted on Lebanon.
There the sparrows make their nest,
in the tree-tops the stork has its home.
For the wild goats there are the mountains,
for the rock-badgers the boulders and cliffs.
You make the moon to mark the seasons,
the sun knows when to set.
You bring darkness and it is night,
and all the beasts of the forest roam about.
Young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.
The sun rises, and they withdraw to rest in their dens;
man goes forth to his work,
to labour till evening falls.
How manifold are Your works, O Lord,
in wisdom You wrought them all.
The earth overflows with Your riches.

And the sea! Look how great and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting
of living things both great and small.

There the ships sail back and forth,
and Leviathan You made to play with.
They all look to You, hoping for food in due time;
You give it to them and they gather it up,
You open Your hand and they eat their fill.

If You hide Your face they are restless and troubled,
when You take Your breath away they perish,
returning to the dust they came from.
You send forth Your breath and they are created,
and You renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last forever,
may the Lord take pleasure in all His works.
He looks at the earth and it trembles,
He touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord all my life,
I will sing for joy in my God as long as I live!
May my thought please Him as much as He pleases me.
Away with sinners from the face of the earth,
let the wicked be no more!

Bless the Lord,
O my soul!

The sun knows when to set;
You bring darkness and it is night.

How manifold are Your works, O Lord,

All: In wisdom You wrought them all!

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God!

Great Litany

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

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.

For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord. For our most holy universal Pontiff, N., the Pope of Rome, for his Beatitude, our Patriarch, N., our most reverend Metropolitan N., our God-loving Bishop N., for the revered priesthood, diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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: For all glory, honour and worship befit You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and for ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The following is only taken on Saturday or Sunday evenings. If weekday, please proceed to the lamp-lighting psalms on page 8.

READINGS FROM THE PSALTER

Blessed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Serve the Lord with awe! with trembling pay homage to Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed is he who takes refuge in Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord's is salvation, for You people Your blessing!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Both now and ever, and for ages of ages. Amen!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia; glory to You, O God!

LITTLE EKTENY

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

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: For You are our God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and for ages of ages.

All: Amen.

LAMP-LIGHTING PSALMS

Psalm 140 (Tone 2)

O Lord, I cry to You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I cry to You, hear me!

Hear my voice when I call to You.

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer rise like incense before You.

The lifting of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

Hear me, O Lord!

Then the reader alone, or two choirs:

Set a guard, O Lord, before my mouth*

and a portal around my lips.

Incline my heart away from evil dealings,*

from finding excuses for sinful deeds.

In company with those who work in iniquity,*

let me not partake of what they choose.

May the just chasten me with justice and reprove me;*

may the oil of the wicked never touch my head.

Yet even then shall I pray for their welfare.*

Their rulers were swallowed near the rock.

My words will be heard, for they were sweet.*

As a lump of clay broken on the ground, so their bones
were strewn near the grave.

To You, Lord, O Lord, my eyes are lifted up.*
In You have I hoped; let not my soul be lost.

Keep me from the snare that was set for me,*
and from the stumbling-blocks of the wicked.

The wicked shall fall into their own nets,*
while I remain alone until I can escape.

Psalm 141

With my voice I cried to the Lord;*
with all my voice I implored the Lord.

Before Him I pour out my supplications;*
before Him I declare my distress.

When my breath was escaping me,*
then you knew my paths;

On the road upon which I was walking,*
they set up snares for me.

I looked to my right and observed*
there was no one friendly to me;

Even flight was denied me;*
there was no one to take care of my life.

I cried out to You, O Lord, and said:
You are my hope, my share in the land of the living.

Listen to my supplication,*
for I am laid very low.

Deliver me from my oppressors,*
for they have overwhelmed me.

Lead my soul forth from prison*
that I may give thanks to Your name.

The just shall gather around me*
when You have been good to me.

**8. Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord;*
O Lord, hear my voice!**

When the Forerunner saw the One who is our enlightenment,
the One who has brought light to all,
coming to be baptized,
his heart rejoiced and his hand trembled.
He pointed Him out to the people and said:
“This is the Saviour of Israel
who delivered us from corruption.
O Christ our God, O Sinless One, glory to You!

**7. Let Your ears be attentive*
to the voice of my prayer.**

When the Forerunner saw the One who is our enlightenment,
the One who has brought light to all,
coming to be baptized,
his heart rejoiced and his hand trembled.
He pointed Him out to the people and said:
“This is the Saviour of Israel
who delivered us from corruption.
O Christ our God, O Sinless One, glory to You!

6. If You mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand?*
But with You forgiveness is that You may be revered.

O our Saviour, the armies of angels trembled when they saw You
baptized by your servant,
and the Holy Spirit bearing witness and descending,
and when they heard the voice of the Father speaking from
heaven:
This One upon whom the Forerunner lays his hands is my
beloved Son
in whom I am well-pleased.
O Christ our God, glory to You!

5. I have waited for You as You have commanded;*
my soul patiently relies on Your promise,*
for it has trusted in the Lord.

O our Saviour, the armies of angels trembled when they saw You
baptized by your servant,
and the Holy Spirit bearing witness and descending,
and when they heard the voice of the Father speaking from

heaven:

This One upon whom the Forerunner lays his hands is my
beloved Son
in whom I am well-pleased.
O Christ our God, glory to You!

**4. From the morning watch until night*
let Israel trust in the Lord.**

When the Jordan River received You, O Fountainhead,
the Comforter descended in the form of a dove.
Now behold the marvel:
the One who bowed the heavens bows his head to the
Forerunner,
and the one made of clay cried out to his Maker:
“Why do You command me to perform what is beyond my
power?
It is I who need to be baptized by You.
O Christ our God, O Sinless One, glory to You!

**3. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him there is
plentiful redemption;*
and He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

When the Jordan River received You, O Fountainhead,
the Comforter descended in the form of a dove.
Now behold the marvel:
the One who bowed the heavens bows his head to the
Forerunner,
and the one made of clay cried out to his Maker:
“Why do You command me to perform what is beyond my
power?
It is I who need to be baptized by You.
O Christ our God, O Sinless One, glory to You!

**2. Praise the Lord, all the nations;*
proclaim His glory, all you people.**

O God and Lord, when You resolved to save those who had
strayed from You,
You condescended to take the form of a servant.
for it is fitting that You assumed our human nature for us.

And when You were baptized in the flesh,
O our Redeemer,
it made us worthy of Your forgiveness.
Therefore, we cry out to You:
O Christ our God, our Benefactor, glory to You!

1. Strong is the love of the Lord for us;*
eternally will His truth endure.

O God and Lord, when You resolved to save those who had
strayed from You,
You condescended to take the form of a servant.
for it is fitting that You assumed our human nature for us.
And when You were baptized in the flesh,
O our Redeemer,
it made us worthy of Your forgiveness.
Therefore, we cry out to You:
O Christ our God, our Benefactor, glory to You!

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

You have bowed your head before the Forerunner,
and You have crushed the heads of the demons.
You have descended into the waters
and given light to all things
that we may glorify You, O Saviour,
the Enlightenment of our souls!

Entrance

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest: In the evening, in the morning, and at midday, we praise and
bless You, we give You thanks and we entreat You, Master of all
things! Let us our prayer rise like incense before You, and pre
serve our hearts from all evil words and thoughts. Rescue us
from all those who hunt after our souls, for our eyes are fixed on
You, O Lord, and on You we count: do not disappoint us! For you
deserve all glory, honour and worship; Father, Son and Holy
Spirit, now and forever and ever.

Deacon: Amen. Master, bless the holy entrance!

Priest: Blessed is the entrance into Your holy places, always, now and forever and ever.

Deacon: Amen.

Wisdom! Stand Aright!

Evening Hymn

Choir: Tranquil Light, of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ: as we come upon the sunset, as we see the evening light, we sing to God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. At all times You are worthy of being hymned by joyful voices; O Son of God, You are the Giver of Life. For this the whole world glorifies You!

THE EVENING PROKIMEN

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace to all of you.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

Saturday Evening (Psalm 92) in the Sixth Tone

The Lord is King, robed in majesty!

Verse: The Lord is robed in power and has girded himself!

Verse: He has fixed the universe, it will not be moved!

Verse: Holiness goes well with Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

Sunday Evening (Psalm 133) in the Eight Tone

Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord.

Verse: Who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of God!

Monday Evening (Psalm 4) in the Fourth Tone

The Lord shall hear me when I call to Him.

Verse: When I called to You, You heard me, O God of my justice!
Be kind to me now and hear my prayer!

Tuesday Evening (Psalm 22) in the First Tone

Your mercy, Lord, will follow me all the days of my life.

Verse: The Lord is my shepherd and I shall want nothing! He has set me in a place of pasture!

Wednesday Evening (Psalm 53) in the Fifth Tone

Save me by Your power, O God, set me free by Your might!

Verse: O God, hear my prayer! Give ear to the words of my mouth.

Thursday Evening (Psalm 120) in the Sixth Tone

My help is from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Verse: I have lifted up my eyes to the mountains from whence help shall come to me.

Friday Evening (Psalm 58) in the Seventh Tone

You are my Protector, O God, and Your mercy shall go before me.

Verse: Deliver me from my enemies, O God, and save me from them that rise up against me.

Readings from Scripture

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from the Book of (name);
or A reading from the Prophecy of (name);
or A reading from the (Third, Fourth) Book of Kings.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: (chants or reads the reading).

Genesis 1:1-13

Exodus 14:15-18, 21-23, 27-29

Exodus 15:22 - 16:1

The Royal Doors are now opened.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Tropar

- Priest: O Creator of the world, You appeared in the world in order to shine upon those who live in darkness. O merciful One, glory to You!
- Verse: To shine upon those who live in darkness.* O Merciful One, glory to You!
- Priest: O God, be gracious and bless us, and let Your face shed its light upon us; so that we may know Your ways upon earth and all nations may learn Your saving help.
- Verse: To shine upon those who live in darkness.* O Merciful One, glory to You!
- Priest: Let the peoples glorify You, O God, let all the people praise You; let them all be happy, for You are the Ruler of all the nations; and You govern them with justice.
- Verse: To shine upon those who live in darkness.* O Merciful One, glory to You!
- Priest: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.
- Verse: To shine upon those who live in darkness.* O Merciful One, glory to You!
- Priest: O Creator of the world, You appeared in the world.
- Verse: To shine upon those who live in darkness.* O Merciful One, glory to You!

Readings from Scripture

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from the Book of (name);
or A reading from the Prophecy of (name);
or A reading from the (Third, Fourth) Book of Kings.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: (chants or reads the reading).

Joshua 3:7-8, 15-17
Fourth Book of Kings (2 Kings) 2:6-14
Fourth Book of Kings (2 Kings) 5:9-14

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Tropar

Priest: O our Saviour, through the greatness of Your mercy, You cleansed the sinners and the publicans, and now Your light shines upon those who live in darkness. O Lord, glory to You!

Verse: And now your light shines upon those who live in darkness.*
O Lord, glory to You!

Priest: The Lord, is King, in majesty enrobed; the Lord has robed Himself with might; He has girded Himself with power. The world will surely stand in place, never to be moved. Your throne stands from old; You are from everlasting, Lord.

Verse: And now your light shines upon those who live in darkness.*
O Lord, glory to You!

Priest: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their thunder.

Verse: And now your light shines upon those who live in darkness.*
O Lord, glory to You!

Priest: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Verse: And now your light shines upon those who live in darkness.*
O Lord, glory to You!

Priest: O our Saviour, through the greatness of Your mercy, You cleansed the sinners and the publicans.

Verse: And now your light shines upon those who live in darkness.*
O Lord, glory to You!

Readings from Scripture

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from the Book of (name);
or A reading from the Prophecy of (name);
or A reading from the (Third, Fourth) Book of Kings.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: (chants or reads the reading).

Isaiah 1:16-20

Genesis 32:1-10

Exodus 2:5-10

Judges 6:36-40

Third Book of Kings (1 Kings) 18:30-39

Fourth Book of Kings (2 Kings) 2:19-22

Isaiah 49:8-15

Small Litany

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: 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.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For You are holy our God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, now and for ever:

Deacon: And ever.

Choir: Amen.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy, and Immortal, have mercy on
us. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen. Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace be with all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the third tone.

The Lord is my light and my salvation,*
whom shall I fear?

Verse: The Lord is the protector of my life,
of whom shall I be afraid?

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from St. Paul's First Letter to the
Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: (1 Corinthians 9:19-27)

Priest: Peace be with you, reader.

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

Choir: Alleluia (3x)

Verse: My heart erupts with goodly theme; I address my words
to the king.

Verse: You are the most splendidly beautiful of men.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be
with all.

Choir: And with your Spirit!

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Choir: Glory be to You, O Lord. Glory be to You!

Priest: Let us be attentive.

(Luke 3:1-18)

Choir: Glory be to You, O Lord. Glory be to You!

We now continue with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great.

The Great Blessing of Water

Following the Ambo Prayer, we proceed to the place where the Blessing of the Water is to take place.

The choir starts by singing:

Choir: *(Tone 8)* The voice of the Lord resounds over the waters, saying:*
Come and receive the spirit of wisdom,* the spirit of understanding,* the spirit of the fear of God* from this revelation of Christ.

Today the nature of water is sanctified.* The Jordan is parted;* its waters cease to flow* when it sees its Master being baptized.

O Christ our King, You came as a man into the river.* For our sins, O loving and blessed Lord,* You desired to be baptized like a servant* by the hands of the Forerunner.

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

To the voice of the one crying in the wilderness;* Prepare the way of the Lord;* You came, O Lord, as a servant* seeking to be baptized even though You had no sin.* When the waters saw You, they trembled in fear* like the Forerunner who exclaimed:* How can a lamp give light to the Light?* How can a servant touch his Master?* Rather, O Saviour, bless the waters and me,* for You take away the sin of the world.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: (1) Isaiah 35:1-10; (2) Isaiah 55:1-13; (3) Isaiah 12:3-6

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace be with you.

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

Prokimenon (Tone 3)

The Lord is my light and my Saviour;* whom shall I fear?

Verse: The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Alleluia (Tone 4)

Verse: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is over many waters.

Verse: Why was it, O sea, that you fled, that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel!

Priest: Peace be with all.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Choir: Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You!

Deacon: Let us be attentive! (Mark 1:9-11)

Choir: Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You!

Litany

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That these waters may be sanctified by the power, operation, and descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may descend upon these waters the purifying action of the most substantial Trinity, let us pray to the Lord.

That this water may be endowed with the grace of redemption, the blessing of the Jordan, through the power and action and descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That Satan may speedily be crushed under our feet, and that every evil council directed against us fail, let us pray to the Lord.

That the Lord our God free us from every deceit and temptation of the enemy, and render us worthy of the good things He has promised, let us pray to the Lord.

That we be enlightened by the light of understanding and of piety through the blessed descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That the Lord our God send down the blessing of the Jordan and sanctify these waters, let us pray to the Lord.

That this water be a gift of sanctification, of remission of sins, of healing of soul and body, and of every expedient need, let us pray to the Lord.

That this water be a fountain welling up to eternal life, let us pray to the Lord.

That this water may manifest its power in averting every snare of our enemies, visible and invisible, let us pray to the Lord.

For those who shall use it for the sanctification of their homes, let us pray to the Lord.

That it may serve as purification of the souls and bodies of all those who, with faith, shall draw and partake of it, let us pray to the Lord.

That we be perfectly sanctified by partaking of these waters, through the invisible manifestation of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That the Lord hear the voice of our supplication and have mercy on us, let us pray to the Lord.

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

Protect us, save, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by Your grace.

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

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O Lord, Jesus Christ, only-begotten Son, ever-present with the Father, true God, Source of life and immortality, Light from Light, Who have come into the world to enlighten it! Enlighten our minds with Your Holy Spirit and receive us, who bring to You our praise and thanks: for Your great and wondrous deeds from all eternity and for Your plan of salvation in recent ages, when You clothed Yourself in our poor and weak mortality and descended to the rank of a servant, O King of all. You, being sinless, accepted baptism in the Jordan from the hand of a servant, so that, having sanctified the very nature of water, You could establish for us a way of rebirth by water and the Spirit and restore us to our previous dignity. Recalling this divine mystery, we pray to You, Master and Lover of mankind: sprinkle us, too, Your unworthy children, according to Your divine promise, with pure water, by the gift of Your mercy, so that the prayer of us sinners over this water, by Your goodness, may be please and Your blessing may be given to it and to us, and to all your faithful people, to the glory of Your holy and honourable Name.

For all glory, honour and worship is Yours, with Your eternal Father and Your most holy, blessed and life-creating Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: We glorify You, O Master and Lover of mankind, almighty King Who are eternal! We glorify You, O Creator and Maker of all! We glorify You, O only-begotten Son, Who were born of a mother without a father and of a father without a mother, for in the preceding feast we have seen You as a babe, and in this present feast as perfect man appearing as our perfect God. Today is the time of feasting, and the ranks of saints and angels have joined

us in celebration; today the grace of the all-holy Spirit in the likeness of a dove comes down upon the waters; today shines the Sun that never sets, and the world is sparkling with the light of the Lord; today the moon is bright, together with the earth in the glowing radiance of its beams; today the brilliant stars adorn the universe with the splendor of its twinkling; today the clouds from heaven shed upon man a shower of justice; today the Uncreated willingly permits the hands of His creature to be laid upon Him; today the prophet and Forerunner approaches the Lord and, standing before Him in awe, witnesses condescension of God towards us today through the presence of the Lord the waters of the river Jordan are changed into remedies; today the whole universe is refreshed with mystical streams; today the sins of mankind are blotted out by the waters of the river Jordan; today paradise has been opened to mankind, and the Sun of righteousness has shone upon us; today at the hands of Moses, the bitter water is changed into sweetness by the presence of the Lord. Today we are delivered from the ancient mourning, and like a new Israel, we are saved; today we are delivered from darkness, and, through the light of the knowledge of God, we are illuminated; today the darkness of the world vanishes with the appearing of our God, today the whole creation is brightened from on high; today errors are destroyed and a way of salvation is prepared for us by the coming of the Lord; today the inhabitants of heaven rejoice with those on the earth; and the inhabitants of earth with those of heaven; today the noble and eloquent assembly of the faithful rejoices; today the Lord comes to be baptized, so that mankind may be lifted up; today the One Who never has to bow inclines Himself before His servant so that He may release our chains; today we have acquired the kingdom of heaven; indeed, the kingdom of heaven that has no end. Today land and sea share in the joy of the world, and the world is filled with rejoicing. The waters behold You, O Lord; the waters behold You, and they fear; the river Jordan turns back its course as it beholds the fire of the Godhead coming down upon it and entering it in the flesh; the river Jordan turns back its course and beholds the Holy Spirit descending in the lines of a dove, and hovering over You; the river Jordan turns back its course as it

beholds the Invisible made visible, the Creator existing in the flesh, and the Master in the likeness of a servant; the river Jordan turns back its course, and the mountains leap with joy as they behold God in the flesh. And the clouds give choices, and are filled with awe by the One Who is coming, Light of Light, true God of true God; the One Who, in the river Jordan, as drowned the death of sin, the thorn of error, and the bonds of hell, and granted the baptism of salvation to the world. So also I, Your unworthy and sinful servant overcome with fear, proclaim Your great wonders; and I cry reverently to You and say:

With the lighted candles the priest makes the sign of the cross in the water, thrice, saying aloud each time :

Great are You, O Lord, and wonderful are Your works, no one can do justice to the praise of Your Wonders!

By Your divine will You bring forth all things out of nothingness into being; by Your might You control all creation, by Your providence You govern the universe, You, Who, from four elements, established the whole world, and with four seasons crowned the cycle of the year! The immaterial powers tremble before You, the sun praises You, and the moon is Your worshipper; the stars are Your servants and light bows to Your will: the tempests tremble, and the springs adore You. You spread out the heavens like a tent; You set the land upon the waters; You fringed the seas with sandy beaches; You let the air flow about for our breathing. To You are all the hosts of spirits bowing: For You are worshipped by the ranks of the archangels, by the many-eyed Cherubim, by the six-winged Seraphim, as they stand in Your presence and fly about You, covering themselves out of fear of Your unapproachable glory. And You, O God while remaining boundless, without beginning: and beyond all words, deigned to come down upon earth, to assume the likeness of a servant, and become like man. Heeding the depth of Your compassion, O Master, You could not bear to see humanity defeated by the devil, and so You came to save us: for we declare that grace and mercy belong to You, and we do not make a secret of Your goodness. You freed the children of our nature, and through Your birth You sanctified the virginal womb; as You

make Yourself known, all creations sings Your praises for You appeared on earth, O God, and walked among men. You sanctified the course of the river Jordan by sending upon it Your all-holy Spirit, and crushed the head of every dragon nestling in it.

With his hand, the priest makes the sign of the cross in the water, thrice, saying aloud each time :

Wherefore, O King and Lover of Mankind, come down now through the descent of Your Holy Spirit, and sanctify this water.

Grant it the grace of giving redemption, and the sanctifying power of the river Jordan. Make it a font of incorruptibility, a gift of sanctification, a redemption from sins, a healing potion for illness, a destroyer of devils, make it hold back the powers of the enemy, and fill it with the might of the angels, so that all who drink and receive of it may be blessed in their souls and bodies, healed of their sufferings, sanctified in their homes, and may receive every befitting grace. For You are our God, Who, with water and the Spirit, restored the youthfulness of our nature made old by sin, You are our God, Who drowned sin in the waters of the time of Noah. You are our God, Who, in the sea, and at the hands of Moses, delivered the Hebrews from the bondage of Pharaoh. You are our God, Who cleaved the rock in the wilderness, so that the waters gushed out, and the valleys overflowed, and the people were satisfied. You are our God, Who, with fire and water and at the hands of Elias, delivered Israel from the errors of Baal.

With his breath, the priest makes the sign of the cross in the water, thrice, saying aloud each time :

Wherefore, O Master, now sanctify this water by Your Holy Spirit.

Grant sanctification, blessing, cleansing, and health to all those who touch it, and to those who shall partake thereof, and to those who shall anoint themselves therewith.

And save, O Lord, our God-protected people, keep them in peace

under Your protection; bestow upon them whatever they ask unto salvation and eternal life. So, by the elements, by the angels and by men, by things visible and invisible, may Your most holy name be glorified, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always, and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with all.

Choir: And with your Spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear us, You Who sanctified water when You consented to be baptized in the river Jordan: bless us all who, through the bowing of our heads, have signified our servitude and make us worthy to be filled with Your sanctification through the reception and the sprinkling of this water. Let it be, O Lord, for the health of our soul and body.

For You are the sanctification of our souls and bodies, and we give to You glory, thanksgiving, and worship, together with Your all-holy, gracious, and live-giving Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

The priest now makes the sign of the cross over the water with the cross; then holding it upright in both hands, plunges it into the water, and lifts it up once again, three times, each time singing the troparion:

(Tone 1): When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity was revealed; the voice of the Father bore witness to You, naming You the beloved Son, and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the word's certainty. Glory to You, O Christ God, who appeared and enlightened the world!

The priest now goes around the nave blessing the people while the choir sings:

(Tone 6): O believers, let us praise the great plans of God Who works for us; for the only pure and spotless One, being incarnate

on account of our fall, purifies us in the river Jordan, sanctifies us together with the waters, and crushes the heads of dragons in this water. O faithful, let us therefore draw water with joy, for those who draw it in faith shall be invisibly endowed with the grace of the Spirit, through the presence of Christ God, the Saviour of our souls.

The priest returns and blesses the rest of the church while the choir sings:

Choir: Blessed be the name of the Lord, now and for ever and ever. (3x)

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall
hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name.

I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set
me free.

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from
all his distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who revere
him, to rescue them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. He is happy who seeks
refuge in him.

Revere the Lord, you his saints. They lack nothing, those who
revere him.

Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the
Lord lack no blessing.

Come, children, and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the
Lord.

Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his
prosperity?

Then keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking
deceit.

Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth.

The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him.

He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed.

The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

Priest: May the blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind, always, now and forever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

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

Choir: 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. Lord, have mercy. Give the blessing!

Priest: Christ our true God, Who was graciously pleased to accept baptism from John in the Jordan for the sake of our salvation, through the prayers of His immaculate Mother, of Blessed Nykyta, first exarch of Canada; of Blessed Vasyl, elder of Winnipeg; and of all the saints, will have mercy and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.



Rosburn
Ukrainian Catholic
Pastoral District

Український католицько-пастирський округ Росберн

*Serving the communities of
Rosburn, Russell, Oakburn, Shoal Lake, Olha, Birtle, Lakedale,
Angusville, Ruthenia, Dolyny and Seech Lake*

Please do not remove from the parish.

Thank you!