



Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Sunday of Samaritan Woman

May 18, 2014

**Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor;
Subdeacon Daniel J. Korba and Nikitas Tsokris,
Cantors**

Rectory 215-862-9227; Parish Center 732-780-3158

We Are A Stewardship Parish Of Time, Talent and Treasure

The mission of our parish faith community is to teach the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Orthodox Church; to enable people to reflect the image of Jesus Christ in every day activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Orthodox believers in our Freehold area.

We of St. Paul the Apostle Parish dedicate ourselves to maintaining the sanctity of worship and spiritual enlightenment in a family environment that reaches and involves all ages and unifies all people.

We believe in the spirit of ecumenism in which we share our faith by word and example and extend our spiritual insights to all people.

We accept the responsibility of Christian Stewardship that through generous giving we may all experience a faith communion with Christ as the Center of our lives.

We dedicate ourselves to insuring the well-being of all people so that we may truly experience the message of Christ's salutary gospel.

We are a beacon on a hill with the eyes of many upon us; that beacon is the inspired Light of Christ which must shine brightly in our lives.

It is not ourselves we preach but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts, that we in turn might make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ. This treasure we possess in earthen vessels to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way possible, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in us 2 Corinthians 4: 5 – 8.

GLAD TIDINGS

+++ Every Monday, we have prayerful devotions before the Myrrh bearing icon at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to be present in praise. The Birthgiver invites us to manifest our faith in response to her first shown love, to unite our prayers with hers for the salvation of our souls. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us.

+++ Please keep the intentions of these members of our parish intercession community in your daily prayers: Anna, Barbara, Betty, James, Yevlogia, Maria, Pani Anna Marie and Father George.

+++ The sign-up sheet for both the Web Site and Bulletin sponsors is on the bulletin board in the kitchen. Please sign up as soon as possible. Do NOT make payment until your sign-up month has arrived. This will make it easier for Father to keep track of payments. Thanks in advance to all who support the parish in this way.

+++ We offer thanks to the Blessed Trinity for inspiring generosity in the souls of our faithful and the blessing of abundant grace in our midst with the offering received last Sunday: Tithe Offering, \$260.00; Candles, \$37.00; Food Coupons, \$120.00; Kitchen, \$1236.00, for a total of \$1653.00. We express our profound gratitude to the parishioner communicants who offer their God-given treasure and labored for the sake of the Lord and the good of our parish. God bless and reward you good and faithful souls! The attendance was 44 adults and 13 children last Sunday.

+++ As faithful believers, we intercede and associate ourselves in prayer with the following who have prayed and offered seven day lights for their intentions: Father Lucas, Anna Zacharyczuk, Eleanor Korba, Marilyn Korba and Pani Buletza.

+++ We make a **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN** Canister available for our faithful to bring in pennies for our altar and its appointments. We are already in receipt of **\$1809.00** from this apostolate. Even your pennies can help and are a blessing to our parish.

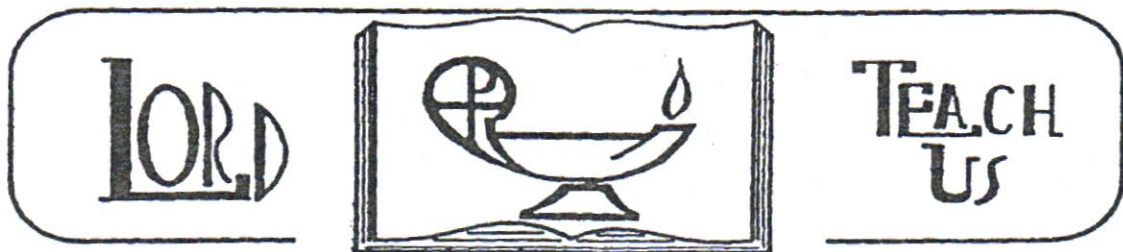
+++ Please be certain to see a member of the Parish Council if you would like to help our parish by using **Shop Rite Food Coupons** available in \$20.00 denominations. We invite **ALL** to be caring and supportive and use Grocery Coupons for food shopping as we have gratefully realized \$5750 on this project to date!

+++ The Clothing Drive is a permanent on-going project in our parish. Please bring any type of clothing and fabrics along with stuffed animals and shoes for the benefit of our parish. The bags can be left in the vestibule or on the front porch of the rectory. Please invite your friends and neighbors to assist us in disposing of unwanted clothing, shoes and fabrics.

+++ We invite all pray the Lord our God grants us an enrichment of our spiritual lives for his glory. May we all be so enriched that this Passion Week is particularly rewarding for each of us, to triumph in Resurrection joy!

+++ May all glory, adoration and worship be accorded our God in the Holy Trinity by all the faithful of our parish with one mind, one soul and one heart each day of the week!

+++ Work is about to begin on the exterior of our building with the soffit being replaced completely so that new gutters and down spouts may be installed. Plans are being made to have the dome refurbished and reinstalled on the roof.



Bishops and Priests

They laid their hands upon them and they received the Holy Spirit Acts of the Apostles 8: 17.

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you are to be my witnesses in Jerusalem and throughout Judea, in Samaria, yes, to the ends of the earth Acts of the Apostles 1: 8.

And I will pray the Father and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever John 14: 16.

For this the Holy Spirit and we have decided... Acts of the Apostles 15: 28.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you Matthew 28: 19, 20.

He who listens to you, listens to me, he who despises you, despises him who sent me Luke 10: 16.

For it is not you that speaks, but the Spirit of your Father, who speaks in you Matthew 10: 20.

It is no longer I that live, but Christ who lives in me Galatians 2: 20.

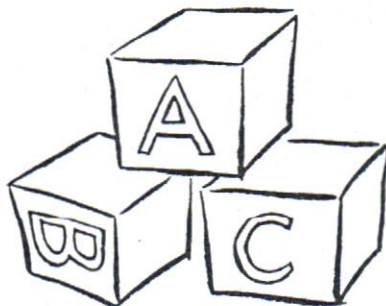
...for me to live is Christ... Philippians 1: 21.

ALL FOR LOVE

+++ Nothing creates closer bonds than love. Hence, everlasting life is a life in which loving and being loved will never end. +++ The man who gives love its place will receive from God the abundance of every blessing in exchange. +++ Love can never tire of praising the beloved. +++ A loving soul fears the God of majesty, admires the God of infinity, and is set afire by the God of love. +++ Love means longing for God. +++ It is love's duty to eradicate everything of which Jesus disapproves. +++ Love means hope in God. +++ Love is old enough to go counter to worldly corruption, that is to remain pure despite the surrounding smudge. +++ Love means loyalty to God. +++ Love means to insert gentleness where cruelty is the rule and faithfulness where cowardice abounds. +++ Love means gratitude to God. +++ Every God-loving man is a source of power, however inconspicuous, unknown, and plain the life he leads may be. +++ The man who walks love's road need not worry about anything. +++ God-loving souls desire ardently to become saints. +++ The saints live in the fretful excitement of love. +++ If a man did not love, he would not be tormented by the doubts of his love. +++ The man who loves does all things without painful effort, or if he cannot do so, he loves the very effort and the pain. +++ God cannot possibly forsake a soul who sees no one but Him. +++ Every authentic act of love we show produces three unfailing effects: it glorifies the Holy Trinity; it works towards the salvation of the immortal soul; it sanctifies the soul of the lover himself. +++ Love of God lends strength to us for overcoming our petty sensitivity. +++ Love delivers us from our own selves. +++ Love is the foundation of constructive works of charity. +++ Love delivers heaven to earth. +++ The object of our love always appears to us in glorious splendor. +++ The torrents of everlasting love fill the soul of man who with a loving response gives himself to God. +++ Other things may bring you closer to God, but union with Him can only be found through love. +++ The measure of your love for God is the measure of your love for His will. +++ After your death, your earthly neighbors will ask, "What did he leave behind?"; but the angels will ask, "What did he send ahead of him?" +++ Paradise on earth is shared by the man who in all situations follows the will of God. +++

The ABC's of Christian Behavior

Act instead of argue.
Build instead of brag.
Climb instead of criticize.
Dig instead of depreciate.
Encourage instead of envy.
Fight instead of faint.
Give instead of grumble.
Help instead of harm.
Invoke instead of ignore.
Join instead of jeer.
Kneel instead of kick.
Love instead of lampoon.
Move instead of mold.
Nurture instead of neglect.
Obey instead of object.
Pray instead of pout.
Qualify instead of quit.
Rescue instead of ridicule.
Shout instead of shrink.
Try instead of tremble.
Undergird instead of undermine.
Vindicate instead of vilify.
Witness instead of wilt.
EXterminate instead of excuse.
Yield instead of yell.
Zip instead of zigzag.



TWO SEAS

There are two seas in the Holy Land. One is the Sea of Galilee, into which flows the Jordan River at the north and out of which flows the Jordan River at the south. For every drop of water that this sea receives on the north, another commensurate drop is given away at the south. This Sea of Galilee is fresh and clear, abounding in all forms of life. There are family settlements of villages and towns about it. Fishermen haul in their teeming nets from her depths, children play happily on her beaches and upbeat people swim and play in her waves. Birds build their nests in the trees that line its shore and joyfully entertain all who come to be comforted by the views. Those who swim there find its waters refreshing. Animals come to be refreshed in its cool waters. Our Lord sailed on the Sea of Galilee and worked many signs and miracles around it.

The other sea is the Dead Sea. Here, too, the Jordan River flows into this sea from the north, but there it stops. There is no outlet at the south or at any other point along the shore. Every drop of water that flows into the Dead Sea stays there. The Dead Sea gives nothing away. It takes and keeps all it receives. It is a hoarder. There are no fish or any other kind of life in the Dead Sea. No children play on its beaches. Indeed, travelers have been known to take lengthy detours to avoid coming close to its barren shores. No happy voices float over its heavy waters. No animals come here to drink. This sea is just what its name says: dead and desolate. People only unwillingly enter its waters because it is so briny man floats. It has no warmth so it does not envelop the diver. Scripture makes no mention of our Lord ever visiting the environs of this ghastly sea and certainly no miracles or signs were performed about it.

What a parable this is of our own lives! Of the one, who knowing how freely he has received, freely gives; and of the other, who, fearing only for himself, receives and takes all, but gives nothing or very little. The first is the way of life, the second is the way of death, spiritual if not physical. We speak of the "need of the giver to give." This is no ingenious gimmick, but an elemental fact of life, a principle running through God's well-ordered creation.

The true Christian knows this fact of life. He knows that the more he gives of himself the more he has; not necessarily of physical possessions, but of life; and it is to this end that he lives and loves.

Our God asks us to be stewards of His bounty, not just because He knows the way in which we were made. He knows where our true fulfillment and satisfaction lies. He knows what the human heart is meant to be.

THE TROUBLE WITH
MY CHRISTIAN LIFE
IS I HAVE SO
MANY DOUBTS



I DOUBT MY
SALVATION—I DOUBT
GOD'S PROMISES—I
DOUBT GOD'S PEOPLE



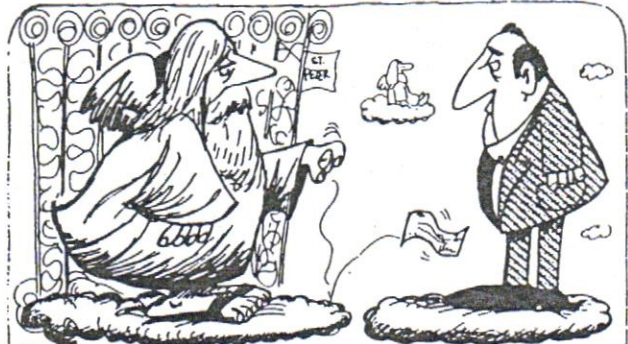
SOMETIMES I
EVEN DOUBT MY
DOUBTS



COME TO THINK
OF IT, MAYBE
THAT'S PROGRESS

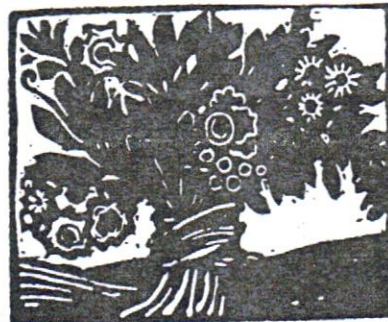


A smooth sea
never made a
skillful sailor.



You cannot cash checks on heaven's
bank without first making deposits.

Spin CAREFULLY,
Not TEARFULLY,
Though WEARILY you plod.
Spin CAREFULLY,
Spin PRAYERFULLY,
But leave the thread with God.



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

You Shall Also Live

Because I live, you shall also live John 14: 19.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ was an experienced fact for the first disciples. Golgotha had been to them a bitter disappointment, shattering their fondest hopes and their most cherished dreams. There came with the astounding event the restoration of those hopes and dreams and the rising of their souls to the full glory of life triumphant. The certainty of their faith in the risen Lord transformed their lives and made possible the subsequent achievements of Orthodox tradition. New and victorious meaning had been imparted to man's life. "Because I live, you shall also live."

Death has no power over Christ nor over those who find life's meaning in Him. From time to time, during this earthly pilgrimage, the individual experiences intimations of life after death, but for the one whose life is linked to Christ, personal immortality becomes an absolute certainty. No longer is it a vague possibility, but it becomes such a reality that death loses its sting and the grave relinquishes its victory.

Man's deepest longing is not to die but to live. Immortality is often difficult to explain, because we do not literally see it. But we do not see, in any literal sense, any of the great powers of the universe. No one ever saw an idea or a purpose, but these are great forces in life. No one ever saw a Christian virtue, yet this can be the most precious adornment of humanity. No one ever saw love, but love is the greatest power in the world. Only an individual's outer shell is visible. The real self, its ideas, and purposes, memories and hopes, virtues and love, is invisible. It is this real self which enters eternal life, wherein all values are preserved, freed from the changes and chances of mortal life.

Death becomes graduation from this imperfect primary department to a higher and more perfect rank of learning, living and loving. The individual, clothed with a new form suitable to his celestial environment, is more splendidly equipped for a larger life of divine service.

The human heart, of course, is saddened when a loved one passes through the valley of the shadow of death. Anguish is felt when the soul longs for the touch of a vanished hand, and the sound of a voice that is now stilled.

The Christian, however, draws his consolation from a faith that undergirds him and supports him with the knowledge that at last there will come the happy and permanent reunion between Creator and creature and his loved ones, what the believer knows within the depth of his soul:

Yes, Love will dream and faith will trust,
since He who knows our need is just,
that somehow, somewhere, meet we must.
Alas, for him who never sees
the stars shine through his cypress-trees!
who, hopeless, lays his dead away,
nor looks to see the breaking day
across the mournful marbles play!
Who has not learned, in hours of faith,
the truth to flesh and sense unknown,
that life is ever Lord of death,
and Love can never lose its own!

Christ imparts to human life a transcendent meaning and a value which are now eternal, and there is no danger of their ever being lost because what He has earned in conquering death is eternal. The disciples who followed Jesus along the shores of a Syrian sea found their faith vindicated and triumphant in the risen Lord on Resurrection morning. "Because I live, you also shall live."

The tomb once reminded us of a blind alley. Now it becomes heavily traveled thoroughfare. It closes on the twilight; it opens on the dawn. The life with which we are entrusted is imparted and permanent meaning and eternal value is infused by the victorious Christ. Our work does not end with the grace of this feast. It begins on the next morning. Through the power of Christ, we can walk and live in this faith that as soon as we are absent from the body, we can likewise be at home with the Lord.



Gratitude comes from having the right perspective. It's
being able to look at what you have and being thankful
for that, rather than longing for what you don't have.

Did You Know That ...

...we should protect ourselves with friends, not fences?

...when words gets around that you can listen when others tend to talk, you will be treated as a sage?

...no one who has been in our lives is ever truly lost or gone, as we have loved them?

...nobody will believe in you unless you believe in yourself?

...preparation yesterday will make today productive, and productivity today will help make tomorrow's dream a reality?

...if you see no reason for giving thanks to God, the fault lies within you?

...when someone dies, you don't get over it by forgetting; you get over it by remembering them in your daily prayers?

...when we visualize and pray about the seemingly impossible, we begin to see it as possible?

...a perfect day consists in doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you?

...you go through this world only once; whatever good you can do, let it be done now?

...if you help others, you will be helped?

...the greatest high in life is assisting someone in need?

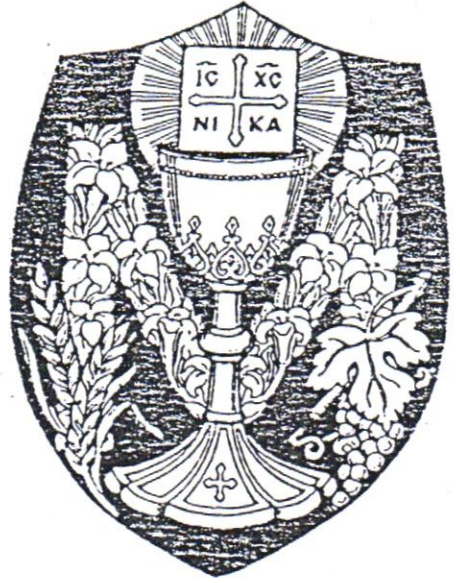
...commitment to Christ is never an act of moderation?

...jealousy leads us to wicked sin?

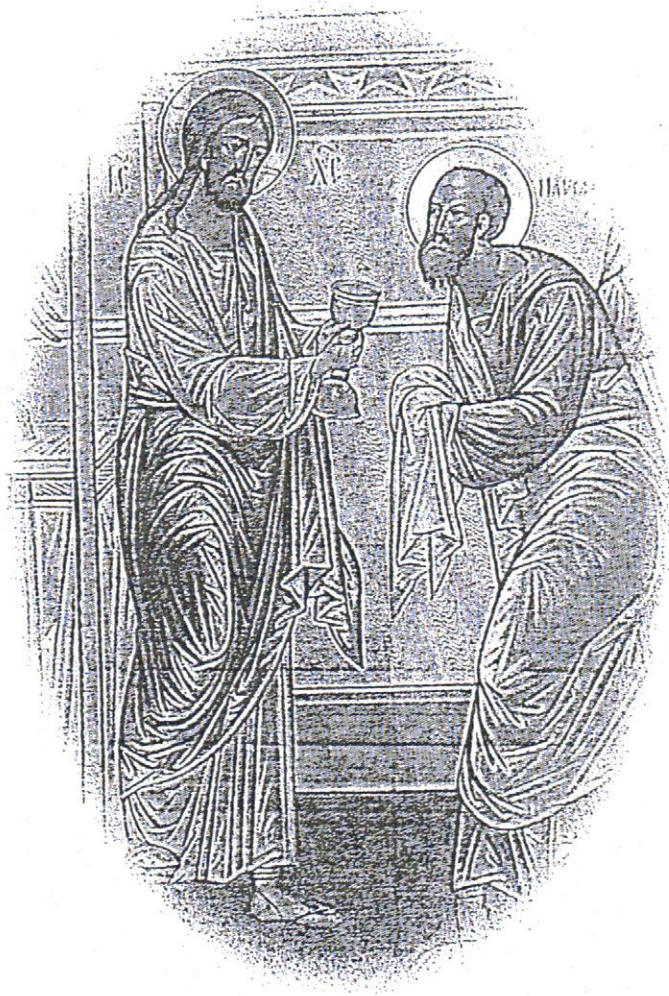
...we cannot love God whom we cannot see unless we first love neighbor whom we do see?

...we should learn from God's wisdom in Scripture?

...we are influenced by every second of our lives?



A
Treasury
Of
Communion
Prayers





CANON OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Tone 2

Canticle 1

Come, O nations, let us sing a song to Christ our God, who divided the sea and led His people through it whom He had brought out of the bondage of Egypt; for He is greatly glorified.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O compassionate Lord, may Your holy Body and Your precious Blood become the bread of everlasting life to me and the healing of many diseases.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Defiled as I am, O Christ, by unbecoming deeds, I am unworthy to partake of Your immaculate Body and divine Blood. Nevertheless, make me worthy of them.

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

O blessed bride of God, the good soil which grew the untilled Grain that saves the world: Grant that by partaking of it I may be saved.

Canticle 3

On the rock of faith You have established me, and You have opened wide my mouth against mine enemies. For my spirit has rejoiced to sing: None is holy as our God and none is righteous but You, O Lord.



Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Christ, Master, grant me teardrops which cleanse my heart's impurity, that, with a pure conscience, I may approach with faith and fear the communion of Your divine gifts.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Lover of mankind, may Your immaculate Body and divine Blood be for the forgiveness of my transgressions, for the communion of the Holy Spirit, for everlasting life and for estrangement from passions and sorrows.

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

O all-holy Table that held the Bread of life, which, for mercy's sake, came from above and gives new life to the world: Grant that I may now, though unworthy, be able with fear to taste of it and thereby live.

Canticle 4

From a Virgin You have come forth not as an angel nor an ambassador, but the Lord Himself made flesh, and to me who am man You have brought salvation. Therefore I cry to You: Glory to Your power, O Lord.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O most merciful One, when You took flesh for our sake, You were willing to be slain as a lamb for the sins of mortals. Wherefore, I beg You, cleanse my sins as well.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Lord, heal the wounds of my soul and sanctify me wholly, and grant, O Master, that I the wretched one, may partake of Your divine Mystical Supper.

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

O Lady, intercede in my behalf with Him who was born of you, and preserve me, your supplicating servant, pure and undefiled, so that by receiving the spiritual Pearl I may be sanctified.

Canticle 5

O Lord, Giver of life and Creator of the universe, guide us in the light of Your commandments, for we know no other God but You!

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

As You foretold, O Christ, so let it be to Your unprofitable servant, and abide in me, as You promised; for lo, I eat Your divine Body and drink Your Blood.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Word of God, and God, may the live coal of Your Body be to the enlightenment of my darkness, and Your Blood to the cleansing of my defiled soul.

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

O Mary, Mother of God, revered tabernacle of Sweet Fragrance: by your prayers, make me a chosen vessel, that I may partake of the holy Gifts of your Child.

Canticle 6

Compassed about in an abyss of sin, I call on the Unsearchable abyss of Your tender mercies: bring me out of corruption, O God.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.



O Savior, sanctify my mind, my soul, my heart and my body, and make me worthy, O Master, to approach Your dread mysteries without condemnation.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Grant me estrangement from passions, and the increase of Your grace and assurance of life by the communion of Your holy Mysteries, O Christ.

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

O holy Word of God, and God, sanctify all of me as I now approach Your divine Mysteries, by the prayers of Your holy Mother.

Kondak

Tone 2. Special melody: Seeking the highest.

Disdain me not to receive now, O Christ, the Bread which is Your Body and Your divine Blood and to partake, O Master, of Your immaculate and dread Mysteries, wretched as I am. May it not be to me for judgment, but for eternal and immortal life.

Canticle 7

When the golden idol was worshipped on the plain of Dura, Your three children trampled underfoot the ungodly decree; and though cast into the midst of the flames, as ones refreshed they sang: Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Christ, Fountain of good things, may the communion of Your immortal Mysteries now be to me light and life, freedom from passion and for progress and increase in divine virtues, that I may glorify You who alone are good.



Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

So that I may be delivered from passions and enemies, and from necessities and every affliction, I now approach with trembling, longing, and piety O Lover of mankind, Your immortal and divine Mysteries singing to You: Blessed art You, O God of our Fathers.

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

O Lady full of grace, who beyond our understanding bore Christ the Savior, I your impure servant pray to you to cleanse me from all defilement of flesh and spirit for I now desire to approach the immaculate Mysteries, O pure one.

Canticle 8

O all you works of the Lord, sing to the Lord who descended into the fiery furnace with the Hebrew children, and changed the flames into dew, and exalt Him throughout all ages.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Grant me, who am desperate, to partake now of Your heavenly, dread, and holy Mysteries, O Christ, and of Your divine Mystical Supper, O my Savior and God.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Seeking refuge in Your compassion, O good Savior, I cry to You with fear: Abide in me as You promised, and let me abide in You; for lo, trusting in Your mercy, I eat Your Body and drink Your Blood.

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



I tremble as I receive the Fire, lest I should be burned as wax and grass. O dread mystery! O the compassion of God! How is it that I, made of clay, partake of the divine Body and Blood and am made incorruptible?

Canticle 9

The Son of the Father without beginning has appeared to us, God the Lord made flesh of the Virgin, to give light to those in darkness, and to gather the dispersed. Therefore the far-famed Mother of God do we magnify.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O taste and see that the Lord is good. For of old He became like us for our sake, and offered Himself once as an offering to His Father and is ever slain, sanctifying those who partake of Him.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Master, may I be sanctified in body and soul; may I be enlightened and saved; and may I become Your dwelling place through the communion of the sacred Mysteries, having You, living in me, with the Father and the Spirit, O most merciful Benefactor.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

May Your precious Body and Blood, O my Savior, be as fire and light to me, consuming the substance of sin and burning the thorns of my passions and enlightening all of me, that I may worship Your divinity.

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



God took flesh from your pure blood. Therefore, all generations sing to you, O Lady, and the hosts of heavenly beings glorify you; for through you we clearly beheld the Master of all endued with human nature.





PRAYERS IN PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

First Prayer

St. Basil the Great

O LORD, I know that I partake of Your immaculate Body and precious Blood unworthily; I know that I am guilty, and that I eat and drink condemnation to myself, not discerning the Body and Blood of Christ my God. But trusting in Your compassion I come to You who said, "Whosoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in me and I in him." Therefore, O Lord, have compassion on me, and do not make an example of me, a sinner.

But deal with me according to Your mercy, and grant that these holy gifts may be to me for the healing, purification, enlightenment, protection, salvation, and sanctification of soul and body, and to the expulsion of every evil imagination, wicked deed, or work of the devil, which operates within my mind and members.

May Your holy gifts move me to boldness and love toward You, to amend my life and to stability, to the increase of virtue and perfection, to the keeping of Your commandments, to the communion of the Holy Spirit, as a provision for eternal life, and for a good defense at Your fearful judgment seat, and not to judgment nor to condemnation.

Second Prayer

St. Simeon the Translator

O only pure and sinless Lord, who through the ineffable compassion of Your love for mankind



assumed our whole nature through the pure and virgin blood of her who conceived You in a manner surpassing nature by the coming of the Holy Spirit and the good will of the Eternal Father. O Christ Jesus, Wisdom, Peace, and Power of God, through the human nature which You took to Yourself, You suffered the life-giving and saving Passion—the Cross, the nails, the spear, and death itself. Put to death in me the soul-destroying passions of the body.

Through Your burial You spoiled the dominion of hell. Bury with good thoughts my evil schemes and scatter the spirits of wickedness. Through Your life giving Resurrection on the third day, You raised up our first father Adam who had fallen. Raise me up who am sunk low in sin and grant me the image of repentance. Through Your glorious Ascension You made the flesh which You had assumed become divine, and placed it on the Throne at the Father's right hand. Grant me to receive a place at the right hand with those who are saved through the communion of Your holy Mysteries. Through the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, You made Your holy disciples to be honorable vessels. Show me also to be a recipient of His coming. You have promised to come again to judge the world in righteousness. Grant that I may go to meet You in the clouds, O my Judge and Creator, together with all Your Saints, so that I may praise and glorify You for all eternity, together with Your eternal Father and Your most holy, glorious, and life creating Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Third Prayer

St. John Chrysostom

O Lord Jesus Christ, my God, absolve, remit, pardon, and forgive me the sins, offenses, and transgressions, which I Your sinful, unprofitable, and unworthy servant, have committed from my youth to this present day and hour, whether in knowledge, or in ignorance, whether of



words or deeds, whether in thought or imagination, in my undertakings, and in any of my senses. And by the intercessions of her who conceived You without seed, the immaculate and ever-virgin Mary, Your Mother, my only unashamed hope, my protection and my salvation, make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Your immaculate, immortal, lifegiving, and dread Mysteries, for the forgiveness of sins and to eternal life, to sanctification, enlightenment, strength, healing, and health of both soul and body, and to the blotting out and complete obliteration of my evil thoughts and imaginings and intents, of night fantasies and the evil spirits of darkness; for Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory and the honor and the worship, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Fourth Prayer

St. John Chrysostom

I am not sufficient, O Master and Lord, that You should enter under the roof of my soul; but since in Your love for mankind You will to dwell in me, I take courage and approach. You command: I will open wide the doors which You alone created, that You may enter with love as is Your nature, enter and enlighten my darkened thought. I believe that You will do this, for You did not banish the Harlot who approached You with tears, nor did You reject the Publican who repented, nor did You drive away the Thief who acknowledged Your kingdom, nor did You leave the repentant persecutor, the Apostle Paul, to himself; but all who had been brought to You by repentance You sat in the company of Your friends, O You who alone are blessed always now and to endless ages. Amen.

**Fifth Prayer****St. John of Damascus**

I stand before the doors of Your temple, and I do not forsake my grievous thoughts. But, O Christ my God, as You justified the tax-collector, and had mercy on the woman of Canaan, and opened the gates of Paradise to the thief, open to me the inner depths of Your love for mankind, and receive me as I come and repent before You. Receive me as You received the harlot and the woman with the issue of blood. For the first embraced Your pure feet and received the forgiveness of her sins, while the second just touched the hem of Your garment and received healing. And I, in my pitiableness, dare to receive Your whole Body, may I not be burned; but receive me as You have received them, and enlighten my spiritual senses, burning up my sinful faults, through the prayers of her who gave birth to You without seed, and of the angelic powers, for You are blessed forever. Amen.

Sixth Prayer**St. John Chrysostom**

O God, absolve, remit, pardon, and forgive me my sins whereby I have offended You, whether in word or deed or thought, willingly or unwillingly, with knowledge or in ignorance; forgive me all, for You are good and love mankind. Through the prayers of Your most pure Mother, of Your rational ministers, the holy Powers, and of all the saints who have been pleasing to You from all ages, deign that without condemnation I may receive Your holy and most pure Body and Your precious Blood, for the healing of soul and body and the purging of my evil thoughts. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.



Seventh Prayer
St. John Chrysostom

I believe, O Lord, and confess that You are truly the Christ, Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant of Your Mystical Supper, for I will not speak of this Mystery to Your enemies, nor like Judas will I give You a kiss, but like the penitent thief I confess to You:

O Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

O Master, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

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

Let the partaking of Your Holy Mysteries, O Lord, be not for my judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of my soul and my body.

O Lord, I also believe and confess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly Your most precious Body and truly Your life-giving Blood, which, I pray, I may worthily receive for the remission of all my sins and for life everlasting.

O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.

O Lord forgive me, for my sins are many.



PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

Glory to You, O God! [3]

First Prayer
St Basil the Great

I THANK YOU, O LORD MY GOD, for You have not rejected me, a sinner, but have made me worthy to be a partaker of Your holy things. I thank You, for You have permitted me, so unworthy, to commune of Your most pure and heavenly Gifts. But, O Master who love man kind, who for our sakes died and rose again, and gave us these awesome and life-creating Mysteries for the good and sanctification of our souls and bodies: Let them be for the healing of soul and body, the repelling of every enemy, the illumination of the eyes of my heart, the peace of my spiritual powers, a faith that cannot be confused, a love that does not pretend, a wisdom that is complete, the full observance of Your commandments, the receiving of Your divine grace, and the attaining of Your kingdom.

Preserved by them in Your holiness, may I always remember Your grace and live not for myself alone, but for You, our Master and Benefactor. May I pass from this life in the hope of eternal life, and so attain to the everlasting rest where the voice of those who feast never ceases, and the gladness of those who behold the goodness of Your countenance never ends. For You are the true desire and joy of all those who love You, O Christ our God, and all creation sings Your praises forever Amen.



Second Prayer

St. John Chrysostom

Having been counted worthy to be a communicant of Your most pure Body and Your precious Blood, O Christ God, I hymn and bless, worship, glorify, and exalt Your salvation, O Lord, now and always and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Third Prayer

St. John of Damascus

O God, my God, unendurable and invisible Fire, who make Your angels a flame of fire, who in Your ineffable love have given me Your divine Flesh for food, and have taken me to be a partaker of Your Divinity through the communion of Your most pure Body and Your precious Blood: Pass through my entire body and spirit, into all my bones and their marrow, to burn up my sins, to illumine my soul, to clarify my mind, to sanctify my body; and make Your dwelling in me, together with Your blessed Father and All Holy Spirit, that I also may be ever in You, through the prayers of Your most pure Mother and all the Saints. Amen.

Fourth Prayer

St. Cyril of Alexandria

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, let Your holy Body be my eternal life; Your precious Blood the remission of my sins Let this Eucharist be my joy, health, and gladness. Grant me, who am a sinner worthy to stand at the right hand of Your glory through the prayers of Your most pure Mother and all the Saints. Amen.

Fifth Prayer

To Our Lady

O all-holy lady Mother of God, light of my darkened soul, my hope, my shelter my refuge, my consolation, and my joy: I thank you that you have accounted me worthy, although



unworthy, to be a partaker of the immaculate Body and precious Blood of your Son. O Mother of the true Light, enlighten the spiritual eyes of my heart. O bearer of the Fountain of immortality, enliven me who am dead in sin. O compassionate and loving Mother of the merciful God, have mercy on me, and grant me humility and contrition of heart and humility in my thoughts and deliverance from the bondage of my vain imaginings. And make me worthy, even to my last breath, to receive without condemnation the sanctification of the immaculate Mysteries, to the healing of both soul and body. And grant me tears of repentance and confession, that I may hymn and glorify you all the days of my life, for you are blessed and greatly glorified forever. Amen.

Sixth Prayer

O Living Lord! I give thanks to You with trembling, for though You are fire by nature, You do not burn but nourish. Enter then, into all my members, into all my joints, my inmost parts and my heart. Purge and wash away every impurity, and cleanse my five senses.

Prayer of Saint Simeon

NOW LET YOUR SERVANT depart in peace, O Master, according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all people: a light of revelation for the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us. [3]

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; O Lord, cleanse us of our sins; O Master, forgive our transgressions; O Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.



Lord, have mercy. [3]

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

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 evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Tropars

YOU HAVE DELIGHTED ME with your love O Christ and have changed me with Your divine love. Burn up with spiritual fire my sins and grant me to be filled with delight in You, that I may leap for joy and glorify Your two comings.

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

I flee beneath your protection O holy Mother of God and Virgin despise not the prayer of us sinners but, in your goodness come speedily to the help of us who in faith call on you.



The writings of an unknown ancient Church Father give us a different point of view about what happened AFTER Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well:

“Our Lord uses the woman as an APOSTLE, as it were, to those in the city. His words to her are so forceful that she leaves her water jar to go to the city and tells them to her fellow townspeople. I feel there was a definite purpose why the Evangelist recorded that the woman left her water jar.

At the literal level, then, this shows the tremendous eagerness of the woman, who forsakes her water jar and is more concerned for how she may benefit the multitude than for her more humble duty related to material things. For she was so benevolently moved and wished to announce Christ to her fellow citizens by bearing witness to the One who told her “all I ever did.” And she invites them to behold a man whose speech is greater than man, yet His appearance to the eye was human.

So must we, too, therefore, forget things that are more material in nature and leave them behind. We must be eager to impart to others the benefit of which we have been partakers. For by recording the woman’s recommendations regarding our Lord, the Evangelist challenges us to this goal.”

The Kontakion for the day beautifully sums up the Church’s view about what transpired: “HAVING COME TO THE WELL IN FAITH, THE SAMARITAN WOMAN BEHELD THEE, THE WATER OF WISDOM, WHEREOF HAVING DRUNK ABUNDANTLY, SHE INHERITED THE KINGDOM ON HIGH FOREVER.”