Venerable Hieromonk Ghelasie Gheorghe

HESYCHASM

The Gift of the Vocation of Mystery

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Motto:

Lord, this Gift of the Vocation of Mystery fills me with awe,
You ask me to be a Salvation-bearing Vocation,
You ask me to Bear This Cross-Adornment.

Hieromonk Ghelasie Gheorghe

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FOREWORD

The present volume *"Hesychasm"* contains a representative selection from the mystical poems of Father Ghelasie Gheorghe of the Holy Monastery of Frăsinei.

Scattered throughout the writings of the Venerable one, these are culminating points of a vision that reveals the living core of the Orthodox Christian Tradition in its Carpathian specific.

Thus poetry, for Father Ghelasie, is the mystery of the word made icon and body of communion for the spiritual vision with which this great Christian ascetic was blessed and which he rejoiced in the fullness of grace.

The Word of the Spirit probes the depths of the Trinitarian love and of the creation sealed with the Divine Image and divine logoi, in their dialogue which is itself the very "mystery" of history.

If, from within the centre of our daily struggles and weaknesses, holiness sometimes appears to us as an almost inaccessible light, "on the mountaintop," our very orientation toward the Divine love through contrition and the self-offering participation in the Mysteries of the Church brings us its foretaste, awakening the sense of spiritual perception.

The words of the Venerable Ghelasie thus have the gift of stirring the heart's feeling along the path of a life lived in the joy of the Spirit.

The *"Testament of the Hermit Neophytos"* touches us with the divine challenge of the call to holiness within the tumultuous and often bewildering contemporary context.

God's Word to us is precisely the gift of Christ's love for the life of the world, through whose liturgizing we become, in the highest degree, "our very selves," living icons, fulfilled, of God in Trinity.

The volume is crowned by three akathists of great beauty and spiritual depth, through which our prayer is imbued with the light of contrition, of angelic ministry, and of union with God in the Body of Christ, the image of the perfection of creation.

Glory, thanksgiving, and worship to the Most Holy Trinity

for all things!

Florin Caragiu

Sf. Mc. Achilina,

The Fast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul,

Bucharest, June, 2007

THE TESTAMENT OF THE HERMIT NEOPHYTOS

TESTAMENT

Abba Arsenius, one of the closest disciples of the hermit Neophytos, left a Testament to his own disciple:

"My son, I leave to you as Legacy the Divine Gift of Hesychia, as a Blessing transmitted from Abba Neophytos the Hermit, he who was found worthy of the Divine Gift of the Hidden Work of Hesychia. I leave this Gift to you as a Legacy, as a Talent. Be careful not to bury it, but to give it to the exchangers, that you may multiply it and gain tenfold interest, so that the Mystery Flame of the Work of Hesychia may not be extinguished. Keep the Candel of the Light of Hesychia Burning, and do not worry that you seem alone. Abba Neophytos the Hermit prophesied that thousands will Follow the Hidden Path of Hesychia.

Great will be the changes of the World, but just as wondrous will be the Spiritual Rebirths of many. The Mystery Work of Hesychia will descend from the Mountain and from the Caves into the Heart of the Cities, and many Young People, seemingly unknowing, will Awaken with strength to a Life of the Spirit similar to that of old. Wondrous will be this RESURRECTION precisely where death believes itself to reign!

The Most Holy Spirit will show you a Power above all things. The Mystery Work of Hesychia will blossom in the desert of many Hearts, which will then become Embodied Heavens.

I leave you the Blessing of Hesychia, which you are to keep Burning in your own Candel, as a Spark from which many others may be Kindled. Do not ask to discern how this miracle shall be. The Mystery Work of Hesychia will be the Mystery of the Future of our World.

The coming history will be the most terrible confrontation between Light and darkness, between the Spirit of Life and that of death. But the Power of the Light will be so great that it will surpass all natural laws. Make yourself a participant in this great Spiritual Kindling of the Mystery Work. I leave you this Blessing and may the Gift of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and with all who desire the Divine Mystery. May the Most Holy Spirit protect you, Amen!"

PSALMS

From the PSALMS of the Hermit Neophytos

The PSALM of the Created Being

1. Blessed are all those whom You have Created, OHLORD.
2. O Mystery known only to You, that You should Create even a Being that did not exist, and which You bring into Existence!
3. O "nothing" that you were not, how you become Creation! Only the CREATOR holds your Mystery.
4. You, O LORD, truly Create also a Created Being without taking anything from Your own BEING, yet into whom You Pour all things of Your BEING.
5. Creation is beyond Your BEING and not from Your BEING, for You bring into being also a Created Being.
6. How can there exist even a second Being?
7. Only if You truly Create also a Created Being can there be Two, ONE CREATOR and the other Created, without being absorbed.
8. O my GOD and CREATOR, Blessed am I, the Created Being, that I too may Be "beside" You, the absolute BEING, Partaking of Those things which are not mine.
9. You are the MYSTERY beyond Creation, and I am the Mystery beyond You.
10. You have Poured Your fearful MYSTERY into me, and beyond Nature You contain Yourself in me, without diminishing Yourself or being divided.
11. Your MYSTERY as CREATOR is that, beyond Nature, You also Create a Being of Creation. And my Mystery as Creation is that, beyond Nature, I can Be "beside" Your BEING.
12. Blessed am I, Created Being, into whom You Descend as GOD, that I may ASCEND into DEIFICATION.

13. Day and night I prostrate, give thanks, and sing the MYSTERY of YOUR LITURGY which descends into the Mystery of my Liturgy of Creation, becoming the EUCHARIST of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER.
14. Blessed am I, the Created Being, that I may be in the EARTH and beside the SPRINGS of the LITURGY of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER.

The PSALM of Prostration of the Created Being

1. How shall I lift my eyes toward You, O LORD, how shall I behold Your GREATNESS?
2. You Created me after Your IMAGE and LIKENESS.
3. You call me – "come, be Partaker of all that is Mine."
4. Your GRACE flows into me to open the "boundaries" of the Being of Creation, so that You may ENTER.
5. I tremble how You, the GREAT ONE, Can ENTER into me, the puny one...
6. How can the Creation contain You, the CREATOR?
7. You know the Mystery of ENTERING into me, for You are GOD. I cannot even come near to You.
8. You can encompass me, but I cannot even touch You...
9. Beyond my Created Nature You ENTER into me, and I tremble that I cannot contain You...
10. This MYSTERY is my eternal AWE and Worship.
11. It is the MYSTERY of Your IMAGE SEALED within me, because it is only in Your IMAGE that You can be contained.
12. You Created me by giving me Your IMAGE, for only through it can I stand before Your FACE.
13. O the MAJESTY of Your IMAGE, I am amazed how You can fit into my Created Image...
14. How can I, Creation, be a "dwelling-place" of Yours? ...
15. A MYSTERY! YOU first ENTER into me, making me Your IMAGE and LIKENESS, that I may then also "RECEIVE" You.

16. I, Creation, am "outside" of You, yet You ENTER into me so that I too may ENCOUNTER You.
17. You Created me out of Your LOVE, and this is the MYSTERY that can do everything.
18. Without LOVE neither would You ENTER into me, nor would I ever be able to ENCOUNTER You.
19. Without LOVE I would "lose myself" in You; LOVE being that which allows me also to be "a beside" You.
20. You Created me that I too might be "An Eternal One" like You.
21. You do not Transform Yourself into Creation, but You Bestow upon Creation Your IMAGE and LIKENESS.
22. Never can Creation enter into Your IMAGE, but Your IMAGE enters into Creation. And thus You Bestow upon Creation Your Eternity.
23. You, the ETERNAL ONE, Create only what is itself Eternal.
24. O, My LORD and GOD, You Created me Bestowing upon me the LIKENESS of Your IMAGE, through which You thus make Yourself Akin to me and me to You.
25. By Your IMAGE Sealed upon my Being, You have made of me the TABLE of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER, where You make me Partaker of what is Yours.
26. You are first with Your LOVE in me, and thus I too am a love.
27. O LORD, You are my MYSTERY, in which I rediscover my own Created Image.
28. O, I have fallen into the deceit of sin, and the DOOR of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER has closed.
29. LORD, forgive me, receive me again as the "prodigal son."

30. O LORD, how Blessed I am at the TABLE of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER.
31. I Prostrate to You, LORD, and with the Arms of my Essential Image I dare to touch the hem of Your GARMENT-GRACE.
32. Blessed am I, Creation, in whom You have DEIGNED to make Yourself also a Dwelling-place of Creation.

Psalm

LORD,
Over the Conception,
From my Parents
You BREATHED,
And thus I was Born
Yet another IMAGE of Man
In whom YOU SEALED Yourself
With the DIVINE
OUTPOURING
Which I too
Am to RECEIVE
As GIFT of ETERNITY.
My IMAGE of Man
Has a Soul
And a Body,
Image of Heaven
And of Earth,
In which I too may be
Paradise - Holy Dwelling,
Where the LITURGY OF LOVE
Once again
May be served.
Your IMAGE
IS SEEN

Upon me,
Upon the Image of my Parents
In my Being.
Heaven is mirrored
In the Soul,
Earth moves
In the Body,
And all in UNION
In MY IMAGE
Of Man
Become WORSHIP
To YOU, O LORD
And my GOD;
To YOU a CHANT,
Yet another ETERNITY
STILLED
Before YOUR FACE!

ALL HOLY TRINITY
Our GOD,
GLORY to You,
WORSHIP to You,
Forgive us.
Forgive us our pettiness,
Our weaknesses,
Forgive our frailties,
Do not take into account

Our sins.

Over our sins,

Over our sins,

Still we Worship You,

DIVINE LOVE,

ETERNAL MERCY.

Overlook our pettiness

Your IMAGE BREATHED into us

Is stronger;

Sin could not destroy it,

Even when covered.

Unveil it, YOU, O LORD,

Open our Eyes, YOU, O LORD.

May YOUR MERCY, O LORD,

Be the Drop of GRACE.

GLORY to You,

MOST HOLY TRINITY!

O Intercessor,

The Intercessor of our CHURCH,

MOTHER OF GOD,

And the Intercessors

Of the CHURCH,

Of the Splendour of all the Saints

Together

Of the UNION of Heaven with Earth!

O, <u>ENCOUNTER</u>,

O, <u>COMMUNION</u>

OF ETERNITY,
O, CHANT
OF ETERNITY!

The Psalm of the LOVE for GOD

LORD, I would wish to show
My LOVE for YOU,
Yet all things break
Into **WORSHIP!**

All things may be spoken,
Only LOVE is **SILENT**,
LOVE HIDES itself,
And no one knows it,
LOVE – **the WORSHIP of Mystery**,
LOVE - **the DIVINE ICON**.

The LONGING SONG of LOVE
Is *the only Chant*,
LOVE that is CALLED,
LOVE that *is WAITED for*,
LOVE that cannot be forgotten,
LOVE that cannot die,
LOVE that cannot be killed,
LOVE that *within itself WEEPS*,
LOVE, the CROSS of ETERNITY!

THE MYSTICAL EXPERIENCE OF THE LITURGY

The Mystery of the LITURGY

Lord JESUS, my Heart beats in the RITUAL of my LONGING for You.
IN the LITURGIZING–EUCHARIST.
Come, Divine SPIRIT, into me with the LONGING for God,
Come, JESUS, into me where I too may sing to You,
Come, Divine FATHER, that I may fall into YOUR ARMS,
That I may partake of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER.

Rejoice, HESYCHIA,
The Mystery of the LITURGY OF LOVE of Christ.
Heart kindled by the God of LONGING,
open your Depths,
Open the Door for the God WORD,
Enkindle yourself, O Heart, by the Mystery Coming
of Him Who is LITURGY.
Make yourself CHALICE in which the Divine EUCHARIST descends,
Make yourself the Holy Table of the IMAGE from Above,
so that the LITURGY OF DIVINE LOVE be Ministered
By the Great HIGH PRIEST JESUS.

Come, O Mind, and kneel within the Heart,
And listen to the LITURGY OF LOVE.
Take off your sandals from all the "motions of nature,"

Bow your forehead beyond the flooring of flesh,
Enter into the Heart of the Treasury of Mysteries.
Heart, Church of Creation,
Make yourself the Bethlehem Manger,
Make yourself Temple where the LAMB Who Forgives curse
Is sacrificed.
Make yourself tomb of the Crucified One,
That you may Rise with Him Who conquered sin.

JESUS, Chanting of Divine LOVE,
JESUS, Come into my Heart to LITURGIZE,
JESUS, let Your Peace descend into things below.
Rejoice, HESYCHIA,
The Mystery of the LITURGY OF LOVE of Christ.
*

A certain Word of Yours BECOMES INCARNATE, Creating my Being,
And this Word is the spark that Creates me
Icon of God Incarnated into Icon of Creation.
A certain Word-Icon of Yours has Created me,
My Being is an Image-Icon of this Word of Yours
And in this ICON we ENCOUNTER one another and rediscover one another.
*

Lord, fearful is my mystery of Creation.
A Word-Image of Yours
Creates for me also an Image of Creation of my own.

You Yourself make Yourself my Brother,
And my Life is at once with YOUR LIFE,
And my Life cannot be separated from Yours.
My Life of Creation must be beside YOUR LIFE,
For You descend into me Creating my Life,
And I ascend into You Partaking of YOUR LIFE.
You YOURSELF LIVE YOUR LIFE and mine,
And I must also live likewise.
You become Incarnate in me for Eternity.
And I in turn "Ascend" endlessly into You.
*

Before God the FATHER everything must be Perfect.
The Perfection of Creation is the very IMAGE Itself of Christ,
Through the Garment of HIS IMAGE lifting all things below into perfection.

The imperfection of sin brings "The Cry of pain,"
Brings the suffering of death-contrariety.
LOVE struggles between Life and death,
Yet LOVE can never die.

The inability of LOVE to die
Becomes the Altar of the LITURGY-RESURRECTION,
Of the Rebirth into LIFE of Immortality.
The LOVE OFFERED on the Altar of Suffering
Raises with It, from the tomb of the fall,
Once again into LIFE, the IMAGE OF LOVE.

Lord, LOVE is LIFE in unceasing LOVE, LOVE and LIFE are the Ceaseless LITURGIZING
Which ENCOUNTER one another in reciprocal COMMUNION.
Not for one moment can the LITURGY OF LOVE cease...

Though You have RISEN from the Cross of Crucifixion,
Our sins still "bring suffering" to LOVE
And "open the Wounds of the passion" ...

O LORD, ineffable DIVINE LOVE,
Through Your Unceasing LITURGIZING
You "bring us back" once more from "sin" to LOVE.
*

LITURGY is Unceasing RESURRECTION,
LOVE is Endless "opening" of LIFE
That gives the Image of the HEART and of BREATH,
Being, at once, in that Same LITURGIZING,
Eternal LIFE and Everlasting LOVE.

The Mystical Experience of the LITURGY

Motto:

The LITURGY of LOVE never ceases,
Therefore it is the HEART of IMMORTALITY,
Therefore it is HEART in "unceasing beating,"
The LITURGY of LOVE never stops.

JESUS, let Your LOVE beat within My Heart.
And the Heart can never stay still.
Rejoice, Hesychia,
Mystery of the unceasing LITURGY,
Rejoice, Hesychia,
Which in the CHALICE of the Heart becomes DIVINE EUCHARIST.

*

Lord JESUS, what a great GIFT You have given us
To be able daily to cleanse ourselves from "sin."
In YOUR Church, where YOU LITURGIZE.
Through it, You Sustain us in Life and GIVE US COMMUNION.
How could I "do without" This DIVINE FOUNTAIN?...
LORD JESUS, with all my Being I prostrate and bring Thanksgiving to You.
LORD, You Created me from YOUR LOVE,
LORD, You Birthed me from YOUR LITURGY,
Behold me on my knees with Thanksgiving before YOUR LOVE,
The LITURGY OF LOVE being in me as well without ceasing.

With reverence and awe, I come before the HOLY ALTAR,
From where YOUR LOVE pours out unceasingly as Gift.
*

Let no one come to the ALTAR with "empty hands,"
The LITURGY OF LOVE is Full of GIFTS.
The LITURGY OF LOVE is "total" GIVING,
It is Full of GIFTS of Thanksgiving.

LORD, I also bring as GIFT the "PROSPHORA" of my Being.
Take from "it" the LAMB-WORD,
The SACRIFICIAL LAMB that RESURRECTS the "earth,"
That lifts it to Song and to Light,
Take the LAMB-WORD out of the "clay."
Do not be sickened by my puny Love,
Do not deprive me of YOUR LITURGY OF LOVE.

My Being is a "SPARK of YOUR INCARNATE LOVE"
That has "given Birth" to me, "a Created Love,"
Which I Bring to You also as GIFT,
Make me Partaker to YOUR DIVINE GRACE.

Receive me, LORD, as a PROSPHORA,
Make me also YOUR LITURGIZING,
The SACRIFICIAL LAMB that You continually INCARNATE,
And from my PROSPHORA RESURRECT Him,

So that I too may Partake of the Communion with YOU,
To be also LOVE-LITURGIZING.

I am “fallen” from LOVE through many sins
And I am lying in “abyss and death,”
But LORD JESUS, Receive me as a PROSPHORA,
From it Take Your LAMB, the SACRIFICIAL LAMB,
Make me also YOUR LITURGIZING.

LORD JESUS, LOVE-LITURGIZING,
The SPIRIT in me Weeps from YOUR “absence,”
But receiving me as a PROSPHORA
In which YOU, the SACRIFICIAL LAMB, INCARNATE,
Through which from “death” You RESURRECT me,
I will again Receive YOUR COMMUNION.
BREAD is the NAME of the Image of Life,
It is the “manifestation” of Life in Presence,
It is the NAME of the Image of Communion,
It is the Mystery of LOVE-GIVING.

Two LOVES ENCOUNTER one another in Sacred Speaking,
They become Communion,
They become BREAD-LOVE in LITURGIZING.

And the WORD became Flesh,
BREAD with Being in the WORD.

From Heaven the LIGHTS “descend” in Whispers,
Lift the Earth from “clay and night,”
Make it WHEAT, Seeds of the Sun,
HEAVEN and Earth in Union.

BREAD, HEAVEN, and Earth in ENCOUNTER,
GOD and Creation in COMMUNION,
BREAD that contains in Itself the WORD,
BREAD that contains in Itself the Earth,
BREAD, DIVINE LITURGIZING.
*

O Divine Lamb, the Most Innocent Lamb,
Earthly Lamb who Incarnates the One from Heaven,
O, Most Beautiful Lamb Ever Born,
YOU are the WORD that became Flesh.

O LAMB with Eyes of Divine Serenity,
Why are they circled with bruises?
Why do Tears mixed with Blood flow from Them?
Why are there bloody Wounds on Your Face?

O, CHILD of Creation and LAMB of SACRIFICE,
O, Earth and Heaven in simultaneous LOVE,
O, Creation and GOD in LITURGIZING...

O, Innocent CHILD-LAMB who will be SACRIFICED,
YOU YOURSELF approach the CROSS on which You will be Crucified,
YOU YOURSELF open Your Chest where You will be pierced,
O, SACRIFICE of LOVE, DIVINE LAMB JESUS.

O, Innocent CHILD, Born from the Innocent LAMB,
O, GOD incarnate on Earth,
O, Mystery beyond words,
O, LOVE in DIVINE LITURGIZING.
*

O Mystery of the VIRGIN MOTHER, the very Mystery of Creation,
Who BIRTHS THE PRIESTHOOD – the Mystery of GOD Descending into Creation,
O, QUEEN, You Make Yourself into the LITURGIZING of PRIESTHOOD!

If it were not for You, MOTHER OF GOD,
The SON OF GOD would not Descend to Earth;
Only through You, Daughter-Ever VIRGIN of Creation,
The DIVINE WORD receives a BODY.

It is a Love of Creation that Descends even GOD from above,
It is the LOVE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD that INCARNATES THE LORD JESUS.
It is the Love that also Lifts Creation Upward,
It is "entirely the MOTHER OF GOD's," which makes us "BROTHERS OF JESUS."

O, MOTHER OF GOD – Church, ineffable Mystery,
Through You DIVINE PRIESTHOOD LITURGIZES,
Through You Creation ENCOUNTERS GOD.
*

You have Created us, LORD, from the GIFT OF YOUR LOVE,
And we Live from THIS COMMUNION,
Which You continually GIVE us through YOUR LITURGIZING.

If ever THE LITURGIZING OF YOUR LOVE were to "cease,"
Then our Life of Creation "would die."

Therefore, Life cannot exist without the LITURGIZING OF LOVE,
There is no EXISTENCE-EXPERIENCE without COMMUNION.

The LITURGY OF LOVE never "stops,"
Therefore it is the HEART OF IMMORTALITY,
Therefore it is a HEART in Unceasing BEATING,
THE LITURGY OF LOVE never ceases.

If ever THE LITURGY were to "cease,"
Suddenly "all would perish."
*

O, MOTHER OF GOD, in You we place all our Existentiality,
Through You we BRING our GIFT to the ALTAR,
Which the GREAT ARCHPRIEST CHRIST may LITURGIZE.

We, the Faithful, “give Birth” to You, Daughter-VIRGIN MOST PURE,
And You are CHOSEN by the DIVINE SON as
QUEEN – HIS MOTHER,
IMAGE that also makes You our own DIVINE MOTHER.
Through You we become “Relatives-Brothers” with the DIVINE SON,
Through You our BODY becomes the BODY OF CHRIST,
In which HE LITURGIZES the SACRIFICE OF FORGIVENESS
and SALVATION.

*

Lord Jesus, I come also to Your LITURGIZING
And I Bring You My Gift of Love
Which, however, also bears many “sins of crucifixion” ...

Within me, the Bud that “turns” into You
Reopens Your Suffering of the Crucifixion,
The same Wounds are Reopened, and the Same Blood
As Flows in My Being Flows into YOUR Being...

*

LOVE is Unceasing LITURGIZING,
It is in Endless Outpouring of Self.
LOVE is in the RITUAL of AFFECTION,
It is in the EUCHARIST of the WORD as GIFT,

O, ALL HOLY SPIRIT, You are the ONE who LITURGIZES,

In YOUR RITUAL YOU YOURSELF SERVE,
You are also the DIVINE PRIESTHOOD
With the PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST, at once, in MINISTRY;
In the PRIESTHOOD of YOUR RITUAL, CHRIST is Made True,
In the IMAGE OF YOUR RITUAL, the WORD LITURGIZES.
The IMAGE OF THE WORD is at once in the IMAGE OF YOUR RITUAL,
You, ALL HOLY SPIRIT, are the DEPTH of GOD THE FATHER.

The RITUAL is the LITURGICAL FLAME; Experience-Living is through
The FLAME OF THE RITUAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

In YOUR RITUAL, ALL HOLY SPIRIT,
all other images pause,
In YOUR PRESENCE everything freezes,
Only in YOUR IMAGE does everything Move and is Performed,
Only in YOUR IMAGE is the SACRIFICE OF THE LITURGY is
MINISTERED.
*

ALL HOLY SPIRIT, DIVINE MAJESTY,
TO YOU we Prostrate, GOD KING.
Do not burn us with YOUR Consuming FLAME,
We Pray, Grant us BLESSING,
That we may be made worthy of CHRIST'S LITURGY,
That we may COMMUNE in the DIVINE EUCHARIST.
ALL HOLY SPIRIT, DIVINE MAJESTY,
SPIRIT OF TRUTH, GOD KING,

YOU YOURSELF Serve THE LITURGY OF CHRIST.
We Pray that You also make us worthy,
In YOUR RITUAL to Liturgize the SACRIFICE OF SALVATION,
Through You to Taste of the EUCHARIST OF RESURRECTION.
*

ALL is WORD, RITUAL, and BLESSING,
All is SACRED, OFFERING, and SONG,
All is Outpouring of Absolute LOVE,
All is DIVINE LITURGIZING.

A CERTAIN DIVINE WORD Creates our Soul,
A CERTAIN RITUAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT gives it Life,
A CERTAIN BLESSING from THESE gives BIRTH to us.

The Creation of Light is WORD in the RITUAL of the HOLY SPIRIT,
The Days of Creation are the IMAGE OF DIVINE GRACE,
And all are RITUAL in Chant of the WORD,
In the BLESSING OF THE FATHER all things are.
Each day of Creation is "As Much" as One WORD and One RITUAL.
Each day is of the BLESSING GIVEN.
Each day is "as much as" a LITURGY of LOVE,
Therefore the Day is in the IMAGE of LITURGIZING.

The LITURGY of LOVE cannot "stop,"
The WORD and the RITUAL cannot but LITURGIZE,
The BLESSING cannot but COMMUNICATE Itself.

O, if you only Knew with how much LOVE the HOLY SPIRIT gives us Life,
If you Knew that Because of the HOLY SPIRIT we Breathe...
Evening and Morning are the RITUAL of the HOLY SPIRIT,
The DAY is entirely HIS RITUAL in Movement of Light.
Everything that Lives is the BREATH of HIS RITUAL.
The RITUAL is also LITURGIZING of LOVE and THANKSGIVING,
And without RITUAL every Movement would "stop."

The Church Bells Ring, and they Call us to GOD.
My soul, do not be "deaf," arise and run to Him,

In the Church the LORD JESUS HIMSELF LITURGIZES,
All the Angelic Hosts Descend from ABOVE,
All the Saints Chant the LITURGY of LOVE,
All Creation Chants the GIFT OF COMMUNION.

The HOLY SPIRIT Descends upon the VIRGIN-Church,
The DOORS of Creation OPEN so that GOD may ENTER,
The DOORS of the ALTAR OPEN so that the Children of the Church
May ENCOUNTER their very CREATOR HIMSELF.

Soul of mine, OPEN your Doors, stand no longer still,
GOD Descends into the World,
He Descends also for you through HIS LITURGY.

O, BUT what cannot be spoken,

How YOU, LORD, should COME to us,
To SPEAK to us the Ineffable DIVINE WORDS...

Through the DIVINE WORD all things were Made,
All are INCARNATION of the WORD.
In the beginning was the WORD who GIVES HIMSELF to us,
EVERMORE it is the WORD who LITURGIZES.

Soul of mine, HEAR the WORD who Created you,
BOW before the WORD who CALLED you to LIFE.
It is the DIVINE WORD, the ONE EVER within you,
Because of WHOM you too can SPEAK within Yourself.

HOLY GOSPEL, from YOU are HEARD the INEFFABLE WORDS,
Which within us Make Themselves into Spoken Tongues.
Heaven and Earth are WRITTEN in YOUR PAGES,
In our Souls THESE are the KINDLED CANDELS.

Heaven and Earth together LITURGIZE,
Creation and GOD Face to Face ENCOUNTER one another,
Angels with Men together Serve,
All now ENCOUNTER each other in CHRIST.
*

Lord, YOU ARE SPEECH through YOUR WORD HIMSELF,
And YOUR WORD is HEARD even “beyond” YOU,
And “This Beyond” YOUR WORD makes it into Creation.

Soul of mine, “awaken” to the THUNDER of the WORD,
Remember the WORD who within you has “Remained,”
Speak the WORD that was GIVEN to you at your “Birth”.
*

The WORD is the POWER that made “non-being” into Creation,
The WORD is the POWER that HOLDS the Being of Creation,
The WORD is LITURGY and COMMUNION,
The WORD is LOVE and ENCOUNTER.

The WORD can be “wounded,”
But the WORD can never “die.”
The WORD can be “shut in,”
But can never be “killed.”
The WORD may be “hidden” by “darkness.”
But It can never be “destroyed.”
The WORD may be “forgotten,”
But always It is RESURRECTED.

Sin “tries” to destroy the WORD,
It Crucifies Him and buries Him in the earth,
But the WORD RESURRECTS even more Radiant,
Falsehood betrays itself.
*

LORD, with my “sins” I have Crucified You,
With my “sins” I have wounded You...

I tremble to see Your Blood flowing...
How could I not shudder, weeping...
I mocked You, I spat upon You,
I am ashamed and feel guilty...

Yet YOUR EYES are Gentle and FORGIVING,
Though they weep Tears of blood...
From my Cross You Descend,
My heart within me breaks...

Lord, stop Your Crucifixion within me,
It is a suffering “beyond nature” ...
*

LORD, I too Wish to be a FOLLOWER of YOU,
I Crucify myself with OFFERING, in Like manner,
Receive also my Cross Beside YOUR CROSS,
Beside You, Crucified with YOU, any “torment” I will endure.
As the “thief,” of old, my sins crucify me.
But like the thief I Likewise speak:
“Receive, LORD, my Cross BESIDE YOURS.”

LORD, my Cross has within itself the POWER of YOUR CROSS,

Through YOUR CRUCIFIXION I also “can” crucify myself,
Through YOUR VICTORY I too can “overcome.”

LORD, My Being of sin and guilt Weeps,
Yet it is full of HOPE in YOUR RESURRECTION.
I still Crucify You in my Being,
But You RISE in YOUR Crucifixion.
O, Tears of repentance in TEARS of LOVE,
FORGIVENESS and RESURRECTION in a MYSTICAL-ENCOUNTER.
*

Death and RESURRECTION meet on the CROSS OF CHRIST,
Guilt and FORGIVENESS are UNITED on the CROSS,
From HEAVEN GOD Descended downward.

O GOD THE FATHER, what do You See...
You See YOUR SON crucified, full of blood, slain...
It cannot be... this is too much...
You desire to Raise YOUR HAND in “curse” ...
But TEARS Flow upon YOUR PRECIOUS BODY without breath,
FORGIVENESS and Justice now struggle fiercely...

Beyond “death,” the SON PRAYS to You with a trembling VOICE,
“ALL-GOOD FATHER, for MY sake BE FORGIVING,
My Brothers of Creation I Forgive in MY CRUCIFIXION,
YOU in MY LOVE BE GOD THE JUST...
MY LOVE of FORGIVENESS and RESURRECTION

Shall Be the SECOND Birth and Creation.
ALL-GOOD FATHER, BLESS MY SACRIFICE,
May MY LOVE and the LOVE of CREATION Be in YOUR LOVE."
*

O BODY-SACRIFICE "Fearful" and ineffable,
The ALL HOLY TRINITY Itself COMES and KISSES YOU.
The DIVINE FATHER COMES and EMBRACES YOU,
The HOLY SPIRIT COMES with the GRACE-FIRE of Heaven,
In YOUR BODY-SACRIFICE the "sins of the world"
Are now FORGIVEN and "melt away"...

All the Angelic Hosts surround You,
All the Choirs of Saints bow their Foreheads...
O MOST DIVINE SACRIFICE-TREASURE,
In YOU is WORTHINESS and Virtue.
The MOTHER OF GOD Sits Fallen at YOUR FEET,
To the DEPTH of Her Being everything PAINS Her...
All Heaven and Earth HERE ENCOUNTER one another,
GOD and Creation HERE ARE UNITED.

ALL HOLY TRINITY with the FIRE of DIVINITY,
For the SACRIFICE of FORGIVENESS and LOVE,
Again and again and Forever FORGIVE us!

O CROSS, "Fearsome" NAMING,
If CHRIST is on YOU Crucified,

Fear “vanishes” at once:
The torment of the Cross is Overcome by Him.
O CROSS, most awe-inspiring SIGN,
If the LORD CHRIST is upon YOU,
He Makes YOU the GREATEST GIFT of LOVE.

Who could GIVE more
Than the CROSS OF CHRIST? ...
O CROSS, DIVINE LITURGY.

The entire LITURGY of LOVE and FORGIVENESS
Is in the GIFT of the CROSS of Crucifixion.
O CROSS, Fearsome SIGN and POWER,
In YOU JUSTICE is Judged
By Unceasing FORGIVENESS and LOVE
Which COMMUNICATE JUSTICE in SUPRA-LOVE.

“LET US LIFT UP OUR HEARTS,” upon the CROSS OF LOVE,
Let us GIVE THANKS through the CROSS OF VICTORY.
Your CROSS, LORD JESUS, is no longer “condemnation,”
It is LOVE and total FORGIVENESS.
Whoever does not bear the IMAGE of the CROSS upon himself
Has not the IMAGE as SIGN.
Through the IMAGE of the CROSS all things are “MADE” into LOVE and FORGIVENESS,
Through the IMAGE of the CROSS OF CHRIST
GOD Himself Descends

And Creation is LIFTED as upon a LADDER.

*

O, fearful and trembling ENCOUNTER
That pains you beyond all,
O, ENCOUNTER between "guilt" and FORGIVENESS...

"Come," all of you, Eat from MY BODY,
Do not flee, I do not ask your "guilt,"
I GIVE you even more MY LOVE.

Nothing more do I ask of you,
Come into MY LOVE when I CALL you...

In MY LOVE you will find
The REST of all the "weary,"
The peace of those in torment and suffering,
The comfort of the humiliated,
The FORGIVENESS that Restores LOVE,
The ENCOUNTER with COMMUNION...

The BODY and BLOOD OF CHRIST from the "tree of the fall"
Transform the "serpent of death" into the IMAGE OF RESURRECTION.
From the "curse" of sin you re-enter into LOVE,
It is the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER, the Heavenly Communion.

In the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER the Law is Transfigured

Into MYSTICAL FORGIVENESS and ineffable PEACE.
In the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER PERFECTION is fulfilled,
Here there is only LOVE.
*

LORD JESUS, YOU give us FORGIVENESS to Eat,
And in This we Resurrect our Love.
Within me, LORD, all things "stir,"
YOUR DIVINE VOICE thunders within me...
A fearful thing to ENCOUNTER YOU Directly...
*

What should we Bless first in the DIVINE EUCHARIST,
The Descent of GOD or our ASCENT into HIM?...
How can this MYSTERY be "spoken"?...
"And the WORD Was Made Flesh-Creation" (John 1:14).
Now the Flesh is Made WORD.
A Mystery of DIVINE LITURGY,
Now are FULLFILLED the Those that "Wish to Be."
O, fearful LITURGIZING,
O, shattering GIFT of LOVE,
O, DIVINE JOY.

The LOVE of YOUR SON, DIVINE FATHER,
ENCOUNTERS our "puny" Love,
And they are OFFERED to YOU as SACRIFICE and OBLATION...
Make us also the BODY OF CHRIST,

Through Whom we too may ASCEND “unto YOU,”
O, ALL HOLY TRINITY.

ALL HOLY SPIRIT, DIVINE MAJESTY,
We Pray, Forgive us all,
Let YOUR GRACE-FIRE Descend without Burning us,
TRANSFORM us into the BODY OF CHRIST as once before
You Did at the INCARNATION in the VIRGIN.

Then the WORD Was Made Flesh,
Now let the Flesh be Made WORD,
Then GOD Descended upon the Earth,
Now let the Earth ASCEND into GOD.

O, DIVINE LITURGIZING,
Now is FULFILLMENT, PERFECTION,
Glory to You, ALL HOLY TRINITY, Glory, Glory.
*

Sin “had brought death and suffering,”
YOU GIVE us Now, JESUS, the RESURRECTION.
*

The Mother of the Lord Prays:
O DIVINE SON and GREAT HIGH PRIEST,
As the MOTHER of This Church, I bring all to You,
Do not be “disgusted” with any of them,

Let not one be “lost,”
All are My Children and YOUR Brothers,
In YOUR CHALICE RESURRECT them to Life.
*

DIVINE, ALL HOLY TRINITY,
I THANK You that You Created me.
I THANK You, O SAVIOR JESUS,
That You have GIVEN us the Mystery of the LITURGY,
Through which we are “cleansed” from sin.

I THANK You, ALL HOLY SPIRIT GOD.

I THANK You, GOD THE FATHER,
That You “Receive” even me as “a Son” of Yours.
DIVINE, ALL HOLY TRINITY,
I THANK You.
May the LITURGY OF LOVE Forever Be.

O LITURGY, HEART without cessation in ETERNITY!

THE ICONIC PRAYER

The ICONIC Prayer

I

LORD, I STAND before You
With ADORATION!
I do not SEE You,
For I am blind by sin.

I try to LOOK upon You
With the Mind,
But I avoid
Thinking You,
Lest I fall into imagination.

I try to feel You
But I fear
My passionate senses.

I STAND before Your FACE,
I Call You with ENTREATY...

I wish to stretch out My Hand,
To <u>TOUCH</u> You.

To bow My Head,

To **KNOW You are PRESENT**

Forever.

II

Suddenly I am afraid...

As though within You

My Image is **MIRRORED**,

And at the same time within me

YOUR FACE...

Without confusion,

Still FACE to FACE,

I in ADORATION

And unmoving,

Terrified by Your PRESENCE.

My mind and my sensing

Have STOPPED on the spot...

Where ARE YOU, LORD—

Within me

Or "outside" me?

Where am I? ...

This only I KNOW:

That we STAND FACE to FACE,

And **between US**

WE BOTH ARE.

I have SEALED You
Upon my Image,
In which You Yourself
Are PAINTED,
In which I also Mirror myself,
Like a **CROSS of ENCOUNTER**,
ICON of SILVER,
LIGHT of GRACE
That has IGNITED Between Us.

III

I would wish **to STAY**
Thus for an ETERNITY.
Like in an ICON
Unmoving,
With mind and sensing
STOPPED in place,
Only in ADORATION.
CRUCIFIED UPON THE CROSS
Between US,
Like an EMBRACE
Of LOVE.
MYSTERY of ICON
And of PRAYER,
Beyond the BORDER
Uncrossable,

The ENCOUNTER

In the UNSEEN

And the SEEING

In a MYSTICAL SILENCE,

The ALTAR OF COMMUNION

Of the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER!

IV

O HEART of the ALL HOLY SPIRIT,

O ADORATION

Of the SON.

O EMBRACE

Of the FATHER.

O World CRUCIFIED

Upon the CROSS OF LOVE,

ICON

In Ineffable

MYSTERY!

The Iconic RITUAL

O, MOTHER OF GOD, from Your Face
A SPIRIT of Mystery is Born.
In You is the ICON from ABOVE,
For You Bear in Your Arms the DIVINE JESUS;
In You is the Icon from Below, of Earth,
For You are Image of Creation,
And thus in Your ICON are
Both GOD and Creation, Together.

O, SPIRIT of Hesychia,
Who shows Itself as Creation,
Yet with DIVINITY Incarnate.

On my knees before the ICON,
Before the Image of Mystery,
Within me Enters the Consuming SPIRIT
With the most Purifying Fire.

GOD Makes Himself, in the World, Creation
And I, the one from the World,
ASCEND into GOD.

Behold the MYSTERY of my DESTINY.

O, IMAGE of the ICON of the MOTHER OF GOD,
You open for me the DOOR toward GOD,
Who INCARNATES Himself in the World
So that I too may be Incarnated into GOD.

I begin to understand the FIRST MYSTERY of Hesychast LIFE:
To ASCEND toward GOD is the PATH of Hesychia,
And the ICON of the Image of the MOTHER OF GOD
Is the PROSPHORA of the LITURGY
Which opens the DOORS of Heaven.

O, AKATHIST of the ICON,
You sing in me continually, like a LITURGY,
Through which I also become
A LIVING Church.

And within me begins the MYSTICAL RITUAL
That gives birth to the SPIRIT of Hesychia.
*

ADORATION before the ICON
Is a SPIRIT of great MYSTERY.

ADORATION is FLIGHT
For the Heart filled with LONGING,
Which falls at the feet,
So that in the Air thereafter it may FLY

In SONG.

*

I kneel before the ICON
And the CHILD CHRIST Whom She holds in Her Arms
TRANSFORMS the whole World into His ICON.

The VIRGIN-MOTHER is the ICON of the World,
The CHILD CHRIST is the ICON of GOD,
And their ENCOUNTER of MYSTERY
Gives the World the DIVINE GARMENT.

*

Where shall I find the IMAGE of the SUN
In which my Mind may REST?
It is in the Arms of the ICON of the MOTHER OF GOD,
In CHRIST, the DIVINE CHILD.

O SUN of Great MYSTERY,
An Innocent LAMB-CHILD
In whom all the LIGHT
Of Heaven and Earth has been GATHERED.

Hesychia, LIGHT of DIVINE SUN INCARNATED,
MYSTERY of the ICON, Hesychia,
May Your SPIRIT COME also into me...

Who can speak the IMAGE of the FATHER?
Only One that can
Is the IMAGE of the SON.

The SON is the WORD-LIKENESS
Who from the FATHER is BORN,
LIGHT-REVELATION.

And also from the FATHER
PROCEEDS the WARMTH of the IMAGE of the SPIRIT,
And Together with the LIGHT
They ARE the very TRINITY.
The SON of the FATHER'S IMAGE Sings,
The SPIRIT of the FATHER'S IMAGE Seals,
And in the SON and in the SPIRIT
The FATHER RESTS,
And the FATHER, SON, and SPIRIT
Are the UNITED TRINITY.

FATHER, GREATEST NAME,
SON, Most PRECIOUS NAME,
SPIRIT, Most HOLY NAME,

To You, TRINITARIAN GOD,
PROSTRATION.
*

Make your Mind a Child,
Make your Heart a Child,
Make all your Senses a Child,
The Same as the CHILD CHRIST,
And with the DIVINE CHILD
SAY the PRAYER of the HEAVENLY FATHER.

Who could ever contain GOD's LOVE? ...
Only His SON can.

And the LOVE of the SON, only Your Image of MOTHER.

O Image of Great MYSTERY,
You, the most CHOSEN Image,
Though an Image of Creation,
Holding the DIVINE SON in Your Arms,
You become an ICON of Adoration:
Rejoice, ICON of Divine Incarnation.
*

O, You LORD GOD,
When You REVEAL Yourself to my Soul,
All lights become "dimmed,"
And You alone, the PERSONAL One,
Are PRESENT, both within and without.

The eyes of the Mind close,

The eyes of the body as well.
Through the IMAGE of HYPOSTASIS
I too Behold **You.**

Eyes of the Mind, lower the eyelashes of mind-thinking,
Light, enter the resting-place of "beyond,"
A LIVING One through Himself,
Who can Source forth everything,
In whom all things "return and rest,"
HE - the HYPOSTASIS before whom
All things pass into HIS SHADOW.

ICON, EYE of Mystery
Through which the HYPOSTATIC EXISTENTIAL GAZES,
From whom LIGHT then springs,
Through whom those UNSEEN are Seen.

ICON, **IMAGE Emerged Outward**,
That make yourself **the PLACE of Mystery**
Where the BEING **may REVEAL Itself**,
As BREAD-EUCHARIST.

EYE of ICON,
In You GOD is SEEN,
And at once, we, Creation, may See ourselves
Beside GOD.

EYE of ICON,
You are the CHURCH of Mystery,
Where the Mind kneels and grows silent,
As in a SUPRA-HEART,
Where the HEART of GOD BEATS
And where the Hearts of all
Beat likewise, while Kneeling.

Supra-natural PLACE of the ICON,
From here one may HEAR the DIVINE WORD
Which You WRITE as in a BOOK,
The ARK of the FINGER of GOD.

ICON, IMAGE and PLACE of Mystery,
Through You We can ENCOUNTER GOD.
*

In a moment beyond time
The SON Creates also an Image of Son of Creation
In which HE Himself becomes Incarnate,
And comes before GOD THE FATHER:
—FATHER, behold Me, Your SON,
At once in TWO IMAGES,
As the EXISTENTIAL SON Whom You have BORN,
And as the Son of Creation Whom I have Conceived.
Two IMAGES unamalgamated, yet UNITED
In My UNIQUE HYPOSTASIS as Your SON.

And the FATHER BLESSES,
And the Image of the World Receives “Existentiality.”
*

I can no longer remain in darkness,
Phantoms torment me...

LIGHT, where are You?

Am I truly blind,
Or is it night outside?

From this world full of sin
The SUN has been taken away,
And you must go to the “Other Shore”
To TAKE It in a VESSEL
And BRING It Home.

There is a PLACE where there is a LADDER,
The PLACE from the ICON,
With one end fastened to Heaven
And one end down on Earth,
On which the SUN Descends.
And you, at the Foot of the LADDER,
Must CATCH Him in a CERTAIN VESSEL,
For otherwise He flows away unstoppable.

Take care to "shield" your Head and Eyes,
Let no thought arise in the Mind,
And close your Eyes,
For a Great POWER
Emanates from the SUN
And will "shatter" your Mind and Head,
And through your Eyes It will "burn" your body...

Stand in prostration with your Palms upon your Chest,
Plug your Ears lest you may hear Him,
For He flashes and thunders so mightily
That you would not remain whole.

O, what wonder, A DIVINE CHILD
Is the Heavenly SUN!
On the LADDER of the ICON
He Descends Serenely,
With Hands of LIGHT
And with a Tender Voice
That sings in fearful sweetness:
"Our FATHER of us all,
YOU ARE LORD of LORDS,
FATHER, ALL HOLY NAME,
From YOU all things ARE."
And He Descends still Singing
Until He COMES all the way down,
And touches Your Chest...

He wants to ENTER your Heart,
But He cannot fit, and Remains
In the hollow of your Palms...

You Stay like that completely still...
You are afraid not to Lose Him,
You fear that you will be burned,
His VOICE seems to make you
As well begin to Sing:
"OUR Father Who art in HEAVEN" ...
*

On the LADDER of the ICON
The INCARNATE WORD has Descended
And has STOPPED...
And you are both Glad and distressed
That He has COME to you, but you cannot
Receive Him in your narrow and impure Heart,

O, DIVINE Joy and lament of the sinner,
O, Paradise with hell together,
You no longer have a "chasm" dividing you,
For the LADDER of the WORD is between you.

You, LORD, Made me as Creation
Upon whom You BREATHED the SEAL of Your IMAGE,
But I am "beyond" You,

And You must **THEN ENTER** into me
And I must **Then Receive You**,
Otherwise I remain **"without" the Likeness**,
Which only You GRANT me
As EUCHARIST,
Your eternal KINGDOM.

LORD, You have BREATHED **Your IMAGE** into me,
Which was **INSCRIBED like on the Stone** of Moses,
Yet, This is not You Yourself,
But **only Your SHADOW**.

This Divine SEAL
Has within it the LONGING for You,
To ENCOUNTER You Yourself,
So that You may ENTER then my entire Being,
Into the Heart – my most adorned Chamber.
*

Do not dare to lift your eyes Upward,
Do not dare to raise your Mind to Heaven.
Behold CHRIST Who **Descends**
Upon the Earth like a LADDER;
Keep your Head bowed,
Keep your Mind in prostration,
Place your Hands on your Chest

And cling to the LADDER,
Whose Foot rests upon your Heart.

The LADDER–CHRIST Binds Heaven to Earth.

He descends upon the LADDER,
Your Heart is too narrow,
He cannot Enter it,
He stands before your Chest
Like an ICON hung at your Neck.

O, ICON of CHRIST
Pressed to my Chest,
My heart begins to hear
Your Mystery of SON of GOD;
It hears how You Pray to the FATHER,
And You awaken in me
The LONGING for Prayer.

I dare do nothing else
But the RITUAL OF THE ICON,
To bow before It,
To bend the Mind in prostration,
To hold the LADDER to my Chest,
To cling desperately to it
When the "billows" of passions in me
And the abysses of the world want to devour me.

O, ICON–LADDER of CHRIST,
O, GOD's LOVE,
I carry You like a TREASURE of great value,
And I wait until my Heart becomes able
To Open like a Reliquary–ARK
In which to RECEIVE You
And to never lose You again.

ICON, ICON,
LADDER from Heaven to Earth,
I cling You to my Chest,
Where CHRIST of MYSTERY lives.
*

Lord Jesus, "A Certain Word of Yours"
Is the "Holy Table and Gospel" in my Being–Soul,
A Word You Spoke when You Created me, Word–Altar, Image of God.
And "This Word of Mystery," through the Calling-Prayer of Your Name
Becomes "Liturgy–Eucharist" in the Church of my Being,
The Communion of the Divine Trinity Whose Great Archpriest You are.

Hesychasm, the Threefold Akathist of the Heart

In the Heart the Soul shows its Image and stands as in a boat,
From the Heart the Soul spreads its "Rays" as Body,
In the Heart the Soul Sings the Divine Praise of the Creator.

From the Heart the Soul stretches forth and Meets the other Souls,
From the Heart the Soul opens and pours itself out over the Heart, unto infinity,
In the Heart the Soul Receives, as in a Church, God Himself.

The Soul is our Created Ontological/Existential Substance,
Which also has an Energy that becomes Body,
We being a Created Existential Unity with its Created Energies.

The Fall from Paradise through the devilish sin "tears us in two",
Contraries us and alienates our Being Soul from its Energies-Body,
And thus we seem like two realities that are deadly enemies...

Likewise, it tears us from the Creator and makes us blind and mute without the Holy Song,
And the suffering of death and of darkness terrifies us ceaselessly
And we long to regain the Peace and Rest of immortal Life.
The Mind of the Body must be Sacralised through Christic Prayer,
The Feeling of the Body must be Sacralised through Repentance and Fasting,
And the Spirit of the Soul must be awakened through the Coming into the Heart of the Lord Jesus.

Hesychasm is a “Threefold Akathist” of Holy Prayer,
The Prayer of the Mind in the unceasing Chanting of the Divine Name,
The Prayer of Feeling through Fasting and of the Spirit through the direct Repentance of the Soul.

Come, Lord Jesus, into my Heart and awaken my Soul,
Come into my Heart and give Sight to the Eyes darkened by sin,
Come into my Heart, Lord Jesus, that my Soul may “Encounter” You!

My Mind I make into a Word-bearing Prayer,
My Feeling I make into a heartfelt repentance-Prayer,
My Soul I make into direct Speech-Communion with You.

Lord, Absolute Father, have mercy on me!, Forgiveness of the fallen Creation,
Lord, All Holy Spirit have mercy on me!, Spirit of the Prayerful Heart,
Lord Jesus have mercy on me!, unceasing Prayer of the Heart...

HESYCHASM, THE MYSTERY OF THE SAINTS

Every Saint has the Destiny of being the RE-SANCTIFYING Father of many "non-saints." Here lies the Mystery of the Veneration of the Saints. We, the "sinners," are born through the GRACE-GIFT of GOD, and at the same time through the Gift of the Saints, who "take us into their guarantee." The DIVINE GIFT and the Gift of the Saints are of capital importance.

MOTTO:
O, my Saint, the FAITH of my Salvation
Is BELIEVED by GOD Himself,
A FAITH which I also Believe.

In a Day without time, in GODHEAD,
The SON as Answer of LOVE,
Together with the HOLY SPIRIT,
Bring to GOD the FATHER
An OFFERING of THANKSGIVING.
– Eternal FATHER,
Receive this Offering,
Thine own of Thine own,
We bring before Thee.
And the FATHER Looks...
He sees yet *another Love*
Of Creation.
– RECEIVE THE IMAGE OF LOVE,

IT IS Your IMAGE, FATHER!

And the FATHER **BLESSES!**

*

– Behold, FATHER, together
With my Offering of LOVE,
Also an *Image of Creation*,
Into which I Pour Myself
And through Me
The very Outpouring of Yourself.

I am Your own LOVE Itself,
And after this IMAGE I Create also
An Image of Created Love,
Which *shall Love You*
In LIKE MANNER as I.

You, FATHER, are the IMAGE OF LOVE,
And before Your FACE stands
Only another Image of Love.

And GOD the FATHER sees
An *Image of Created Love*.
But He also sees an "anti-image of evil" ...

– FATHER, says the SON,
Look upon

Those who Love You,
These are Your *Saints*
To whom You give LIFE.
Your BLESSING
Rests only upon the Saints,
These I bring to You
As an Offering of LOVE.
*

The SON brings forth
The Conception of Creation,
The "Book of Life."
GOD the FATHER reads
All the **Name**s of the Created Beings;
The Holy ones He keeps,
The sinful ones He "erases."

– FATHER, only the Saints
Can truly be Inscribed
In the Book of Life...
But Each Saint
Is like a Father of Creation,
And how "should their Children perish,"
Even if they be sinners?
– Yes, says the FATHER,
All the Children of the Saints, whatever they may be,
I do not erase,

But only
Those COVERED by the Saints.
Let the Saints make
A Holiness in addition
For those who do not make it themselves.
There can be no Created World
Unless it is Holy.

– FATHER, because it is My Conception,
I shall INCARNATE Myself
As the FIRST SAINT of Creation,
And under MY PROTECTION
Let all the Children of Creation be born,
For "death does not exist" ...
And if sin "invents it,"
I shall RAISE all the dead.

And the FATHER BLESSES.
*

LORD, I, the sinner,
Ought not to have been Created,
My parents
Ought not to have given me birth...

O, LIFE, what JOY,
O, LIFE, what DIVINE MYSTERY!

I, as a sinner,
Cannot have the right to LIFE...
Sin is the "stopping" from LIFE.

O, what Mystery, that still
I, who do not deserve
To be, am nevertheless Created and born...
It is the Mystery of the Saint.

LORD, *in me, first of all,* there is Your MERCY
There is then the Prayer of the MOTHER OF GOD and of the Saints,
And *especially of my Saint and my Guardian Angel*,
In whose Gift I was Created and born.
There is also *the sigh of my earthly lineage*,
And especially of some Parents, with Destiny *to be saved by me*.

In me there is YOUR IMAGE as a DIVINE SUN,
There is a Candle, the Image of the MOTHER OF GOD,
There is also a Candlestick of a Saint and a Torch of the Parents,
And in these Lights is my Life.

To Your IMAGE I must bow,
In the Candle I must pour the Oil of my Faithfulness,
In the Candlestick I must always light the Torch,
And in this Service I must be permanently present.

I must be like my own Church,

With the ALTAR OF THE PRIESTHOOD of Your IMAGE.

Hymn of one's own Life,

O, MYSTERY beyond Nature of my Being,
You, GOD and CREATOR of me.

O, Joy of my Life,
You, MOTHER OF GOD and my Saint.

O, Song of my Being,
CHURCH of GOD and of the Saints.

O, Sanctification of my Life,
Parents and a Certain Earth
With a Certain CROSS
Through which I ASCEND to HEAVEN.

O, BLESSING of GOD
Who CREATES me and GIVES me Life.

O, CHURCH of the Image of the MOTHER OF GOD,
My Cosmic MOTHER.

O, Fatherhood of a Saint
Through whose Gift I am Conceived.

O, Family of some Parents
Who bring me forth on Earth.

O, what ELEVATION, to be the CREATION of GOD!

O, what Beauty, to be the GIFT of a Saint!

O, what Virtue, to be also
BEARER of A CROSS,
Image of the SALVATION of my People's Lineage.
*

At my Birth, YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST,
Were the FIRST to receive me,
Although, because of the sins You foresaw I would commit,
A bleeding WOUND was added to You,
The WOUND through which I RECEIVE Life.

Also, the ALL HOLY SPIRIT GOD
Let out a SIGH, with overwhelming MERCY.

What more can I say of the MOTHER OF GOD,
Who took me in Her Arms, Tears Streaming from Her Eyes ...

What more can I say of my Saint,
Who lifted up Prayer...

O my Saint, you have hope
That I, the sinner, will nevertheless leave sin.

And thus, in this FAITH, you take me as a Son
Through whom GOD gives me the RIGHT to Life.

O, my Saint, from your Prayer I am Born! ...

– "LORD, my Heart tells me,
That this sinner will one day leave sin.
In this I receive him, though through a deep WOUND
Which is added to me, I pay the Right to Life..."

O, DESTINY of Saints,
To RE-SANCTIFY the sinners,
DESTINY through which "even sinners" are nevertheless Created,
That even sinners *may become Saints.*
In this Ideal of Holiness lies the Mystery of Creation
And of those who should not have been created.

Hymn of the Saints

After the PROSTRATION rightfully brought to GOD,
TO THE ONE in the TRINITY beyond all,
To whom shall I Prostrate first? ...
To which Saint shall I first bow?
All have the same Image of Saints,
Although each with different Face.

On the THRONE sits the SAINT of Saints,
HE CHRIST, both GOD and Creature,
THE IMAGE OF THE HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

And around Him all the others, in different Choirs.
First, the MOTHER OF GOD,
The Image of the CHURCH of Saints,

The Angels in all the Colours of Heaven,
Nature with all the Fragrance of Flowers and the Lights of the Stars,
And Holy Humans, in all Virtues.

I, humble and sinful, tremble at so much GLORY!
To whom shall I turn my Eyes? ...

A WOUND that frightens and pains me to the bones,
I see on the BODY of CHRIST.

It is the WOUND of my sins...

I see a deep furrow on the Face of the MOTHER OF GOD,
On which flow the Tears of my sins...
From the countless throng of Angels,
I see an Image saddened yet Smiling,
My good and Guardian Angel...

From the multitude of Saints, I see my Saint,
I Recognize Him by my very WOUNDS,
Which are also his Wounds...

O, what Song shall I bring before this VISION?
I Bow, I Gaze, and I am silent...

I am unworthy to COMMUNE of this WONDER,

And yet it is Offered to me...
Only by PROSTRATING can I offer my Response.

Song to my Saint

O, my Saint, my Saint,
You are the Parent through whom GOD
From His GIFT Creates me.

You are also
The one through whom my Parents Conceive me,
For if You had not first adopted me,
My conception would not be.

You, my Saint, are the first
Who Believes that I, the sinner,
Will nevertheless leave sin...

O my Saint, *the Faith of my Salvation*,
Is BELIEVED by GOD Himself,
Faith which I also Believe myself!

Birth, the FIRST LITURGY of One's Own Life

1

The union of some Parents conceives my Body,
The dwelling place where
My *newly* Created Soul may reside.

O, what Mystery is this Body,
Water-Earth, Flesh and Blood,
Which Binds me in Kinship with the World! ...

In this Body the Image of my Parents is Sealed,
With the Heritage of *An entire People's Lineage*...

Also, I am Kin to the Stars Above,
To the tiniest blade and the smallest Creature.

The Flesh is the Mystery in which
The Whole World is gathered as Memory,
And the Blood is also a Mystery
Through which *the Kinship of all Flows*.

Therefore, first my Body is Conceived,
Just as, LORD,
You did first make the Body of Adam.
The Body, Earth made Flesh and Water made Blood,
Is the first GATHERING of the Image of the World,

So that the Soul, which You then Create,
May have the Face of Creation.

The Body is the Seal of the Image of Creation,
And through it You Yourself MEASURE the World.

My Parents give me the Image of Creation,
But they cannot give me the Soul,
And the Mystery of my Being is the UNION of the two Likenesses
Of GOD and of Creation.

2
Behold the DAY of my Conception,
It is the Day of my LITURGY of Birth.

My Conception from Parents
Is the ***PROSFORA*** that Rises Upward
And goes to the HEAVENLY ALTAR
Where the LITURGY of the Saints is Served.
Many PROSFORA-Conceptions come,
And each Saint, when Serving, takes One...

Each Saint sees what ***Image is in the PROSFORA,***
Knowing that by Choosing it he will ADOPT it,
Taking upon himself also the WOUNDS of its "sins" ...

Thus, the PROSFORA of my Conception enters
Into the CHURCH from Above, the Image of the MOTHER OF GOD,
Who RECEIVES all the PROSFORA...
SHE is the FIRST to see the Image of the PROSFORA,
How sinful it also is...

O, MOTHER OF GOD, You have seen my Image
And behold, You began to weep...
You saw a multitude of inherited sins,
And those I myself will commit in my LIFE,
Yet You were the First to COMFORT the PROSFORA...
You KISSED IT afterward, thereby becoming
My HEAVENLY MOTHER.

You, MOTHER OF GOD, *did choose an Angel*
And with Tears in Your Eyes did beseech him...
– I pray you, take this PROSFORA,
Carry it to the SERVICE and *be its GUARDIAN*...

And the Angel carried my PROSFORA
To the ALTAR OF LITURGY,
Where A Saint was just SERVING.
He took it in his Hands, gazed at it long,
He wished to refuse it several times...
But a Tear fell upon it...

"O, Saint, who has taken my PROSFORA,
You have received me as your Child, forever."

3

And the Saint who chose my PROSFORA
Begins the LITURGY,
He lifts it UP
Where it is received by the LORD CHRIST Himself,
Into His DIVINE HANDS,
PRONOUNCING a WORD of MYSTERY,
At which the HOLY SPIRIT Himself comes
And takes the PROSFORA in HANDS,
With a SIGH of GREAT MERCY...

– DIVINE FATHER,
Grant Being to yet Another Soul.
My WORD has Conceived it,
And the HOLY SPIRIT as well,
Only let Your BLESSING Remain
For a new living Being....

And the Liturgizing Saint Cuts the LAMB from the PROSFORA,
And from the LAMB BLOOD flows,
Which he places into the CHALICE...

O, what a fearsome MYSTERY,
The LAMB is *full of WOUNDS,*
With bitter sores...
They are my Wounds, from inherited sins,
They are my Wounds, from the sins I will commit,
Which are now foreseen and revealed...
And these Wounds WOUND also the BODY of CHRIST,
From which DIVINE BLOOD Flows,
Which mingles together with my Blood,
And in the CHALICE of MYSTERY
They UNITE and RELATE IN KINSHIP...

Here in the CHALICE of MYSTERY,
Behold, I, as Soul, am Born,
A CHILD Newly Born to Life,
How fearful, I bear the BODY of CHRIST
TOGETHER with HIM, who bears my Body...
As an INCARNATION ONE in ANOTHER,
At ONCE Two that become Entwined...

O, MYSTERY of the LITURGY of LIFE! ...

THE SON OF GOD, through a CERTAIN WORD,
You Created my Soul,
SEALING it in its depths
As the HEART-IMAGE of GOD.

O, ALL HOLY SPIRIT,
A CERTAIN BREATH of Yours
Was SEALED and set my HEART in motion.

O, FATHER, Your absolute BLESSING
United the TRIPLE SEAL
And my New Soul was Conceived.

And through the LAMB taken from the PROSFORA,
BLOOD of GOD and Created Blood,
My Soul was Incarnated.

The LAMB, TRIPLE LOVE of GOD,
The LAMB, Love also of Creation,
The LAMB, Love of the CHURCH,
The LAMB, Heaven and Earth in UNION,
The LAMB, Soul and Body in KINSHIP,
The LAMB, MYSTERY beyond Nature,
The LAMB, MYSTERY of the LITURGY,
The LAMB, the MYSTERY of MYSTERIES-EUCHARIST.

4
What am I, the New-Born?
I am a Body Conceived of Parents
Which has *the Image of Creation*
And the Kinship of a People's Lineage
And an Inheritance of Virtues and of "sins",

Gathered together in flesh and blood,
The ***PROSPHORA of the Earthly CHURCH.***

And this ***PROSPHORA*** *has a* ***DESTINY*** *to* ***ASCEND to HEAVEN.***

To HEAVEN where the ***CHURCH on HIGH is.***
Where also a Soul is to be Born.

The Body is the Seal of the Image from Below,
The Soul is the Seal of the Image from Above,
And thus I am a **UNION of HEAVEN and Earth.**

The Conception of my Soul
Is ***through a CREATING WORD***

And through a BREATH of the HOLY SPIRIT,
In the BLESSING of the FATHER,
The SEAL of the IMAGE of GOD.

The WORD is the Image of the HEART and of the BLOOD,
Of the PROSPHORA and the CHALICE,
Of the Earth and the Water.
The SPIRIT is the Image of LIFE-RITUAL,
The BLESSING is the Image of Being.
Thus my New-Born Soul
Has the SEAL-LIKENESS of the WORD,

Has the LIFE-LIKENESS of the SPIRIT,
In a UNION of BLESSING.

And the DESTINY of my Created Being
Is Life of Earth and Life of HEAVEN,
In CHANTING of the WORD and VOICE of the SPIRIT,
Gathered together in EUCHARISTY-COMMUNION.

5

I THANK You, LORD, that You have Created me,
Though You saw that I did not deserve LIFE...
You took me FIRST into the SACRIFICE OF THE CROSS,
The MOTHER OF GOD ADOPTED me as a Son of the CHURCH,
An Angel willed to be my Guardian,
And a Saint became my PROTECTOR...
And below, some Parents and a People's Lineage
Made me an HEIR of the MYSTERY OF LIFE.

GLORY to You LORD, GLORY to You,
MYSTERY of LOVE-EUCHARIST!

PRAISE to All the Saints

O, Saints who Love GOD
And do not let yourselves be enslaved by evil,
Who truly show yourselves
Worthy of Him Who Created you...

O Saints, Lovers of GOD,
You too are, like us, stalked by weaknesses,
But you BELIEVE so strongly
In the boundless LOVE
That Nature becomes BEYOND-NATURE,
And you never again fall away from GOOD.

O Saints, you are those who no longer fall from LOVE!
But the greatest WONDER
Is that in your Sanctification you also TAKE UP
The sinners, in order to SAVE them...

PROSTRATION

1

My Saint, my Saint, great is *your Faith*

That I too shall be Saved! ...

You so strongly Believe that I will turn away from sins,

That even GOD,

Because you LOVE Him and HE LOVES you,

BELIEVES your Faith...

And therefore He has so much patience with me,

For according to Justice, long ago I would have been worthy of death.

O, my Saint, my Saint,

What a great GIFT it is to be a Saint,

To have the Faith that ***RESURRECTS** even those from the tomb*.

*

O, MOTHER OF GOD,

You are the QUEEN of the Saints,

In You the GIFT of Holiness is as great as that of all.

You have given Birth to the SOURCE of Holiness,

You have held in your Arms the SON of GOD,

Who makes You worthy to be ***IMAGE OF THE CHURCH,***

The most Holy Image of Creation,

The MOTHER of Holiness from Heaven and from Earth.

ABBA and the Disciple

My ABBA, my ABBA.
You are the LIKENESS of the GRACE of GOD,
You are the Likeness of That Saint
Through whose GIFT I was Born.

Through you I DISCOVER the Saint who RECEIVED me
Into his Arms when I was Conceived
And *made me his Son*.

My ABBA, in *your Icon,*
GOD and the Saints and the Fathers, together
With Heaven and Earth,
In COMMUNION of MYSTERY are GATHERED.

ABBA, my Father,
On my knees, beneath your BLESSING I stand.

Through your Hands Heaven descends.
Through your Image, GRACE SHINES,
Through your WORDS
GOD Himself SPEAKS to me.

My ABBA, what a Holy DESTINY

It is that I have FOUND you! ...
Without you, I would have wandered much longer,
Without the Hope of Fulfilment and Salvation...

My ABBA, my ABBA,
You are my Saintly CHAPEL,
Where seven times a Day
I kneel in contrition,
With the Hope full of Faith
That I too shall be SAVED.

All that I too have as a Gift
Is from the DIVINE GRACE,
Is from the Inheritance of my Parents
And from the Virtues of the Saint who Adopted me,
It is also from your Guidance, ABBA, Father,
Gift from the GIFT of the HOLY ONES.
*

Once, in a Day without time, in GODHEAD,
The SON, as Answer of LOVE,
Together with the HOLY SPIRIT,
Bring to GOD THE FATHER
An OFFERING of THANKSGIVING.
– O Eternal FATHER,
Receive this Offering,
Thine own from Thine own,

We bring it before Thee.

And the FATHER Looks...

He sees *yet another Love*

Of Creation.

– <u>RECEIVE THE IMAGE OF LOVE,</u>

<u>It is Your IMAGE, FATHER!</u>

And the FATHER <u>BLESSES!</u>

The Spiritual Father, Image of the SON in the Likeness of the FATHER

The IMAGE OF THE SON is eternity
And it cannot be changed
Into another image,
The SON is eternally Re-Born
Always as IMAGE of SON.
But the SON, in His eternity,
Unveils from Himself
The FATHER from Whom
He was Born,
And Whose LIKENESS He is,
Hence the Mystery
Of the SPIRITUAL TRINITY,
In which the SON
Has the Countenance
As the FATHER,
As the ALL-HOLY SPIRIT.
But each
In His Own Image
Of Depth,
Without amalgamation.
He who sees the SON
Sees the FATHER,
Both the SON and the FATHER
Are Revealed by

The Radiance
Of the ALL-HOLY SPIRIT,
And in the Created World,
Man, the Image of the SON,
Must also Open
From within Himself
The IMAGE OF THE FATHER still,
And thus the SON
Eternally Confesses
The FATHER,
The Absolute
Who has Begotten Everything
And has Made all!
Man, IMAGE of SON,
Has an Eternal Growth,
Which is the Unveiling of Self,
The Likeness of the FATHER.
The Man child,
Grows Big
When he Shows forth
More and more the countenance
In likeness
To that of the FATHER.
The Mystery of the PRIESTHOOD OF THE SON
Is precisely this fact,
The Likeness of the IMAGE OF THE FATHER,
Through which the SON

Receives all things of the FATHER,
Which He makes into GIFT,
Of DIVINE ALTAR,
The IMAGE OF SON
In WORSHIP!
Thus, the SON,
In the IMAGE OF PRIESTHOOD,
Becomes the BEARER
Of all things toward the FATHER,
And more so,
The BEARER OF THE FATHER
Toward all things through the SON.
The FATHER Himself BLESSES,
The HAND is of the SON,
Only the BLESSING
Is of the FATHER,
And thus the SON,
In PRIESTHOOD and SPIRITUAL FATHERHOOD,
Is the WORK OF THE FATHER
Which is done through the SON.
O ICON of Spiritual Fatherhood,
The FATHER WORKING
Through the SON,
The SON BEARING the FATHER
And His GIFT.
The SON offers all things in WORSHIP,
And in all things

The FATHER HIMSELF
BLESSES,
And the Spiritual Father
Is the SON
Who mirrors in all things
The IMAGE and the WORK OF THE FATHER.
And thus the FATHER RECEIVES
The GIFT OF THE SON
In the most HOLY
WORSHIP
Which receives the Absolute
BLESSING.
And there is no Absolute BLESSING
Unless through the Spiritual SON!
*

Abba, my Father,
On my knees beneath your Blessing I stand.

Through your Hands, make Heaven descend upon me,
Through your Eyes let GRACE Shine forth,
Through your Words
Let GOD Himself SPEAK to me.

Abba, be my Father,
In whom I may have the Hope of Faith
That I too shall be SAVED.

FROM THE MEMORIES OF THE ORIGINS

IMAGE and LIKENESS

The Chant of the SON of GOD

*

O FATHER, the Absolute IMAGE,
He Who is before all things,
The UNBEGOTTEN,
And in Himself BEGETTING,
The Fullness in Himself,
To You is due
The first Honour
With Prostration.

In Me, Your SON, You are Re-Born
And are **PARENT and FATHER**.
In Me, Your SON, You are Whole,
And Your Infinity Opens Itself
Into an Infinity that contains Infinity.

FATHER, in Me You are
The Absolute LOVE
That BEGETS Me as SON,
LOVE without ceasing,

Absolute FATHER and PARENT,
In Me, Your SON, You are – yet again -
And none Contains Your Depth
Except Your SON who Opens It.

In Me there is all Your Life,
And My Life is in You,
O LOVE,
You are the ONLY ICON IMAGE
Within Yourself and Outwardly.
* *

FATHER, I, Your SON,
Am the Absolute **ALL**,
He who is BEGOTTEN from You,
And there is no longer any need
For anything else to be
Except the HOLY SPIRIT,
He Who also Proceeds from You,
The TRINITY OF THE Absolute BEING,
The ONE in THREE Undivided FACES.
And yet I, Your SON,
Also Create an Image of Creation
After My Measure,
In which I Myself Become Incarnate,
And thus I Appear

Twice as SON:
The ONE BEGOTTEN,
And the one created and made,
In the SAME PERSON.

Receive, FATHER,
Also My Image of created Son,
Which I set before You
As a Gift of LOVE,
Without ceasing.

And further,
Through this Image of created Son,
I also Create a World
Which shall Chant Your Name,
To Whom is due
Love and Worship.
* * *

I, the SON, the CREATOR LOGOS,
Have My Absolute Origin
In You, Absolute FATHER,
From Whom I am BEGOTTEN.

But as Son of creation at the same time,
I also have need of a created Origin,
Which means an Image of Mother.

A Chant of the SON, DIVINE in Himself,
I bring unto You, **FATHER**,
And at the same time a chant of Son of creation
I bring also to the **Mother** who Incarnates Me,
Two IMAGES between which I Am,
Two LOVES that ENCOUNTER one another,
And in My IMAGE of SON Are **UNITED**.

At the Crossroads of the BOUNDARIES of MYSTERY

LORD, YOU have Created
A World
That might ENCOUNTER You,
That might LOVE You,
You Who out of LOVE
Have Made the World!

But the World
Stands on this Side of You,
For between the World and You
There is a BOUNDARY
That DISTINGUISHES the Creation
From the CREATOR.
A Crossroads of MYSTERY,
Where an ALTAR
Of HOLY WORSHIP
Is Made,
Where You Yourself Come
And CALL the World
To Come to You,
To CROSS THE BOUNDARY
Only in Your TRANSFIGURATION,
Clothed in the GARMENT
Of MYSTERY.

Even Heaven itself has a BOUNDARY
Beyond which it does not PASS
Except in the MYSTERY
Of Your NAME,
Which is BEYOND
All Names,
Yet which is **"WHISPERED"**
In Your LOVE,
Which is the MYSTERY
Of the NAME itself
To Whom one BOWS
And Sings in
Unspeakable GLORY!

The Earth with all Creation
Has the BOUNDARY of MYSTERY,
Where all things STOP
And make an ALTAR,
Upon which **OFFER** Themselves
Living SACRIFICES,
Which You, LORD,
RECEIVE,
And in the CONSUMMATION
Of LOVE
You TRANSFIGURE them,
And thus the PASSING

BEYOND the BOUNDARY
May “BE”.
The World cannot
CROSS the BOUNDARY of MYSTERY,
For it is Created Being,
But You Yourself
EXTEND
Your LOVE,
Which Becomes
A PATH across the BOUNDARY,
Where ETERNITY
Becomes
The ENCOUNTER,
The MYSTERY between
You and the World,
NAME–WORSHIP,
LOVE–
UNION beyond all,
LOVE–PAUSING,
FACE to FACE,
Which never Ends,
Which ever BEGINS,
And ever Becomes
MYSTERY and Crossroads,
ALTAR and PASSING,
Boundless LOVE
In which all things are GATHERED.

GIFTS of COMMUNION,
BOUNDARY without PAUSE,
PAUSING without BOUNDARY,
GOD and the World
In ENCOUNTER!
* *

LORD, here I am as well,
At the BOUNDARY–Crossroads of MYSTERY.
I see the Heavenly PATH
With the NAME
Of Him Who was INCARNATE,
The SON of GOD,
The CREATOR WORD,
Who Raised
The CROSS of the World
Unto the RESURRECTION of Eternity.
And thus,
With the DIVINE NAME,
With His WORSHIP,
I Set out BEYOND,
Into the Heavenly LIGHT
Without Equal.

Here I am, LORD,
Also at the BOUNDARY
Where the entire Universe

Is FULL of Beauty
And of Fragrances
Which CONFESS You.
It is not permitted that anything be torn away;
I Caress them with my Hand,
And in whispers of MYSTERY
I HEAR the DIVINE Chant!
Which CARRIES ME Over the BOUNDARY.
Here I am too at the Crossroads
Where an ICON
STANDS ILLUMINED
By a Vigil Candle
Which Never Goes out!
I STOP,
With my Gaze,
At the IMAGE of MYSTERY,
And I WAIT
That it too may LOOK UPON ME...
The DIVINE **NAME**
Resounds in my Heart,
In my Ears
I hear the **Chanting** of the Whole World,
The GAZE OF THE ICON
UNITES them All
Into SOMETHING
In which GOD and the World

ENCOUNTER one another
FACE to FACE.
And they do not cease
To remain in the PAUSE
Which becomes ETERNITY,
And at once
Un-encumbered PASSAGE
Into ETERNITY.

O IMAGE of LOVE
Which UNITES all things,
O ICON,
The BOUNDARY and the CROSSROADS
Where All MYSTERIES
ENCOUNTER each other
And COMMUNE
At the MYSTICAL LAST SUPPER,
In the ETERNITY
Where there is always BOUNDARY
And always PASSAGE.

Primordial Memories

1

The FATHER, the SON, the HOLY SPIRIT
Are GOD THE TRINITY,
One BEING and one NATURE,
The Absolute, Self-Existing.

The SON says: "After Our IMAGE
Let Us Bestow Being
To a Created Image as well.
I *give him the IMAGE of SON,*
You, FATHER, Grant him
Being, as a MAKER,
And You, SPIRIT, likewise,
Grant him Life."

And the TRINITY that is in Itself
Becomes *also in Creation*
Yet another TRINITY.

2

"In the Beginning was the WORD LITURGY."
In the un-beginning was **LOVE**
With Its Mystery, **the TRINITY**,
Which is **the BEGETTING-WORD**,
Which is **the LITURGY**.

Kneel before the FACE
Of the DIVINE ICON,
Which is the LITURGY OF LOVE,
The IMAGE of the LORD CHRIST.

Remove your sandals of all that is "outside",
Bow your Forehead beyond the "floor of flesh",
Enter the Church–Bethlehem
Where the LAMB from Above
Becomes also Earthly Liturgy,
So that the World may be Born.

The HEART OF THE LITURGY BEATS in GOD,
It beats also in Heaven and on Earth,
The SAME HEART CHRIST,
From ABOVE and Below.

Who can obstruct LOVE,
Who can place a boundary upon it?

Behold the DIVINE LOGOS,
Who is at once
The LITURGY OF DIVINITY, in Himself,
And that within Creation.

Frightful is the Mystery of Creation,
For You Yourself Liturgize it;
You Yourself become INCARNATE,
And the whole World
You make into Your BODY,
Through which we too may ASCEND
Unto GOD.

I and each one of us are
An IMAGE of Liturgy,
A Certain WORD-LOVE,
IMAGE in Eternity.

And Each of us is
An Image of Creation and an IMAGE of GOD,
Which *ENCOUNTER one another*
Only in Your Liturgical IMAGE.

Only in this IMAGE do I Recover myself again
In the ENCOUNTER with You,
In Your IMAGE of Liturgy,
Ineffable MYSTERY of LOVE.

The LITURGY OF LOVE
Never ceases,
Therefore it is the "HEART OF IMMORTALITY",

HEART Beating ceaselessly
Which never comes to an end.

JESUS, let YOUR HEART Beat
In GOD, in Heaven and on Earth,
In all the Hearts of the World let It Beat,
CHALICE with BLOOD
Of GOD and of Creation,
Which always in LITURGY
Become EUCHARIST.

LORD JESUS, I too Come
To the ALTAR of Your LITURGY,
Where I bring myself as a "Prosphora"
Which You may LITURGIZE.
Do not be repelled by my puny Love.
You have Created me from You LOVE,
And the IMAGE OF LOVE has been Sealed
In Eternity upon my Being;
And make this SEAL an ALTAR OF SACRIFICE
Upon which You ever LITURGIZE,
And in my Being become Incarnate.

I have fallen from Love
Through many sins
And lie in an abyss of death,
But, LORD,

Receive me as a Prosphora,
From which make LITURGY,
And *"Pour" into Your CHALICE*
Also a "drop" of my Blood,
So that Your LOVE and mine
May once again ENCOUNTER one another.

You, LORD, ever
Beget us from Your LOVE,
And Creation Begets You
Unceasingly, likewise,
And the LOVE ENCOUNTERED becomes EUCHARIST,
BREAD of Heaven and of Earth,
The WORD that Became FLESH.

The DIVINE BREAD-CHRIST,
GOD and Creation in UNION,
Behold the ICON that is not an idol,
In which both the **World and GOD HIMSELF**
At once BOW IN WORSHIP.

You, LORD JESUS CHRIST,
The SON of GOD and Son of Creation,
From the LITURGY OF LOVE
You Beget **the CHURCH–MOTHER of the World,**
Creation with GOD in her Arms.

O LOVE of GOD, awe-inspiring,
How You also become Image of Creation,
So that the World too may receive
The DIVINE Measure!

O GOD INCARNATE,
So that the World also may ASCEND into GOD,
TWO LOVES that have Found one another
"Across the abyss of the Absolute".

Therefore, the LITURGY OF LOVE
Never ceases,
HEART of Immortality.

If ever the LITURGY were to stop,
At once "all would perish".

LOVE is the Unceasing LITURGIZING,
It is the Endless BEGETTING of Self,
LOVE is the "Absolute RITUAL"
Which becomes EUCHARIST-GIFT.

What is more WONDERFUL,
The DIVINE INCARNATE
Or *the EMERGENCE of Creation "beyond" itself*
Into the DIVINE *Beyond* any Created Image?

The DIVINE made Body is CHRIST,
Over the Body is the HOLY SPIRIT,
And They, without separation,
At once and ONE are.
CHRIST makes the DIVINE
BODY of COMMUNION,
The HOLY SPIRIT makes the BODY
IMAGE of DEIFICATION,
CHRIST and THE HOLY SPIRIT –
THE LITURGIZING of the CHURCH.

A CERTAIN WORD of Yours
Has Created a Certain Soul of mine,
And the Two Images stand Face to Face,
This being my Life,
To See myself in You
Image and Likeness,
Without amalgamation.

I am First of all
A WORD of Yours,
Inscribed in You, the BOOK OF LIFE,
Which You then UTTER
And *Bestow upon me.*

It BEATS within my Being
The DIVINE WORD,
HEART of GOD.

And when I Hear It,
My Heart too
Responds in the Same way.

O Mystery of UTTERANCE,
The Mystery of BIRTH!

You have UTTERED me,
And I Utter You!

When I *shall come to HEAR THE UTTERANCE*
From which I was Born,
Then I too, JESUS, shall become
"THE SAME BODY" with You.

3
LORD JESUS CHRIST,
ICON from Heaven and from Earth,
You are the IMAGE
Through which all things were made.

The Mystery of GODHEAD
Is the Mystery of Your BIRTH,

From the FATHER the One with no beginning.
And the Mystery of the World
Is Your Birth,
Also into an Image of Creation,
GOD and Creation
In the same measure.

The IMAGE of GOD THE FATHER
Is beyond our Seeing,
But Your IMAGE of SON
Opens for us also
A Window of Mystery.

O IMAGE of ICON,
Of GOD and of Creation,
Of Heaven and of Earth,
IMAGE and LIKENESS,
To You is due
WORSHIP!

4
DIVINITY opens
The DOOR toward the World
Through the IMAGE of His SON,
And the World too opens a Door
Through which GOD IS SEEN,
The Image of the VIRGIN MOTHER

With the DIVINE CHILD in her Arms,
The MYSTERY of the Icon of Creation.

Before this ICON
Both Heaven and Earth at once,
Bow in WORSHIP
And through it, all things
ENCOUNTER each other at once.

The VIRGIN-MOTHER
Is the ICON of the World,
The CHILD CHRIST
Is the ICON of GOD
And their ENCOUNTER of MYSTERY
Gives the World the DIVINE GARMENT.
*

In You there is the ICON from Above
For You Bear in Your Arms
The DIVINE JESUS,
In You there is the Icon from Below,
Of Earth,
And thus in Your ICON there are
Both GOD and Creation, together.

O IMAGE of the ICON
of the MOTHER OF GOD,

You **open** for me

The DOOR toward GOD,

Who INCARNATES in the World,

So that I too may be **Incarnated**

In GOD as well.

Man and woman

A CERTAIN WORD of Yours,
IMAGE of the SON of GOD,
From His "RIB-NATURE"
Creates also a Certain Image of my Soul,
Image of Created Being.

And if the Image of the SON of GOD
Is out front,
The Image of Adam-Man is Born;
And if the Image of Creation is out front,
The Image of Eve-Woman is Born.

Thus, we have both a DIVINE Image and one of Creation,
Which are the Archimages of our Being,
Which then Configure us
As Centres of Personality,
Man or Woman, who are in equality.

Love is the Image of Icon in Itself,
The Icon of God the Father for His Son,
Through the Holy Spirit, Love also for His Son.

Divine Life is in the Love of God the Father for the Son,
And the Heart of the Son and of the Holy Spirit Beat together with that of the

Father,
And the Icon of the Father's Love is Their Unique Icon.

The Life of Creation is in the Heart of the Mother, also for the Son,
The Heart of the Mother being Likeness of the Heart of the Father,
A Worship that Descends and Ascends without ceasing...

Adam is Image over the Image of Creation,
Eve, coming forth from his rib, the Child of Adam's Heart,
From where Eve has in her Heart the Rib-Child of Adam.

Adam does not make a wedding of pleasure with Eve;
Adam Gives his SON from the Image of the Father,
And Eve receives in her Heart the Son through Adam.

The Joy of the Encounter between Adam and Eve is not a simple pleasure,
It is the Sacerdotal Ritual of the Descent of the Son into Incarnation,
Through Adam the Priest, in the Church Eve, the Son-Eucharist being Born.

Through the Son-Eucharist, Adam and Eve Encounter one another as Communion,
Not each being absorbed into his or her own singular Heart,
For that would mean the killing of the Eucharist-Son Himself.

Adam is the Sacerdotal who bears within Himself the Power-Seed of the Eucharist,

And Eve is the Church-Chalice, the Altar-Heart of the Eucharistic Son,
And Adam and Eve Together Serve the Incarnation of the Eucharistic Son.

Adam is not "Eve's man", but the Priest, direct Image of God
And Eve is not Adam's "woman" but the Church of the Incarnation of God
And, together, they do not practice debauchery, but the Liturgy of the Eucharist of the Son.

Therefore, after the fall from Paradise, Adam falls from Priesthood,
And Eve falls from the Icon-Church Image,
And their Service becomes a desacralized game without the Eucharistic Son, who is forgotten.

Poor Adam, from Priest he becomes a theatre actor,
And Eve becomes a witch who steals Adam's Priesthood
Making herself the priestess of a magic that slaughters the Eucharistic Child.

Horrible transformation of the Divine Liturgy into the murder of the Son! ...
When Eve is the priestess, Adam's very Life is Sacrificed,
And Adam's Son is killed, and the blood is thrown into the trash...

Therefore, after the fall, the Christ the Great Archpriest comes
And restores the true Priesthood, which is the Sign of the Son,
Restoring, at once, the true Church Icon of the Mother of God.

With the Restoration of the Church as Icon of the Mother of God,
The witchcraft of the priestess-magic is abolished,

And the true Eucharistic Liturgy, through Christ the Resurrected One, is served.

The Christic Liturgy is no longer Bloody Sacrifice
Eve no longer kills the Son of God,
Instead, the Son of God Resurrects the Mother-Church herself.

If Eve has the Calling to give Birth to the SON of GOD,
And the fall makes her a killer of this Calling,
The Son of God Himself comes to re-birth Eve as the Mother of God.

"Mother of God, through You the Restoration of Creation is accomplished,
Through the Christic Incarnation you have again become the Heavenly Mother-Church,
Who Re-births Creation unto eternal Life!"

"Mother of God, You have Re-born the lost Icon-Image ,
You have Re-born the Church of the Son of God,
I Bow before Your Icon, for You truly Bear God in Your Arms."

Woman, you are the Church of Adam's Priesthood,
The Calling of the Incarnation of the Son of God through Adam,
Do not be the murderer of your own Church and of God and of Adam.
Woman, do not kill Adam's Priesthood through your witchcraft,
Adam, do not kill Eve's Church through your desacralization,
Both of you, be Church and Priesthood of the Incarnation of the Son!

The plenitude of a woman's Love is not the man, but the Son,
And the plenitude of a man's Love is likewise the Son.
In the "absence" of the Son there is killing and fornication.

And the Plenitude of Creation is the Love for God,
And in the "absence" of the Love for God hatred–negation appears,
In the "absence" of God, Creation Self-annihilates.

HESYCHASM, Seeing through the grace-filled LIGHT

I try to behold
Just for a moment, Your FACE ...
My eyes of Creation,
In the DIVINE RADIANCE,
Can no longer see...

You, O LORD, always say to me:
"My LOVE is
To REVEAL My FACE.

Do not close your Eyes,
Try to see Me,
The JOY of LOVE is
In the GAZE of the Eyes.

If only you knew what JOY there is
In the IMAGE of the One beheld,
Forever you would stand with your Eyes open."

But, O LORD, I cannot behold You,
Your RADIANCE blinds Me...
Place Your GRACE
Between me and You,
Which even this

Is so RADIANT
That I fall at Your feet,
And only from time to time
Do I lift my Eyes upward,
And almost blinded by LIGHT,
I lower them again,
With the DIVINE LONGING for You,
Which again and again makes me
Dare have a glance...

Created Nature "melts"
Before the FACE of the UNCREATED,
And only through GRACE can be beheld
Those things BEYOND Creation.

LIKENESS, Fruit of the IMAGE

A CERTAIN WORD of Yours,
SON of GOD,
Has Created Each of us,
IMAGE and LIKENESS.

The WORD, Your IMAGE,
Is sealed upon the Created Image,
And each of us are
Between two Natures,
Between the SUPRA-NATURE of the CREATOR IMAGE
And Created Nature,
Without amalgamation.

IMAGE and LIKENESS.

Each of us is like a TREE
Of its own Nature,
But with Roots
In the IMAGE of GOD,
And the FRUIT of the TREE
Is this UNIFICATION,
IMAGE and LIKENESS.

The Nature of the TREE withers
Without the IMAGE of GOD,
And only at once,
Without amalgamation,
Are Life and FRUIT,
IMAGE and LIKENESS.

AKATHISTS

The Akathist of Repentance

Read as a rule, individually.

Kontakion 1

LORD, I have fallen from Your LOVE and have sunk into my passions, into the outer darkness, where I stand separated from You; yet, LORD, I cannot be without You, I cannot forget You, so that from my corruption I cry out:
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Ikos 1

Lord, I, Your Creation, am the BEARER OF Your IMAGE, and my Life is to Mirror this DIVINE IMAGE through my own IMAGE, to make It Grow within me and to be in Your LIKENESS; but I have fallen into sin, I have buried myself in my passions and I have darkened Your IMAGE.

Lord, forgive me, for I have **fallen from Your IMAGE**;
Lord, forgive me, for I have "emptied" myself of Your IMAGE;
Lord, forgive me, for I have sinned;
Lord, forgive me, for I cannot stand separated from You;
Lord, forgive me, for blinded with corruption, I no longer SEE You;
Lord, forgive me, **I shall cry throughout Eternity, forgive me**;
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Kontakion 2

There is no "erasing of sin"; it cannot be erased by anything, for it is the "killing of the DIVINE IMAGE", and only You, LORD, can **PASS OVER** it with Your **"FORGIVENESS"** and I, only with my **"PROSTRATION,"** in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 2

I shall "be a sinner unto Eternity", but You also with Your FORGIVENESS shall CLOTHE me unto Eternity, and only my PROSTRATION shall be my EYE, through which I shall SEE You and shall LOVE You.

Lord, forgive me, for I have opened the "chasm" of sin;
Lord, forgive me, for I have extinguished the "LIGHT";
Lord, forgive me, for I have "corrupted" Your INCORRUPTION;
Lord, forgive me, for what You have Created, I have killed;
Lord, forgive me, for I have given birth to the "shadow of death";
Lord, forgive me, for instead of LOVE, I have kindled the "fire of hell";
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Kontakion 3

The FULFILLMENT of Life is that I too may **RESPOND** to You in the LIKENESS of Your DIVINE IMAGE, but I, "empty of IMAGE", do all things "without image" and sink into corruption; yet I do not "despair", but "I CRY so as to shatter Earth and Heaven and the things beneath":
FORGIVE me, ALLELUIA!

Ikos 3

There **hangs suspended** the "**BALANCE of Eternity**"; on one side is "**my sin**" with its temporality and corruption, and on the other Your **FORGIVENESS** and my PROSTRATION, and they are weighed in "balance".

Lord, forgive me, for I continually sin;
Lord, forgive me, for I continually fall into my deception;
Lord, forgive me, for I run to You still;
Lord, forgive me, for toward You I yet "**dare**";
Lord, forgive me, for only **PROSTRATION** has remained to me;
Lord, forgive me, for only "CRYING OUT" can I still do;
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Kontakion 4

LORD, **let me not go in the "hell where I shall not be able to PROSTRATE"**, in the hell where "I shall no longer be able to CRY OUT for Your FORGIVENESS", but in the "**hell of FORGIVENESS**", unto the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 4

Ineffable is the IMAGE of DIVINE LOVE, which can be erased by nothing, which moreover has the **Mystery of FORGIVENESS and PROSTRATION**, through which again, LORD, we may "**ENCOUNTER one another**".

Lord, forgive me, for I do not "despair";
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, I still **"dare";**
Lord, forgive me, for I place Your LOVE BEFORE;

Lord, forgive me, for I "cling" to my PROSTRATION;
Lord, forgive me, for I "rebel from within my own hell";
Lord, forgive me, for **I "cry out until I shatter myself";**
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Kontakion *5*

The fallen angel, the devil, can no longer "PROSTRATE", and "in his own eternal darkness he shall so remain", but **MAN** has precisely "**Eternal PROSTRATION, even within eternal guilt**", in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA**!

Ikos *5*

Fearsome is the "cry from hell of sin" and the "consuming Cry of WORSHIP", and both move the "**BALANCE of Eternity**".

Lord, forgive me, I shall cry without ceasing;
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin I still PROSTRATE only to You;
Lord, forgive me, I cry out from my suffering;
Lord, forgive me, my only "All-Holy WORD";
Lord, forgive me, my only "IMAGE of LIGHT";
Lord, forgive me, **ICON of my last salvation;**
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Kontakion 6

Sin cannot "kill" the Eternity of DIVINE LOVE, but at the "boundary of FORGIVENESS" it stops, and the "nakedness" is covered by the "FIRE of WORSHIP", in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA**!

Ikos 6

"The sin halted in Eternity" by the Saints and by the FORGIVEN has itself a Mystery of its own, for it becomes "**Eternal non-sinning**", an "**impassable boundary, without a second fall into sin**", the ENTRY into the "**Endless LOVE that no longer looks back**".

Lord, forgive me, for in Your FORGIVENESS I also Hope;
Lord, forgive me, for in **Your FORGIVENESS I BELIEVE**;
Lord, forgive me, and help me too "**to halt the sin within myself**";
Lord, forgive me, for toward the Eternity of LOVE I still run;
Lord, forgive me, I cry out from the "hell of my sin";
Lord, forgive me, **I cry out so that no one can stop me;**
Lord, forgive me, for beyond my sin, to You I still PROSTRATE!

Kontakion 7

LORD, LORD, LORD, the **THRICE-NAMED** of **DIVINE LOVE**, the **THRICE-FUL FORGIVENESS**: the **LOVE of the FATHER**, the **MERCY of the HOLY SPIRIT**, and the **PROSTRATION of the SON**, to **You we sing: ALLELUIA!**

(This kontakion is repeated three times.)

Then **Ikos 1** and **Kontakion 1** are read again.

Akathist of the Guardian Angel

(To be read individually as Prayer Rule, daily or at least once a week)

Usual Beginning

Kontakion 1

To the Angelic Image we bring due Veneration, through You, Guardian Angel, who descends from those ABOVE to us below, so that Heaven and Earth may Encounter one another, and thus we sing:

Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Ikos 1

Heaven is the Angelic Image, and Earth is the Human Image, which in the IMAGE of CHRIST UNITE, and thus all Creation Speaks with the CREATOR Himself.

Holy Angel, at my Birth You Chose me;
Holy Angel, at my Birth You Asked the LORD for me to be entrusted to You;
Holy Angel, You have won me to be Obedient to You;
Holy Angel, with Your Heavenly Strength You empowered me;
Holy Angel, with Your Love You Clothed me;
Holy Angel, in Your Arms You took me from the HANDS of GOD;

Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontakion 2

From my Mother's Womb You have Cared for me and have always spoken to

me in Mystery about the those ABOVE, and from then on I have known to sing with You: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 2

You have Taught me so many things in my life, and as a Child You have Raised me, so that I might also Know the CREATOR of all.

Holy Angel, You knew I would sin in my life;
Holy Angel, yet You still Believed in my Return;
Holy Angel, Love that never diminishes with anything;
Holy Angel, Zealous to win me for the LORD;
Holy Angel, Relentless in drawing me out of evil;
Holy Angel, Protector in every moment;
Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontakion 3

How is it that You, Brighter than the Sun, Come to me, the earthly and dark one?... O, Love of Heaven, it is only fitting that I also sing with Love:
ALLELUIA!

Ikos 3

O, Most Patient Holy Angel, You are not disgusted by the pettiness of my Mind, by the insensitivity of my Heart, and by all my passions and weaknesses.

Holy Angel, Heavenly Mercy on Earth;
Holy Angel, Patience from ABOVE without limit;
Holy Angel, Unshakable Faith for my SALVATION;

Holy Angel, Hope in the Correction of Man;
Holy Angel, Intercessor for the Forgiveness of sins;
Holy Angel, the most sure Helper;
Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontakion 4

Great is the GIFT that You Angels are for us, People, because due to sin with its heavy deceptions, we are ambushed at every step and, through You, these are scattered, so that we may sing: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 4

Help me too, Holy Guardian Angel, not to remain in my passions, and Pray to the Most Good GOD to be Merciful to me.

Holy Angel, Guarding me Day and night;
Holy Angel, Witnessing all my deeds;
Holy Angel, often saddened by me;
Holy Angel, covering Your Eyes to my corruption;
Holy Angel, endure my shamelessness;
Holy Angel, never casting me away from Your Face;
Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontakion *5*

You have always urged me to become a true Believer, to perform my Obedience and duties wholeheartedly, to leave behind all deceit and wickedness, so that I may Chant: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos *5*

O, my Holy Angel, how You would wish to see me in the true Image that GOD has GIVEN me, and how You would Rejoice to see me follow Your Bidding!

Holy Angel, thank You for Your Heavenly Love;
Holy Angel, Your Faith that I too will be Saved burns me;
Holy Angel, Your Expectation that I will Repent pains me;
Holy Angel, Your Forgiveness overwhelms me;
Holy Angel, through You I truly see myself;
Holy Angel, I realize who I am;
Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontakion 6

The days pass and I approach the grave, and I see the "nakedness" of my Life and I am terrified, You, my Holy Angel, being my encouragement, through the Chanting of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 6

The world of ETERNITY is "fire and burning," and what shall remain of me, the corrupt one? Holy Angel, be with me always.

Holy Angel, what shall I do for I lack the FULFILMENT of Life;
Holy Angel, how can I remain Fruitless;
Holy Angel, how can I pass into ETERNITY without the "GARMENT of Immortality";
Holy Angel, I fear I will not be received;
Holy Angel, I tremble before the Right Judgment;

Holy Angel, I am deeply ashamed;
Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontac 7

O, my Holy Angel, from the HANDS of GOD You took me, to TAKE me to GOD, as one bold in spirit, through the singing of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 7

If You, my Holy Angel, "Clothe" me with Your Image, then I too will be able to cross the "boundary of redemption."

Holy Angel, do not return to Heaven without me;
Holy Angel, do not leave me among the lost;
Holy Angel, Pray more than ever for me;
Holy Angel, Ask GOD for my Forgiveness;
Holy Angel, through Your Holiness let me fulfil my life's journey;
Holy Angel, through Your Love I reach the haven;
Holy Guardian Angel, Spiritual Joy!

Kontac 8

O, my Holy Guardian Angel, Love descended from Heaven, lift me, the earthly one, to the KINGDOM of GOD, as the ultimate FULFILMENT so that I too may Chant: ALLELUIA!

(Repeat 3 times.)

Then recite again **Ikos 1** and **Kontakion 1**.

Akathist of the Holy COMMUNION

*(*To be read before HOLY COMMUNION and also more often, as *an Akathist addressed directly to the LORD JESUS CHRIST)*

After the usual beginning is said:

Kontakion 1

From before the Ages, through Your IMAGE, the SON and WORD of GOD, You Conceived and Fashioned all things, and then You Yourself, BEING INCARNATE, in Your DIVINE BODY You Transfigured the World: JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are Fulfilled!

Ikos 1

If it were not for Your DIVINE BODY, LORD JESUS, and if the World did not COMMUNE from IT, it would **remain in the darkness** below and would **never See nor** Encounter **its MAKER**.

JESUS, DIVINE BODY of the World;
JESUS, ENCOUNTER between GOD and the World;
JESUS, DIVINE BODY, the crossing beyond the "impassable boundary";
JESUS, Revelation of Those Beyond every Manifestation;
JESUS, DIVINITY which even into a World Pours Itself;
JESUS, DOOR Opened from GOD Himself;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 2

How can He Who is in the absolute Uncontainable also **Fit within Containment?** Behold the impenetrable Mystery, through which You, the SON of GOD, are at once, so that the World may Stand FACE TO FACE with GOD, in the Chanting of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 2

In the Beginning was the WORD and the WORD became FLESH, through Him the World was Fashioned and in Him **all things are UNITED, in the** DIVINE **BODY.**

JESUS, DIVINE IMAGE of the World;
JESUS, WORD Who became FLESH;
JESUS, Doubled LOVE;
JESUS, DIVINE LOVE and the LOVE of the World;
JESUS, Mystery through which all things were Created;
JESUS, You Yourself then BECAME INCARNATE;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 3

Who can utter the Mystery through which You, the SON of GOD, SHOW Yourself also in the Image of the World, and more still, how You Took its Body, except in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 3

O, DIVINE LOVE, how do You also Pour Yourself into a Love of Creation? O JESUS, TWO LOVES at once UNITED in Your DIVINE BODY!

JESUS, DIVINITY holding Creation in Its Arms;
JESUS, also Creation Embraced by GOD;
JESUS, at once the DIVINE SON and the SON of the World;
JESUS, GIFT descended from Those Beyond;
JESUS, and the Gift of Creation;
JESUS, DIVINE BODY – GIFT RECEIVED in Eternity;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY, Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 4

You have Created Heaven and Earth, the Angels and the countless Creatures, and You CHOSE Man to be the Image of Your INCARNATION, in the great Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 4

Heaven and Earth You UNITED in the Image of Paradise, so as then to make it Your BODY – the TREE OF LIFE, but Man fell into sin and Paradise was lost.

JESUS, CREATOR of Heaven and Earth;
JESUS, He Who Descended from Those BEYOND;
JESUS, He Who Raises the World to Those Above;
JESUS, Window from GODHEAD Itself;
JESUS, and the Window of the World toward GOD;
JESUS, Double VISION beyond the "absolute boundary";
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion *5*

The making of Heaven and Earth was as a **fore-announcement** of Your INCARNATION, and thus the Mystery beyond all utterance is confirmed through You, LORD JESUS, that all may Sing: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos *5*

The WORD through which You Created all things also held within It the ANNOUNCEMENT of Your INCARNATION, and behold, the "WORD that becomes FLESH" is the FULFILLMENT.

JESUS, He Who makes the World Your BODY;
JESUS, and the LOVE of the World that can be at once with GOD;
JESUS, He Who also GIVES Creation the IMAGE of ADOPTION;
JESUS, crossing beyond the "Double Nature";
JESUS, Unseen and the Seen at once;
JESUS, ALTAR between the "Two Worlds" which otherwise cannot Encounter one another;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 6

The whole Mystery of the World is the Mystery of the DIVINE BODY, for through IT everything Begins and everything Ends, and all that is Born **in Its Eternity is GATHERED**, in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 6

All that is Created Prefigures the DIVINE BODY, and all Creation is

CLOTHED in Its IMAGE, and in It they are UNITED at the "LAST SUPPER of MYSTERY."

JESUS, LAST SUPPER of the DIVINITY;
JESUS, LAST SUPPER, that is, the **ultimate FULFILLMENT** of all;
JESUS, DIVINE FEAST of Your INCARNATION in the World;
JESUS, ENTRY into Eternity also for the World;
JESUS, **RECEPTION of the World "Beside" GOD;**
JESUS, endless JOY of Creation to be Face to Face with GOD;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 7

"*Take, Eat, this is My BODY... Drink, this is My BLOOD*"... is the **GREAT WORD** from Heaven and Earth, the BOOK OF LIFE which becomes the TREE OF LIFE and then the **"DIVINE BREAD**," for the Chanting of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 7

"*If you do not Eat the BODY of the SON OF MAN and do not Drink His BLOOD, you will not have LIFE in you*" is the awe-inspiring CALL for all of us.

JESUS, FIRST WORD;
JESUS, BOOK OF LIFE from Heaven;
JESUS, TREE OF LIFE from Paradise;
JESUS, BIRTH from the VIRGIN, with BODY;
JESUS, INCARNATE One – BREAD of LIFE;

JESUS, the Crucified and RISEN One, the BODY OF COMMUNION;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 8

The whole Making of the World, its Life and Growth, is the "WORKING OF THE DIVINE BODY," and all things move toward INCARNATION in It and are UNITED in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 8

If the BOOK OF LIFE does not become the TREE OF LIFE, and if it does not Bear the Fruit of the INCARNATION from the VIRGIN, the DIVINE BODY is not FULFILLED.

JESUS, the very PURPOSE of the World;
JESUS, the very DIVINE WORK in His Creation;
JESUS, You were not "stopped" by sin;
JESUS, through the CROSS You conquered sin;
JESUS, Who is only TRUE in the DIVINE BODY;
JESUS, Who is only the SON of GOD and of the WORLD when INCARNATE;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 9

"*FATHER GOD, behold, all that is Thine from Thine Own*" was and is **the GREAT UTTERANCE**, through which also **the ALL HOLY SPIRIT** Descends toward the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 9

Everything in Heaven and on Earth is **the LITURGY OF THE REALIZATION of Your DIVINE BODY**, JESUS, and *the HOLY SPIRIT Himself comes to ACCOMPLISH It*, Gathering all the Creation of the World.

JESUS, You burned sin;
JESUS, You Transformed the World again into its first Image;
JESUS, LOVE that wiped out deadly evil;
JESUS, You did not deprive us of Your DIVINE BODY;
JESUS, BREAD OF LIFE, more than "heavenly manna";
JESUS, SAVIOR and Eternity of Creation;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 10

The LIFE from Heaven and Earth is the "LITURGY of Your DIVINE BODY," and if one Day this were to "cease," then the World would perish, for only in this there is LIFE and the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 10

Come all to the LITURGY OF THE DIVINE BODY of CHRIST, come to the Source of Immortality and the FULFILMENT of Eternity.

JESUS, One together with the HOLY SPIRIT, LITURGY OF DIVINE LOVE;
JESUS and HOLY SPIRIT, MERCY from Eternity;
JESUS and HOLY SPIRIT, do not leave us in the darkness below;
JESUS and HOLY SPIRIT, Give us the never-setting LIGHT;
JESUS and HOLY SPIRIT, do not be disgusted by our impurities;

JESUS and HOLY SPIRIT, **RECEIVE us** also into the DIVINE BODY;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 11

Who is worthy to COMMUNE of the DIVINE BODY? O JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, only through YOUR **MERCY** from the ALTAR can we "TOUCH" It, in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 11

The COMMUNION with the DIVINE BODY is not for this World, but **for the FUTURE** and Eternal World; yet You give us the "EARNEST" of it so that we may also ENTER Those Most High.

JESUS, Who as the DIVINE BODY is the TRUE CHRIST of the World;
JESUS, Crucified as **the SAVIOR**;
JESUS, **Risen** as the Deified Creation;
JESUS, Who as the DIVINE BODY **UNITES** all things;
JESUS, Who as the DIVINE BODY is the **ICON** of ABOVE and Below;
JESUS, Who as the DIVINE BODY is also the **Eternalisation of the World**;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 12

LORD JESUS CHRIST, even I, the sinner, only have LIFE in Your BODY; so do not deprive me of the **UNION** with You, so that Your WORK may be FULFILLED in me as well, in the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

Ikos 12

O ALL HOLY SPIRIT, Who through the BODY of CHRIST also Descends "over and into" the World, be MERCIFUL to me as well, so that I may PROSTRATE in Eternity.

JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, LITURGY of the DIVINE BODY;
JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, LOVE of Eternity;
JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, AFFECTION in which all things are UNITED;
JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, consume also my sins;
JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, do not deprive me of the Ultimate UNION;
JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, **Kneeling, I COMMUNE**;
JESUS, in Your DIVINE BODY Beginning and End are fulfilled!

Kontakion 13

The TREASURE of Heaven and Earth, O DIVINE BODY of Your LITURGY, JESUS and ALL HOLY SPIRIT, with PROSTRATION we humbly offer ourselves, so that we may also become worthy of the Great MERCY of COMMUNION, and so BEFORE GOD THE FATHER we may Stand in the Eternity of the Chant of: **ALLELUIA!**

(This kontakion is repeated three times.)

Then again, **Ikos 1** and **Kontakion 1** are read.