The Liturgy of Malabar (Neale translation)

Liturgy of Malabar (ancient)

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The Liturgy of Malabar

The Priest advances with the Deacon to the Altar. Priest. Glory to God in the highest. Deacon. Amen. Priest. Glory to God in the highest. Deacon. Amen. Priest and Deacon. And on earth peace, and a good hope to men. Our FATHER, Which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name: Holy, Holy, Holy: Our FATHER, Which art in heaven, heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory, and Angels and men exclaim to Thee, Holy, Holy, Holy. Our FATHER, Which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name: Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven: Give us this day the bread of our necessity: And forgive us our sins, as we also forgive our debtors: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Priest. Strengthen, O LORD GOD, our infirmity by Thy mercy, that we may minister in Thy holy Sacraments, given for the salvation and renewal of our nature, through the love of Thy most dearly beloved SON, O LORD of all things, FATHER, SON and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Amen. Priest. Adored and glorified, honoured and exalted, lauded and blessed in heaven and in earth, be the glorious Name of Thy most resplendent TRINITY, at all times, O LORD of all things, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Amen. The Priest and Deacon say alternately, Psalm 15, 150, and 117. Priest. Glory be to the FATHER, and to the SON, and to the HOLY GHOST, from ages to ages. Amen and Amen. Deacon. Set me, O LORD, with pure thoughts before Thy altar. Priest. LORD, who shall dwell in Thy tabernacle, and who shall rest upon Thy holy hill? How glorious and lovely is Thy sanctuary, GOD, the Sanctifier of all things!

Deacon. Peace be with us. Priest. Before the exceeding glorious throne of Thy Majesty, my LORD, and the lofty and supreme seat of Thy domination, and the Altar of expiation, which Thy will hath fixed in the place of the habitation of Thy glory, we Thy people, and the sheep of Thy pasture, with the thousands of Seraphin that praise Thee, and the ten thousands of Angels and Archangels that minister to Thee, bend our knees before Thee, and ever adore and glorify FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, to ages of ages. To the Name of Thy ever-glorious TRINITY, great, formidable, holy, laudable and incomprehensible; also to Thy mercy which Thou hast manifested towards our race, we are bound to return continual thanks, and to attribute laud and adoration: O LORD of all things, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. R. Amen. F Priest. Thee, the LORD of all things, we praise: Thee, JESUS

CHRIST, we glorify; because Thou art the raiser up of our bodies, and the most holy Saviour of our souls: I have washed my hands in innocency, O LORD, and have surrounded Thine Altar.

Deacon. Thee, the LORD of all things. (As the Priest, who then repeats it again.) Deacon. Peace be with us all. Priest. Thou art truly my LORD, and the raiser up of our bodies, and the good Saviour of our souls, and the constant Keeper of our life: and it is meet that we should laud and glorify Thee at all times, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Amen. Priest. LORD, our GOD, when the most sweet odour of Thy goodness and love shall breathe upon us, and when our souls shall have been enlightened with the splendour of Thy truth, then we shall meet Thy most beloved SON Who shall be revealed from heaven, and in Thy Church, already honoured with the crown, shall praise Thee incessantly, for Thou art the LORD and Creator of all things, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Amen. Bring your voices, and praise, O all ye people, the Living GOD.

Priest. Holy GOD, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy upon us. Glory be to the FATHER, and to the SON, and to the HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Holy GOD, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy upon us. Priest. From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen. Deacon. Holy GOD, &c. Priest, turning to the people. Let us all stand in order, and with joy and gladness let us seek and say, People. O our LORD, have mercy upon us. (And so at the end of every petition.) Deacon. FATHER of Mercies and GOD of all Consolation, we beseech Thee. Our Saviour, the Dispenser of our salvation, and the Captain of all things, we, &c. For the peace and unity and well-being of the whole world, and of all Churches: For the healthfulness of the air, the richness of the year and its provisions, and the beauty of the whole world:

For our holy Fathers, our Patriarch, the universal Pastor of the whole Catholic Church; and our Bishop, that they may enjoy good health: The merciful GOD Who governeth all things by His love: Him That is rich in mercy and Whose loving-kindness is shed abroad: Him That is good in His Essence, and the Giver of all gifts: Him That is glorious in heaven, and exceeding laudable upon earth: The Immortal Nature That inhabits that most glorious light, we beseech: Save us all, O CHRIST, our LORD and GOD, by Thy grace, and multiply in us peace and love, and have mercy upon us. Let us pray and beseech the LORD, the GOD of all, that He may hear the voice of our prayers, and listen to our supplications, and have mercy upon us. Let us pray also for the holy Catholic Church, which is spread over the whole orb of the world, that

F 2 the peace which is from GOD may remain in it till the consummation of all things: Let us pray also for the holy Fathers, our Bishops, that without blemish and complaint they may remain all the days of their life in the government of their Churches; but chiefly we are bound to pray for the safety of the Lord Patriarch, the Pastor of the whole Church, and the Lord Bishop of this Metropolis: let us pray that the LORD may keep them and preserve them at the head of their flocks, that they may feed and govern and prepare for the LORD a perfect people, zealous of all good works. Let us pray also for the Presbyters and Deacons

who are occupied in the ministry of the truth; that with a good heart and a pure conscience they may accomplish their ministry before GOD. Let us pray also for every holy and sober congregation of the sons of the holy Catholic Church, that they may accomplish the most excellent course of sanctity, and may receive the hope and promise of the LORD in the Land of the Living.

Let us commemorate the most Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of CHRIST and our Saviour. Let us pray that the HOLY GHOST, Who dwelt in her, may sanctify us by His grace, and accomplish His will in us, and sign His truth in us, all the days of our life. Let us venerate the memory of Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, and Confessors: let us pray that by their prayers and the passions which they endured, GOD may give to us with them a good hope and salvation; and that we may be made worthy of their blessed commemoration, and their living and true promises in the kingdom of heaven. Let us commemorate also our fathers and the doctors of truth, S. Nestorius, S. Diodorus, S. Theodore, S. Ephraim, S. Abraham, S. Narcissus, and all Doctors and Presbyters, followers after truth. Let us pray that by their prayers, the pure truth and the sincere doctrine which they taught may be preserved in the holy Church till the consummation of the world.

Let us remember also our fathers and our brethren who have departed out of this world in the orthodox faith; let us pray, I say, to the LORD that He may absolve them, and may forgive them their offences, and may vouchsafe that they, with all just and righteous men who have obeyed the Divine will, may rejoice for ever and ever. Also for this province and city, and for them that dwell therein, especially for this congregation: let us pray that the LORD by His grace may turn away from us sword, captivity, rapine, earthquake, famine, pestilence, and other things which are injurious to the soul and the body. For those also that have departed from the true faith, and are held in captivity by the net of Satan: let us pray that the LORD GOD may convert their hearts, and that they may verily acknowledge GOD the true FATHER, and His SON, JESUS CHRIST, our LORD.

Let us pray also for the sick: and especially for them who are vexed with cruel diseases, and are tried by most evil spirits: we pray that the LORD our GOD may send to them His holy Angel of love and salvation, and may visit and heal and help them, through the greatness of His grace and mercy. Also for the poor, orphans, widows, and afflicted; and them that suffer persecution: let us pray that the LORD may govern them by His grace, and nourish and console them by His pity, and by His loving-kindness set them free from them that do violence to them. Pray and beseech the love of the GOD of all, that we may be to Him a kingdom, a priesthood, and a holy people. Cry to the LORD, the Mighty GOD, with all your heart, and with all your soul, for GOD is a tender FATHER, and merciful and clement, and willeth not that His handywork should perish, but rather should be converted and live. But above all things it is fit and meet that we should pray to, land and adore, glory and honour, and exalt the One GOD, the FATHER, the LORD of all, most worthy of adoration, Who by CHRIST hath made to us a good hope and salvation for our souls, that He may accomplish His grace and love in us even to the end.

While the Deacon saith these things, the Priest, standing in the middle of the Altar, taketh the Paten; and the Deacon giving incense, and holding the Thurible with both hands, he censeth it in the form of a Cross, saying, LORD, our GOD, cause this paten to have a sweet-smelling savour, after the pattern of Aaron, the most illustrious Priest in the tabernacle of testimony, Thou That art the Creator and the LORD of the roots and spices that breathe a sweet odour, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Amen. Then he censeth the Veil of the Chalice, and saith: LORD, our GOD, cause this veil to have a sweet savour, after the fashion of the mantle wherewith Elias, the prophet of truth, clothed himself; in the Name. Then he censeth the Chalice, and saith: LORD, our GOD, cause this chalice to send forth a sweet smell, after the fashion of Aaron the Priest in the tabernacle of witness, Thou Who art the Creator of roots and spices that breathe forth a sweet odour, in the Name.

Then he poureth wine into the Chalice, and saith: Let the precious Blood of our LORD JESUS CHRIST be mingled in the chalice. He poureth in water, and saith: One of the soldiers came, and with a spear pierced the side of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and forthwith came thereout Blood and Water, and he that saw it bare record, and his record is true. Again pouring in wine, he saith: Let water be mingled with wine and wine with water, in the Name of he FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Then he saith: Expecting I expected the LORD, the Body of CHRIST, and His precious Blood on the holy Altar. Let us all offer it with fear and honour, and with the Angels let us exclaim, Holy, Holy, Holy, is our LORD GOD. Deacon. The poor shall eat and be satisfied of the Body of CHRIST and His precious Blood upon the holy Altar: let us all offer it with fear and honour, and with Angels let us exclaim, Holy, Holy, Holy, is our LORD GOD.

Let us pray. Peace be with us. Priest, (secretly.) Let glory be offered and immolated to Thy ever-glorious TRINITY, for ages of ages: and may CHRIST Who was offered as an oblation for our salvation, and has commanded us that we should sacrifice in memory of His Passion, Death, Sepulture, and Resurrection, receive this sacrifice from our hands, through His grace and His love, for ever and ever.

He puts the Holy Gifts on the Altar.

Let these exceeding glorious, holy, and life-giving mysteries be constituted and ordained upon the holy Altar of CHRIST, until the glorious Advent from heaven of the Same, to Whom is laud, glory, and adoration now and at all times, and to ages of ages. (Aloud.) Glory be to the FATHER, and to the SON, and to the HOLY GHOST. Be there a commemoration upon the holy Altar of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of CHRIST. Deacon. From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen. Apostles of the very SON, friends of the Only-Begotten, pray ye that there may be peace in the creation. Priest. Let all the people say Amen and Amen. Be Thy commemoration, Apostle Thomas, our holy father, upon the holy Altar, together with the just who have conquered, and the martyrs who have received the crown. Deacon. The Mighty God is with us, our FATHER is with us, our Angel and our Helper, the God of Jacob.

Priest. Little ones, with the elders, behold all the faithful have fallen on sleep in a good hope, who have paid the debt of humanity. By Thy exceeding glorious resurrection, Thou shalt raise them up to Thy glory. Deacon. Pour forth before him your hearts in prayer, fasting and penitence. They have made propitiation to CHRIST, the FATHER, and His SPIRIT. The Priest saith, while he covereth the Oblations, Thou coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, and stretchest out the heavens like a curtain, now and ever, and to ages of ages. While the Priest washeth his hands the Deacon saith: By the prayer and supplication of the Angels of peace and of love we ask, People. From Thee, O LORD. Deacon. Night and day, and all the days of our life, we ask for eternal peace to Thy Church, and a life without sins, People. From Thee, O LORD.

Deacon. Remission of sins, and that which may be profitable to our life, and may appease His Divinity, we ask, People. From Thee, O LORD. Deacon. The mercies of the LORD, and His benignity, ever and at all times we ask, People. From Thee, O LORD. Deacon. Ourselves and our souls let us commend to the FATHER, the SON, and the HOLY GHOST. People. To Thee, O LORD GOD. Priest. We pray and beseech Thee, LORD GOD, the Mighty, perfect in us Thy grace, and by our hands pour forth Thy gifts and love, and the tender mercy of Thy Divinity; and let them be to the propitiation of the debts of Thy people, and to the remission of all the sins of the sheep of Thy pasture, which, by grace and Thy love, Thou hast chosen to Thyself: of all, O LORD, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Amen. Bow down your heads for the imposition of hands and receive the blessing.

Priest (secretly). LORD, Mighty GOD, Thine is the holy Catholic Church, purchased by the wonderful passion of Thy CHRIST: on the sheep of Thy flock, by the grace of the HOLY GHOST, Who is equal to Thee in most glorious Deity, the orders of true priesthood are conferred. Thou, my LORD, by Thy clemency, hast vouchsafed to the exiguity of the nature of our misery, that we men should become glorious members of that mighty body which is the Catholic Church, and by Thy ministry may confer on believing souls, spiritual helps. Do Thou therefore, my LORD, accomplish in us Thy grace, and pour forth by our hands, Thy gifts: let also Thy love be upon us, and the piety of Thy Deity upon this people which Thou hast chosen to Thyself. (Aloud.) Grant also, my LORD, through Thy mercy, that we all, in all the days of our life, may equally please Thy Deity by the best works of righteousness, which render us acceptable to the glorious will of Thy Majesty; and that in this manner we may be made worthy of the assistance of Thy grace, that we may ever offer to Thee, hymns, honour, laud, and adoration, LORD of all, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST.

[Expulsion of the Catechumens.]

Deacon, Amen. He that hath not received baptism let him depart. Choir. Amen. Deacon. He that hath not received the seal of life, let him depart. Choir. Amen. Deacon. He that hath not received it, let him depart. Priest. Go, auditors, and see the doors. Let us pray: peace be with us. Illuminate, O LORD our GOD, the motions of our thoughts, that we may listen to and understand the most sweet voice of Thy precepts, life-conferring and divine. Grant to us also by Thy grace and Thy loves, that from them we may gather advantage, that

is to say, love, hope, and salvation, as may be expedient to soul and to body, and that we may ever sing praise to Thee, without cessation, at all times, LORD of all things, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Amen. Priest. Thee, the most wise Governor and marvelous preserver of Thy servants, and great treasury whence every good thing and all help proceedeth from Thy mercy: we beseech Thee, turn Thee, O my LORD, and be propitious to us, and have mercy upon

us always, as Thou art accustomed, LORD of all, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. Keep silence. Paul the Apostle: the Epistle to the . . . . . my brethren: bless, my LORD. Priest. CHRIST bless thee. [The Epistle is read.] Choir. Glory to CHRIST the LORD. Priest, before the middle of the Altar, bowing: Thee, the splendour of the glory of the FATHER Himself, and the Image of the Substance of Him That begat Thee, Who didst appear in the body of our humanity, and didst illuminate our soul by the light of Thy life-giving Gospel, Thee, I say, we laud and adore and glorify at all times, LORD of all, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Make me wise, O LORD, with Thy holy wisdom, and grant to me that, without intermission and without spot, I may minister to Thee by the keeping of Thy Commandments, life-conferring and divine, LORD of all, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST.

Deacon. There is silence. Be silent. Priest. Peace be with us. Choir. With thee and with thy spirit. Deacon. The holy Gospel of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, the preaching of . . . . . Choir. Glory to CHRIST the LORD. Deacon. Bless, my LORD. Priest. CHRIST bless thee. Choir. Glory to CHRIST the LORD. The Nicene Creed is recited as at page 12. Deacon. Let us pray. Peace be with us. Pray, bearing in memory our fathers, the Catholics, and all Presbyters and Deacons, youths and virgins, and all the faithful who have departed from the living and are dead in the true faith. And all our fathers and brethren, and sons and daughters: also faithful kings beloved of CHRIST, and all Prophets, Apostles and Martyrs: let us pray, I say, that, in the resurrection from the dead, they may be rewarded by GOD with the crown, with a good hope, and the inheritance of the life of the kingdom of heaven: furthermore, that this oblation may be confidently received, that by the Word of GOD and the HOLY GHOST it may be consecrated, that it may be to us for help and salvation and eternal life in the kingdom of heaven, through the grace of CHRIST.

In the meanwhile the Priest saith secretly: Glory be to Thee, Finder of them that have perished: glory be to Thee, Collector of them that are dispersed, and Bringer-back of them that are afar off: glory to Thee Who convertest the wanderers to the knowledge of the truth. Glory to Thee, my LORD, Who hast called wretched me by Thy mercy and grace to approach to Thee, and hast made me, as it were, an illustrious member in the mighty body of the Holy Church, that I may offer to Thee this one, holy, and acceptable Sacrifice, which is the memorial of the Passion and Death, Sepulture and Resurrection of our LORD and Saviour, JESUS CHRIST, through Whom it pleased Thee to forgive the sins of all men. The Priest censeth those who are on the right of the Altar, and saith to them: Bless, my lords, and pray

for me, my fathers, and my brethren, and my masters, that this oblation may be consecrated by my hands.

They reply with the Deacon: May CHRIST hear thy prayers and receive thy oblation, and cause thy priesthood to shine before Him; and may He be well-pleased with this sacrifice which thou offerest for thyself, for us, and for all the world, from the least to the greatest, through Thy grace and love for ever and ever. Amen. The Priest adores, bowing before the Altar. Yea, O LORD our GOD, look not upon the multitude, nor let Thy domination be angry at the weight, of my sins; but by Thy ineffable grace consecrate this great sacrifice, and bestow it in virtue and power, that it may abolish our many sins: and when at the latter day Thou appearest in the human body which Thou didst assume of our race, we may find before Thee grace and love, and may be made worthy to praise Thee with the multitude of angels.

We confess and praise, LORD our GOD, the riches of Thy grace shed abroad over us; for when we were sinners and weak, Thou nevertheless, through the multitude of Thy mercy, didst make us worthy of the dispensation of the holy sacrament of the Body and Blood of CHRIST: we beseech therefore Thy help, the Strength of our souls, that with perfect love and true faith, we may administer Thy gift which we have, and may offer to Thee hymns, honour, laud and adoration, now and for ever. Deacon. Amen. Priest. Peace be with all. Deacon. With thee and with thy spirit. Priest. Give the peace to each other. And for Patriarchs, Bishops, Presbyters and Deacons, and for those who having accomplished this life, have departed out of this congregation of the Church; and for the peace of the world and the crown of the year, that it may be blessed and filled with Thy mercy: and for all Thy servants, and for us all, that this oblation be accepted for ever and ever.

Deacon. Let us confess, and let us all of us beseech the LORD with the voice of choral melody: stand fairly and attend to these things which are done in the tremendous mysteries which are consecrated: the Priest is praying that by his intercession peace may be multiplied in you: cast your eyes down to the ground, and vigilantly take care to raise your mind to heaven; seek and petition at this time, and let no one venture to speak; and he that prayeth, let him pray mentally, while he remaineth in silence and fear. Peace be with us. In the meanwhile the Priest saith: LORD, Mighty GOD, strengthen my weakness by Thy mercy, and make me worthy of the assistance of Thy grace, that I may offer to Thee an oblation for the benefit of all men, and to the praise of Thy exceeding glorious TRINITY, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, for ever.

He unveils the mysteries and blesses incense, and puts it in the censer, and saith:

[Beginning the Anaphora.]
The grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and the love of GOD the FATHER, and the communication of the HOLY GHOST, be with us all, now and for ever. Deacon. Amen. Priest. Lift up your hearts. Choir. To Thee, GOD of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, the exceeding glorious King. Priest. Up in the sublime heights, in the fearful and glorious region, where the

Cherubin cease not to agitate their wings, and there is no end to the hymns and the sweet sounds of the sanctification of the Seraphin, there be your minds. Choir. They are lifted up to Thee, GOD of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, King of Glory. Hence I gather the extreme antiquity of the Malabar Anaphora, clearly a much earlier form. Priest. The oblation is offered to the LORD, the GOD of all. Choir. It is meet and right. Peace be with us. Priest. LORD, Mighty GOD, give us boldness before Thee, that we may confidently perform this quickening and holy ministry with consciences pure, and free from all malice, simulation, and guilt, and bitterness, and sow in us, my LORD, charity and mutual unity of soul; and guard Thy holy Catholic Church here and everywhere, from everything noxious, from all fault and perturbation, by Thy grace and love for ever.

Choir. Bless, my LORD. Priest. By the mouth of all be it glorified, by the tongue of all be it praised, by all creatures be it worshipped and exalted, the adorable and exceeding glorious Name of the most illustrious TRINITY, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST, Who created the world and all that dwell therein by His goodness, and hath saved the sons of men by His loving-kindness, and hath shown great mercy to mortals. Thy Majesty, my LORD, is adored and venerated by thousand thousands of heavenly beings, and ten thousand times ten thousand of holy Angels; and the hosts of the Spirits of fire glorify Thy Name. And with holy Cherubin and Seraphin, they offer adoration to Thy greatness, they cry, they glorify without intermission, and say one to another: Choir. Holy, Holy, Holy, LORD, mighty GOD: heaven and earth are full of His songs: Hosanna in the highest: Hosanna to the Son of David: blessed is He That cometh and shall come in the Name of the LORD: Hosanna in the highest.

Priest. Holy, Holy, Holy, LORD, mighty GOD: [1. full are the heavens and the earth of His songs, and of the essence of His substance, and the splendour of His exceeding glorious beauty, so that—Do I not fill heaven and earth, saith the LORD? Holy art Thou, GOD, the FATHER of Truth, from Whom all paternity in heaven and in earth is named: holy also is Thine Only-Begotten SON, our LORD JESUS CHRIST, by Whom all things were made: holy also is the SPIRIT, the cause of all truth, by Whom all are sanctified. Woe is me, woe is me; for I am astonished; because I am a man of polluted lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of polluted lips, and mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of Hosts. How terrible is this place to-day, in which face to face the LORD is seen! And now, O LORD, let Thy mercy be upon us, and purify our filth, and sanctify our lips, and commingle the voices of our imbecility with the praises of Seraphin and Archangels, who sing glory to Thy love: for corporeal men Thou hast associated with spirits. With these celestial hosts then, we also, Thy miserable servants, weak and useless, praise Thee, my LORD, because Thou hast shown great mercy to us, for which we cannot return equal thanks. For Thou didst take upon Thyself our humanity, that Thou mightest quicken us with Thy divinity;

Thou didst exalt our humanity, and set up our fall, and forgive our sins, and justify us by wiping out our offences, and didst illuminate our understandings, and didst prove, O LORD our GOD, our enemies to be guilty, and because of the love of Thy grace shed abroad over

us, didst bestow the victory on the weak exiguity of our nature. For all helps, therefore, and mercies bestowed on us, let us offer to Thee a song, laud and honour, and adoration, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Deacon. Amen. Pray in your hearts. Peace be with us. He hisseth the Altar thrice, and saith: Glory to [7.] Thy Holy Name, and adoration to Thy Divinity, at all times, LORD JESUS CHRIST, Living Bread, giving life, Who didst descend from heaven, and quickenest the whole world, and they that eat this Bread shall never die, and they that receive it in truth are freed and sanctified by it, and are cleansed and live for ever. Our LORD JESUS CHRIST in the same night wherein He was betrayed, took the holy bread into His pure and loving hands, and lifted up His eyes to heaven, and gave thanks to GOD the FATHER, the Creator of all things, and blessed and brake, and gave to His Disciples and said,—Take and eat of this bread all of you: for this is My Body. In like manner after He had supped, He took the Chalice into His pure hands, and gave thanks, and blessed, and gave to His Disciples, saying, Take and drink ye all of this Chalice: for as often as ye eat this Bread, and

drink this Cup, ye show forth My remembrance: for this is the Chalice of My Blood, of the New Testament, which for you and for many shall be poured forth for the remission of sins: this shall be My pledge even to the consummation of all things. Glory to Thee, my LORD: glory to Thee, my LORD: glory to Thee, my LORD, for Thine ineffable gift. The Priest signs the Oblations, and saith: 2.] LORD GOD of Hosts, hear the voice of my cry, and listen, my LORD, and give ear to my groans and my sighs, and receive the prayers of me, a sinner: for in this hour in which the Sacrifice is offered to Thy FATHER, I beseech Thy grace to have mercy upon all creatures; to forgive the offenders, to bring back the wanderers, to console the afflicted, to give peace to the disturbed, to heal the infirm, to hear them that are troubled in spirit, and to impart tranquillity to them; to accomplish the almsdeeds of them that work righteousness, and for Thy holy Name's sake to be propitious ever to me, a sinner, through Thy grace.

[3.] Thanks be to Thee, LORD GOD of Hosts: let this oblation be received for the whole Catholic Church, and for priests and princes; for the poor also that are oppressed in sorrow and misery, and for the faithful departed, and for all them who desire the prayer of my weakness, and for my sins. Yea, O LORD, my GOD, visit Thy people, and my unhappiness, according to Thy love, and the multitude of Thy mercy, and not according to my sins and iniquities: but grant that we may be made worthy of the remission of our sins by the Holy Body which we shall in faith receive, through grace which is from Thee. Amen.

[4.] Prostrating himself, he continues: Thou, my LORD, according to Thy exceeding love, receive this best and acceptable commemoration of the fathers who are just and upright, and please Thee,—the remembrance of the Body and Blood of Thy CHRIST, which we shall offer to Thee upon the pure and holy altar, as Thou hast taught us, and give peace to us and tranquillity all the days of our life. Yea, O LORD, give us peace, that all the inhabitants of the earth may know that Thou art GOD, the only FATHER of truth. Thou didst send Thy most beloved Son, and He the LORD our GOD came and taught us, all the holi-

ness and purity of Prophets and Apostles, Martyrs and Confessors, Bishops and Doctors, Priests and Deacons, and all the sons of the holy Catholic Church, who have been sealed with holy baptism. We, therefore, my LORD, Thy weak and unprofitable servants, who are gathered together in Thy Name, and at this time stand before Thee, and by holy tradition have received a pattern from Thee, with exultation and joy, glorify, exalt and venerate this memorial, and sacrifice this Mystery, great, terrible, holy and divine, of the Passion and Death, Sepulture and Resurrection of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST.

And the Priest stretcheth forth, purely, his hands to heaven, and consecrateth the Body and Blood of Christ. [9.] Send then, my LORD, Thy Holy SPIRIT, and let Him rest upon this oblation of Thy servants and sanctify it, that it may be to us, my LORD, for the payment of our debts and the remission of our sins, and the great hope of resurrection from the dead, and a new life in the heavenly kingdom, with all who have pleased Thee. Moreover, for all Thy admirable dispensation carried on towards us, we praise and glorify Thee without ceasing in the Church, which hath been [4 continued] redeemed by the Blood of Thy Son, and with open mouth and unveiled countenance, we will offer unto Thee a song and honour, land and adoration, to Thy living, holy and quickening Name, now and ever and to ages of ages. Amen. [5.] The Priest saith Psalm li. 1—13; and Psalm cxxiii. 1—3. Then: Stretch forth Thy hand, and let Thy right hand save me, O LORD; let Thy love remain over me for ever, and despise not the works of Thy hands.

[6.] He viseth and saith: CHRIST, the peace of things that are on high, and the great rest of those that are below, stablish, O LORD, in Thy peace and rest, the four regions of the world, but principally Thy holy Catholic Church, and destroy wars and battles from the ends of the earth, and disperse the people that delight in war, and pacify by the mercy of Thy Divinity, the Priesthood, and the kingdom, that we may have a secure habitation with all sobriety and piety, and forgive the debts and sins of them that have departed this life, through Thy mercy and love for ever. The Priest blesses Incense, and puts it in the thurible, saying: Let us offer a hymn to Thy most glorious TRINITY, at all times and for ever. O LORD our GOD, cause the savour of our souls to be pleasant to Thee, through the sweet savour of the mercy of Thy love, and cleanse us by it from the defilements of sin.

He censeth the Oblations therein, and saith thrice: The LORD our GOD give us access by the clemency of His mercy to these sacraments, most glorious, holy, quickening, and divine. For in truth we are not worthy. Deacon. I am the Living Bread Which came down from heaven: I am the Bread Which descended from on high, said the SAVIOUR in a Mystery to His Disciples: whosoever approacheth in love, and receiveth Me, shall live in Me for ever, and shall by heritage acquire the kingdom. Choir. The ministers, who do His will, Cherubin and Seraphin, and Archangels, stand with fear and trembling before the Altar, and behold the Priest, when he breaks and divides the Body of CHRIST for the propitiation of sin. Deacon. Open to me the gates of righteousness, O Thou Merciful One, Whose door is open to penitents, and Who invitest sinners to draw near to Thee; open to us, my LORD, the gate of Thy loves, that we may enter in, and sing praise to Thee day and night.

Choir. Set, O LORD, a watch before my mouth. Glory be to the FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Deacon. O Merciful One, have pity on us, and show mercy to us; and despise us not in the time of affliction, for night and day we hope in Thee: and they that trust in Thee shall not be confounded. Choir. Let all the people say, Amen and Amen. Isaiah kissed the fire in the kindled coal, and his lips were not burnt, but his iniquity was pardoned: mortals in this very bread receive fire, and it guards their bodies and burns out their sins. Deacon. From everlasting to everlasting: the Altar is fire in fire: fire surrounds it: let Priests beware of the terrible and tremendous fire, lest they fall into it, and be burnt for ever. The Priest breaks the Host, and saith: We draw near, my LORD, in the faith of Thy Name to these Holy Mysteries, and in Thy love

[8.] we break, and in Thy pity we sign the Body and Blood of our SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. The Priest layeth that part of the Oblation which he holdeth in his left hand, on the paten: he dips the other in the Blood, up to the midst. Let the Precious Blood be signed with the Holy Body of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Let the Holy Body be signed with the Blood of Propitiation of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Then joining the two together, he says: These predestinated Mysteries, exceeding glorious, holy, and quickening, and divine, are consecrated, perfected, completed, and united together in the venerable and illustrious Name of the glorious TRINITY; that they may be to us, O LORD, for the propitiation of our sins, and a great hope of resurrection from the dead; and the renewal of life in the kingdom of heaven.

Glory to Thee, my LORD, because Thou didst create me by Thy grace: glory to Thee, my LORD, because Thou didst call me by Thy mercy: glory to Thee, my LORD, because Thou hast made me the mediator of Thy gifts: and for all the dispensation which Thou hast carried out towards my weakness, let praise, laud, honour and adoration ascend to Thee, now, and to ages of ages. The grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and the love of GOD the FATHER, and the communication of the HOLY GHOST be with us all, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Deacon. Let us all with fear and reverence approach the mystery of the Body and precious Blood of our SAVIOUR: and with pure heart and true faith let us call to memory His Passion and Resurrection, and understand it plainly: for our sakes the Only-Begotten took on Himself a mortal body, and spiritual reason and immortal soul: and in His precepts, which confer life, and in His holy law has brought us back from error to the acknowledgment of the truth: and after all the dispensations which He wrought for us, He offered the first fruits of our nature as a sacrifice on the Cross, and bestowed on us this Holy Sacrament, by means of which we might remember all the grace which He manifested to us. Let us then with overflowing charity, and humble will, receive the gift of eternal life, and with pure prayer, and earnest grief for our sins, be made partakers of the Holy Mysteries of the Church, and be, by the hope of penitence, converted from our iniquities, and grieve for our transgressions: let us furthermore ask for love and mercy, and let us call on GOD the LORD of all, and let us forgive the debts of our fellow servants.

People. LORD, have mercy on the sins and iniquities of Thy servants. [And so at the end of each clause.] Deacon. Let us cleanse our consciences from division and contention; Let our souls be thoroughly perfect, both from all hatred and malice to others. Let us receive sanctity, and be inflamed by the HOLY GHOST. Let us receive the society of the Divine Mysteries in unanimity of mind and mutual peace. And may it be, O LORD, to us for the resurrection of our bodies, and the salvation of our souls, and the life that is to ages of ages. Amen.

Meanwhile the Priest saith: Blessed art Thou, LORD GOD of our fathers, and highly exalted and excellently laudable is Thy Name for ever: in that Thou hast not dealt with us after our sins, neither rewarded us according to our iniquities, but according to the multitude of Thy love hast delivered us from the power of darkness, and hast called us to the kingdom of Thy most dearly beloved SON our LORD JESUS CHRIST, by Whom Thou hast made bare, and hast brought to nought, the power of darkness, and hast bestowed on us life incorruptible. And now, O LORD, Thou Who hast vouchsafed that I should stand before this Thy pure and holy Altar, to offer unto Thee this loving and holy sacrifice, make us also worthy, by Thy love, that in all pureness and holiness we may receive the Gift: and that it may not be unto us for judgment or vengeance, but for love and piety and the remission of sins, and resurrection from the dead, and eternal life: so that we may all be the fullest witnesses of Thy glory, and the habitation of a holy shrine: that after we have been incorporated into the Body and Blood of Thy CHRIST with all Thy Saints, we may shine with light, in His ever-glorious and lofty revelation: for to Thee and to Thine with the HOLY GHOST, is glory and honour and laud and adoration, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Blot out, O LORD, the sins and transgressions of Thy servants, and sanctify our life by the songs of the HOLY GHOST, to the end that we, with all Thy Saints, may offer to Thy most lofty Divinity the fruits of glory and praise; and make us worthy, O LORD, to stand in Thy Presence ever with pure heart and open countenance; and that with the confidence which by Thy love is conferred on us, we may all of us together invoke Thee, and thus say: Our FATHER. Priest. Yea, O LORD, GOD of Hosts, O our most glorious GOD, and our merciful FATHER, we earnestly ask, beseech, and implore the clemency of Thy goodness: lead us not, my LORD, into temptation, but save and deliver us from the evil one, and from his host; for Thine is the kingdom and the strength, the glory and the power, the empire and the might, in heaven and in earth, now and to ages of ages.

Deacon. Amen. Priest. Peace be with you. Deacon. And with thee and with thy spirit. Priest. That which is holy befits the holy, my LORD, to be received. Deacon. One holy FATHER, one holy SON, one HOLY GHOST. Glory be to the FATHER, and to the SON, and to the HOLY GHOST, to ages of ages. Amen. The Deacon goes to the Altar: the Priest takes his right hand and puts it into the Paten. Deacon. The glory of our LORD Priest. Be with them and with us, in the heavenly kingdom: glory be to the Living God. Deacon. Glorify the Living God. People. Glory to Him and to Thy Church: His love and His pity. Amen. Priest. LORD, my GOD, I am not worthy, nor is it indeed meet that I should receive Thy

Body and the Blood of propitiation, nor that I should touch them; but let Thy words sanctify my soul, and heal my body, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST.

And he receives the Body of our LORD. In the meantime the Deacon sings: Let this oblation be received above in the heavenly places, together with that which Abel, Noah, and Abraham, offered to the heavenly kingdom. Priest. Let the gift of the grace of our Saviour Himself, JESUS CHRIST, be accomplished through love in all of us. Deacon. To ages of ages. Amen. The Priest receives the Chalice, and then saith: The Blood of the propitiation of our LORD JESUS CHRIST nourish my soul and body in this life, and in the life to come. Deacon. My brethren, receive the body of the SON Himself, saith the Church, and drink His Blood. And while the people communicate, the Deacon saith:

Strengthen, O LORD, the hands which are stretched out to receive the Holy Thing: vouchsafe that they may daily bring forth fruit to Thy Divinity; that they may be worthy of all things which they have sung to Thy praise within Thy sanctuary, and may ever laud Thee. Grant, moreover, My LORD, that the ears which have heard the voice of Thy songs, may never hear the voice of clamour and dispute. Grant also that the eyes which have seen Thy great love, may also behold Thy blessed hope; that the tongues which have sung the Sanctus may speak the truth. Grant that the feet which have walked in the church may walk in the region of light: that the bodies which have tasted Thy living Body may be restored in newness of life. On this congregation also, which adores Thy divinity, let Thy aids be multiplied, and let Thy great love remain with us; and by Thee may we abound in the manifestation of Thy glory, and open a door to the prayers of all of us. We all then, who have drawn near by the gift of the grace of the HOLY GHOST, and to whom it has been vouchsafed to become fellow participators in the reception of these mysteries, most excellent, holy, divine, and quickening, let us all praise and exult in GOD, the Giver of them.

Priest. Glory be to Him for His unspeakable gift. It is meet, just and right, O LORD, that at all times, and days, and hours, we should laud, adore and glorify the terrible Name of Thy Majesty; since by Thy grace and Thy love, my LORD, Thou hast vouchsafed to the weak nature of the mortal sons of men, to hallow Thy Name with blessed spirits, and hast given us to be partakers of the gift of Thy mysteries, and to be delighted with the sweetness of Thy words which give life and are divine, and always to offer praise to Thy divinity, FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. Then all say, Our FATHER. The Priest turneth to the people, and blesseth them, saying, He Who blesseth us with all benediction in heaven, by the Son of humanity, and hath invited to His kingdom and eternal sweetness : And Who hath given His promise to the apostolic congregation, and also in verity hath signed His word, that there should be no doubt in it :

Ye shall say, Verily, verily, I say, and in verity I sign My words: every one that eateth My quickening Body, and drinketh my Blood of the salutary chalice, I forgive him all his debts, and I blot out all his sins, and I call him to the kingdom; and let it deliver you from affliction, and save you from scandals. He bless the seeds of your fields, He bless the fruits of your

trees, and He multiply and bless your substance, and of His love give you long life. O GOD, the LORD of men, bless this congregation, and give strength to the weak, for behold, he beginneth from the beginning. By the living sign of CHRIST, may the glorious throne of the Oriental Catholici be blessed, that righteousness may rise and shine in it. Let the father full of splendour, the Bishop who is pastor and lord of the whole flock, full of sobriety, be guarded from evil.

Bless the holy presbyters, clerks and ministers: let them be set free from dangers and devils, and very evil men. To the ancient of days, to old men, illustrious through age, may the LORD give them a good end, and call them to the kingdom. Young men, fair in stature and possessed of strength, may He cause them to increase in splendour, and fill them with purity. The frail nature of women, virgins also and the wedded, may they may be kept from fall, from snares and scandals. The LORD that sitteth in heaven, give us a quiet peace, a good and sweet peace, that we may rejoice day and night. He give you peaceful times, that ye may ever rejoice and not be turbulent and unquiet, but loving each other through charity. And since ye are assembled together this day, in the solemnity of this oblation, may the Cross of the Celestial King guard you.

The LORD receive your oblation and your sacrifice, and your prayers, and may His SPIRIT rest upon your alms, and may your petitions enter into His Presence. May he that is illustrious in the congregation of the Saints, the religious Hormisdas, the holiness of holinesses, keep you from plague and devils and very evil men. May he pray also for this crowd, the poor, the miserable, for they are disciples of this Saint, that thus they may be free from calamity. Furthermore may they who have modestly laboured and served with simplicity in this world, be guarded in righteousness from ill. And they who are strangers among us, and are far off from their homes, may the King of ages of ages cause them to return in peace. Let this feast be holy upon you, O humble people, and may the LORD be your establisher and councillor to good things.

Now and ever, and at all times and occasions, by nights also and days, and even to ages of ages.

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