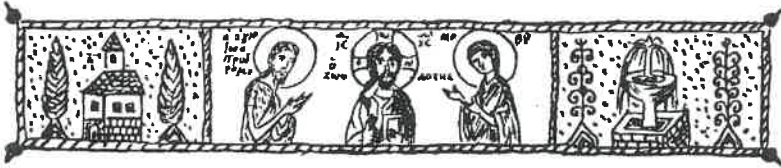


The Divine and Sacred Liturgy of St. James, the Brother of God



*Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father
is this: to care for orphans and widows in their suffering
and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world.*

- James 1:27



The Divine and Sacred Liturgy of St. James, the Brother of God

After the preparation of the Holy Gifts at the Prothesis, executed simply and without the prayer of the Proskomide, which is said later, the Priest, standing before the Holy Table, says the following prayer in preparation to celebrate the Liturgy.

Priest: O Master, Lord our God, although I am thoroughly polluted and disgraced by my many sins, do not utterly reject me, for I have come to Your sacred and heavenly mystery not as one who is worthy, but instead, counting on your goodness, I raise my voice to You: O God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I have sinned against heaven and before You. I am not worthy even to look upon Your sacred and spiritual Table on which Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, is mystically offered in sacrifice for me, a sinner, defiled as I am by every blemish. Therefore, I bring before You this supplication and thanksgiving: send Your Spirit, the Comforter, upon me to strengthen and prepare me fully for the celebration of this liturgy. Enable me, without being condemned, to worthily proclaim Your Word to Your people, in Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, one-in-essence and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Then, with the Holy Doors open, he exclaims:

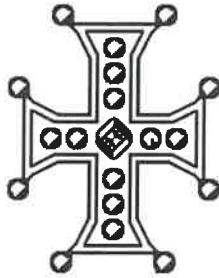
Priest: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, the triple and single light of the Godhead, who exists singly in Trinity and is divided without division. For the one God almighty is a Trinity: the heavens declare His glory, the earth His lordship, the sea His dominion, and every living and spiritual creature His magnificence.

For to Him belongs all glory, honor, power, magnificence, and splendor, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Most gracious Benefactor, the King of the ages, and Fashioner of all creation: receive Your Church that approaches You through Your Christ. Grant what is best to each of us. Bring us all to perfection and render us worthy of receiving the grace of Your holiness. Gather us all together in Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, adorned with the precious blood of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with whom You are blessed and glorified, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.



The Priest blesses the offering of incense:

Deacon: (always facing the people) Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God, You received the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah and Abraham, and the offerings of incense of Aaron and Zechariah. Receive now from our sinful hands this incense, granting forgiveness of sins to us and to all Your people.

For You are blessed and to You belongs glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

THE ENTRANCE WITH THE BOOK OF THE GOSPELS

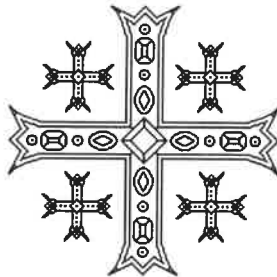
*The Priest censes the Holy Table,
then takes up the Holy Gospel Book and gives it to the Deacon.
Then, preceded by candle-bearers, they exit the Holy Sanctuary
and make the Entrance, chanting the hymn:*

Priest and People: Only begotten Son and Word of God, although immortal You humbled Yourself for our salvation, taking flesh from the holy *Theotokos* and ever-virgin Mary and, without change, becoming man. Christ, our God, You were crucified but conquered death by death. You are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit - save us.

*After the Deacon places the Holy Gospel Book on the pulpit,
the clergy continue towards the Holy Doors
before which the Priest says the following prayer.*

Priest: Almighty God, the Lord whose Name is exalted, You have given us entrance into the Holy of Holies through the coming of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. We entreat and beg You in Your goodness: Filled with fear and trembling as we prepare to stand before Your Holy Altar, O God, send us Your good grace and sanctify our souls, bodies, and spirits. Direct our thoughts to true devotion, so that with a pure conscience we may offer You gifts, presents, and fruits for the abolition of our offenses and forgiveness for all Your people, through the grace, compassion and love of Your only-begotten Son, with whom You are blessed to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.



*After this, the Priest enters the Holy Sanctuary
and the Deacon, facing the people, leads the congregation in prayer:*

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace in the whole world, and unity among all the holy Churches of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the salvation and divine help of our most-holy father and Archbishop (*Name*) and for all the clergy and Christ-loving people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the remission of our sins and the forgiveness of our transgressions, and for our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, necessity, distress and the assault of enemies, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the *Theotokos* and ever-virgin Mary; the holy, glorious, prophet and forerunner John the Baptist; the godly and praiseworthy apostles; the glorious prophets; the triumphant martyrs; and all the saints and righteous, that by their prayers and intercessions we may all find mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O compassionate and merciful Lord, patient, loving and true, look down upon us from Your holy dwelling place and hear us, Your servants. Deliver us from every temptation and trial whether from other human beings or the devil. Do not take Your help away from us, nor bring upon us heavier tests that are beyond our strength to endure. For we are not capable of overcoming what opposes us; but You, O Lord, are powerful and able to save us from all adversities. In accordance with Your goodness, save us, O God, from the tribulations of this world that we might enter Your holy altar with a clear conscience and without condemnation sing the blessed thrice-holy hymn together with all the angelic powers of heaven. And having celebrated the Divine Liturgy that is well pleasing to You, may we be deemed worthy of eternal life.

For You are holy, O Lord our God, and You dwell and rest in Your saints, and to You we give glory and sing the thrice-holy hymn: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

THE TRISAGION HYMN

People: Amen. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us (*3 times*).

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

Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

Deacon: Δύναμις.

While the choir sings the final "Holy God" the Priest, turning towards the Prothesis, says in a low voice: Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. *Then, turning toward the High Place behind the Altar, he says in a low voice:* Blessed are You who are seated on the throne of glory of Your kingdom, seated upon the Cherubim, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

While this final verse is being sung, the clergy exit from the Holy Doors of the Sanctuary, go to the center of the Solea, and the Priest says at the completion of the Trisagion:

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

THE READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Reader: The reading is from the prophecy of *(Name)*

Deacon: Let us listen attentively!

The reader then reads the Old Testament reading for the day from the pulpit.



THE EPISTLE READING

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Reader: *The appropriate verses from the Psalms are sung.*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the letter of the holy apostle *(Name)*

Deacon: Let us listen attentively!

The reader reads the Epistle for the day from the pulpit. After the completion of the Epistle reading, and the blessing of the Priest, the appropriate verses from the Psalms are chanted with the Alleluia.

Priest: Peace be with you, the reader.

People: Alleluia *(3 times)*

THE PETITIONS BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Deacon: Let us all say: O Lord almighty, the heavenly God of our Fathers, we pray to You hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For peace in the whole world and unity among all Your holy Churches, let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For the salvation and divine help of our most holy Father and Archbishop (*Name*), and all the clergy and Christ-loving people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and distress; from captivity and a bitter death, and our iniquities, let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For the people here present who await the riches of Your great mercy, we beg You, be compassionate and merciful.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: O God, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance. Look upon Your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the Orthodox Christians by the power of Your precious and life-giving Cross; by the intercessions of our most-holy and blessed Lady, the *Theotokos* and ever-virgin Mary; of John the Forerunner and Baptist; the holy apostles; and all Your saints, we beg You, all-merciful Lord, hear us, who pray to You and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

THE PRAYER BEFORE THE READING OF THE GOSPEL

Priest: Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us, also, reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered our sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You.

For You are the good news, the illumination, savior, and guardian of our souls and bodies, O God, together with Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be with you all.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to *(Name)*
Let us be attentive.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

*The Deacon immediately reads the Gospel of the day from the pulpit,
after which the people sing:*

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

It is customary for the Priest to preach the Word of God from the Pulpit. After the sermon has been preached, he proceeds into the Holy Sanctuary and offers the following prayer:

Priest: O God, You have spoken Your divine and saving words to us. Enlighten the souls of us sinners that we may understand what has been read, so that we not be merely hearers of Your spiritual words, but doers of good works, truly pursuing the faith, leading a blameless life and conducting ourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel and without reproach; in Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom You are blessed and glorified together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The Deacon, standing in the center of the Solea and always facing the people, leads the congregation in prayer:

Deacon: Let us be devoutly attentive! In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace in the whole world and the unity of all the holy churches of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the salvation and divine help of our most holy father and Archbishop (*Name*), and for all the clergy and Christ-loving people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the remission of our sins and the forgiveness of our transgressions, and our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, distress and the assault of enemies, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For a perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless day, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For all that is good and beneficial to our souls, and for peace in the world, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the completion of the remaining time of our lives in peace and health, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For a Christian end to our lives, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good account before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the *Theotokos* and ever-virgin Mary; the holy, glorious, prophet and forerunner John the Baptist; the godly and praiseworthy apostles; the glorious prophets; the triumphant martyrs, with all the saints and righteous, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: Master, You are the giver of life and of all good things. You have given us the blessed hope of eternal life, our Lord Jesus Christ. Make us worthy, O Good One, to offer to You this liturgy in holiness that we may enjoy the future blessedness of Your kingdom.

And grant that always guarded by Your power and guided by the light of Your truth, we may give glory and thanksgiving to You, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL OF THE CATECHUMENS

Deacon: Let none of the catechumens remain; none of the uninitiated; none of those who cannot pray with us. Know your neighbor well; guard the doors. Let us all stand.



THE GREAT ENTRANCE

Deacon: In Christ's peace, let us sing.

People: Let all mortal flesh keep silent and with awe and trembling stand, pondering nothing earthly. For the King of kings and Lord of lords approaches to be slain, and to be given as food to the faithful. Before Him go the angelic hosts together with every principality and authority...

*While the hymn is being chanted, the Priest and Deacon
silently begin the transfer of the Holy Gifts to the Holy Table.
But before setting them down on the Holy Table, while standing in the Solea
before the Holy Doors of the Sanctuary and holding the Sacred Chalice,
the hymn is interrupted at "every principality and authority."
The Priest then says the following prayer:*

Priest: O God, our God, You sent the heavenly Bread, the food for the whole world, our Lord Jesus Christ, as Savior, Redeemer, and Benefactor, to bless us and sanctify us. Bless this offering and accept it upon Your heavenly Altar. As a good and loving God remember those who brought it and those for whom it was brought. Keep us blameless in the celebration of Your Divine Mysteries. For sanctified and glorified is Your most precious and majestic Name, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.....the many-eyed Cherubim and the six-winged Seraphim, covering their faces and crying out their song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*While the chanting of the hymn continues from "the many-eyed Cherubim",
the Priest, with the Deacon, enters the Sanctuary and places the Gifts
on the Holy Table, then censes them, while saying in a low voice:*

Priest: O Master Almighty, the King of glory, the God who knows all things before they occur, we call upon You: be present with us at this holy hour and redeem us from the shame of our transgressions. Cleanse our minds and every thought from foul desires, worldly deceit, and all evil influences. Receive from the hands of us sinners this incense as You received the offerings of Abel and Noah, Aaron and Samuel, and all of your saints. Deliver us from everything evil. Grant that we may always please, worship, and glorify You, the Father and Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: In God's wisdom, let us be attentive.

THE CREED

People: I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages;

Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father through Whom all things were made.

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried.

And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

And He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.

In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.



THE PRAYER OF THE KISS OF PEACE

Deacon: Let us stand well! In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God and loving Master of all, unworthy though we are, cleanse us of all deceit and hypocrisy. Make us worthy at this hour of being united to one another in peace and the bond of love, steadfast in the knowledge of Your holiness, through Your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit.

For You are a God of mercy, love, tenderness and compassion toward humanity, together with Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with you all.

People: And with your spirit.



Deacon: Let us love one another with a holy kiss.

(And after everyone exchanges the kiss of peace)

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O merciful God, the only Lord, You dwell on high and look upon those who are humble: send Your good grace upon those who bow their heads before Your holy altar, seeking Your spiritual gifts. Bless us all with every spiritual blessing that can never be taken away.

For Your Name is worthy of praise, worship and most exalted, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Magnify the Lord with me, and let us praise His Name together. (*Psalm 34:3*)

And the Chanters and people sing in return:

Chanter: The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Amen. (*Luke 1:35*)

THE PETITIONS

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Deacon: Save us, have mercy on us, be compassionate and preserve us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Deacon: For the peace of God and His loving kindness toward humanity, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Deacon: For peace in the whole world and for unity among all the holy churches of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Deacon: For the holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, reaching to all ends of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Deacon: For the salvation and divine help of our holy father and Archbishop (*Name*) and all the clergy and Christ-loving people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

Deacon: For the leaders of our country, that they might be strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For the holy city of Christ our God, the Queen City of Jerusalem, for every city and country and for those who live in them in the Orthodox faith and in fear of God, and for their peace and security, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For those who bear fruit and do good work in God's holy churches, for those who remember the poor, the widows, the orphans, the strangers, the homeless and dispossessed, and all those in need; and for all those who have asked us to remember them in our prayers, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For those who are aged, the frail, the sick, the suffering, and those troubled by unclean spirits, that God's healing and salvation may come upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For those who live in virginity, purity, asceticism, and holy marriage, and for our venerable fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters who struggle in asceticism on mountains or in the dens and caves of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, land and air, for Christians traveling in foreign lands, for those in captivity and exile, for our brothers and sisters in prison and bitter slavery because of their faith and for the peaceful return of each one to their own home with joy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, praying with us at this sacred hour and at every hour; for their zeal, toil and ready kindness, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For every Christian soul in affliction and suffering, needing God's mercy and help; for the return of those who have been lead astray; for the health of those who are sick; for the rescue of those held in captivity; and for the repose of our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For the remission of our sins and the forgiveness of our transgressions; and for our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and want, and the assault of enemies both seen and unseen, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For favorable weather, mild rains, gentle dew, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, temperate seasons, and for the crowning of the year, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: For our prayer, that it may be heard and be accepted by God, and that the riches of His mercies and compassion be granted us, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: Commemorating our most-holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the *Theotokos* and every-virgin Mary; the holy, blessed and glorious prophet and forerunner, John the Baptist; Stephen the first deacon and martyr; Moses, Aaron,

Elijah, Elisha, Samuel, David, Daniel and all the prophets; and all the saints and righteous, that by their prayers and intercessions we may all receive mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: And for these gifts here presented that are precious, heavenly, ineffable, immaculate, glorious, awesome, fearsome and divine, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Priest: O God, in Your great and ineffable love for all humanity, You sent Your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ into the world, that we who are like sheep led astray may return to You. Do not turn Your face away from us sinners as we offer this dread sacrifice without the shedding of blood. We do not trust in our own righteousness, but in Your loving mercy, to preserve the human race. We now beg and implore You in Your goodness, that this mystery, meant for the working of our salvation, not be to the condemnation of Your people, but for the blotting out of our sins, the healing and renewal of our souls and bodies, and Your good pleasure as our God and Father.

O Lord, our God, You created us and brought us into this life. You have shown us the way of salvation, granting us the revelation of Your heavenly mysteries. You are the One who appointed us to this ministry by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Allow us, Master, to become servants of Your New Testament, and celebrants of Your pure mysteries. Receive us as we approach Your Holy Altar, in accordance with the riches of Your mercy, that we may be deemed worthy to offer You gifts and sacrifices for our own transgressions and those of Your people. Lord, grant that we, filled with awe and having a pure conscience, may offer You this spiritual sacrifice without the shedding of blood. Receive this sacrifice at your holy, heavenly, and spiritual altar as sweet fragrance, sending upon us in return the grace of Your all-holy Spirit. Yes, O God, look upon us and upon this, our spiritual worship. Receive it as You received the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah, the first fruits

of Abraham, the priestly ministries of Moses and Aaron, the peace offerings of Samuel, the repentance of David, and the incense of Zechariah. As You received this true worship from the hands of Your holy apostles, receive also from the hands of us sinners, these gifts here presented before Your goodness and grant that our offering be well received, sanctified by the Holy Spirit in propitiation for our sins and the transgressions of Your people, as well as for the repose of those souls gone to rest before us. Grant that we also, Your sinful and unworthy servants, may be made worthy to celebrate this Liturgy in innocence at Your holy Altar. May we receive the reward of faithful and trustworthy stewards and find grace and mercy on that dreadful day of Your just judgment.

We thank You, O Lord our God, for You have given us the freedom to enter Your holy place by the blood of Jesus, inaugurating for us a new and living way through the veil of His flesh. Having been made worthy, therefore, to enter into the place of the tabernacle of Your glory, to go behind the veil and see the Holy of Holies, we beg You in Your kindness, O Master: have mercy on us for we stand in fear and trembling as before Your Holy Altar and offer to You this awesome sacrifice without the shedding of blood, for our own sins and for the transgressions of Your people. O God, in Your goodness, send down upon us Your grace and sanctify our souls, bodies and spirits, and directing our thoughts toward faith, that with a pure conscience we may offer to You this sacrifice of praise, mercy, and peace.

Priest: Through the mercies and love of Your only-begotten Son, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with you all.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Let us stand well. Let us stand in awe. Let us stand in the fear of God with contrition. Let us be attentive, that we may present the holy offering to God in peace.

People: Mercy and peace, a sacrifice of praise.

Priest: Show us clearly what symbolically surrounds us with a mysterious veil in this holy celebration, and fill our spiritual vision with Your boundless light. Cleanse us in our lowliness from all defilement of flesh and spirit, and make us worthy of this awesome and fearful presence.

For You are a compassionate, loving and merciful God and to You do we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: May the love of God the Father and the grace of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, and the communion and the gift of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us lift up our minds and our hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: It is proper and right.

THE PRAYER OF OFFERING

Priest: Indeed, it is proper and right, fitting and due, to praise, worship, glorify, and thank You, the Creator of everything visible and invisible, the treasury of eternal blessings, the source of life and immortality, the Lord and God of all who is praised by the heavens and the heavens of heavens and all their powers, the sun and the moon and the whole chorus of stars; the earth, the

sea, and everything that lives in them; the heavenly Jerusalem of the gathering of the chosen, the Church of the first-born whose names are written in heaven; the spirits of the righteous and the prophets; the souls of the martyrs and apostles; angels, archangels, thrones, principalities, dominions, awesome powers, the many-eyed Cherubim and the six-winged Seraphim, who with two wings cover their faces and with two wings cover their feet, and with two wings fly about crying aloud to one another with never silent voices and unceasing hymns of praise,

Priest: Singing the victory hymn of Your magnificent glory, with a joyous voice proclaiming, glorifying, crying out and saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy, Lord of *Sabaoth*, heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna to God in the highest.

Priest: You are holy, the King of the ages, the Lord and Giver of all holiness. Holy too is Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom You have created all things. Holy also is Your all-holy Spirit who searches all things, even Your depths, O God and Father. You are holy, all powerful, awesome, gracious, compassionate, showing mercy and sympathy toward Your creation. You created man from the earth according to Your image and likeness and granted to him the delights of Paradise. And when he transgressed Your commandment and fell away, You did not forsake him nor abandon him, O Good One, but instead chastened him as a compassionate Father. You called him back through the Law and instructed him through the prophets. Then You sent forth into the world Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to renew and restore Your image in us. He came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the holy, ever-virgin Mary, the *Theotokos*, and having lived with us, He administered all things for the salvation of the human race. Appointed to accept for us sinners His voluntary and live-giving death through the Cross, He who knew no sin, on the night when He was delivered up, or rather when He gave Himself up for the life and salvation of the world,

*After these words, the Priest, holding the Holy Bread firmly in his hand,
blesses it and continues,*

Priest: He took bread in His holy, pure and immortal hands and looking up to heaven and presenting it to You, God the Father, He gave thanks, blessed, broke, and gave it to His holy and blessed disciples and apostles, saying:

Take, eat, this is my Body, which is broken for you and distributed for the remission of sins.

People: Amen.

Putting down the Holy Bread, he takes up the Chalice and says

Priest: Likewise after supper, He took the cup and mixed wine and water, and looking up to heaven and presenting it to You, O God and Father, He gave thanks, blessed, sanctified it, filled it with the Holy Spirit, and then gave it to His holy and blessed disciples and apostles, saying:

Drink from this, all of you; this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, and given for the remission of sins.

People: Amen.

Deacon: This we believe and confess!

Chanters: We proclaim Your death, O Lord, and we confess Your resurrection.

Priest: The Lord said: do this in remembrance of Me. As often as you eat this Bread and drink this Cup, you proclaim the death of the Son of Man and confess His resurrection until He comes.

Then the Priest makes the sign of the Cross, bows, and prays:

Priest: Therefore, we sinners, remembering His life-giving Passion, the redeeming Cross, His death and burial, the resurrection from the dead on the third day, the ascension into heaven, the enthronement at the seat of Your right hand, God and Father, His second glorious and awesome coming, when He will come with glory to judge the living and the dead - spare us on that day, O Lord (*3 times*) - and He will reward each one of us according to our works; no, rather according to His compassion. We offer to You, O Master, this awesome sacrifice without the shedding of blood, and we ask: do not reward us according to our sins and our iniquities, but having set aside and erased the debt of our sins according to Your kindness and Your ineffable love, grant us Your heavenly and eternal gifts, those which no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor heart of man conceived, which You have prepared, O God, for those who love You. Do not reject Your people because of our sins, O loving Lord.

Priest: Your people and Your Church beseech You.

Chanters: Have mercy on us, O Lord our God, the Father, the Almighty.

THE INVOCATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Priest: Have mercy on us, God almighty; have mercy on us, our Savior; have mercy on us according to Your great love. Send upon us and these gifts here presented Your all-holy, sovereign, and life-giving Spirit, who is enthroned with You, O God and Father, and with Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; co-sovereign, of one essence, co-eternal, who spoke through the Law, the prophets, and Your New Testament, who descended in the form of a dove upon our Lord Jesus Christ in the river Jordan and rested upon Him. He descended upon Your holy apostles in the form of fiery tongues in the upper room of the holy and glorious Zion on the day of the feast of holy Pentecost. Master, as at Pentecost, so now send the Holy Spirit upon us and upon these Gifts here presented, that through the visitation of His holy, good, and glorious presence, He may sanctify and make this bread the Holy Body of Your Christ.

People: Amen.

Priest: And that which is in this cup, the precious Blood of Your Christ.

People: Amen.

Priest: (makes the sign of the cross over the gifts and says) So that they may become, for those who partake of them, for the remission of sins and eternal life.

People: Amen.

Priest: For the sanctification of our souls and bodies.

People: Amen.

Priest: For the bearing of fruit in doing good works.

People: Amen.

Priest: For the strengthening of Your holy, catholic and apostolic Church, which You have established upon the rock of faith, so that the gates of Hades may not prevail against her. Spare her from all heresy and scandal and from those who work iniquity. Preserve her until the consummation of the ages.

People: Amen.

The Priest prays while the chantors and people sing softly:
Remember, O Lord our God.

Priest: We offer to You, Master, these gifts on behalf of Your holy places which You have glorified with the divine manifestation of Your Christ and the visitation of Your all-holy Spirit, especially on behalf of the holy and glorious Zion, the city of Jerusalem and mother of all churches; and, on behalf of Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church over the whole world. Richly bestow upon her, even now, O Lord, the gifts of Your all-holy Spirit. Remember, Lord, our holy fathers and bishops in

the Church, who throughout the world rightly teach the word of Your truth. Above all, remember, Lord our God, our sacred father, our most holy Archbishop (*Name*); grant him an honorable old age, keep him for many years, as he shepherds Your people with all piety and dignity. Remember, Lord, the clergy here present and all clergy, the diaconate in Christ, those who serve in every church order, and all of the Christ-loving people.

Remember, O Lord, the priests standing with us, co-celebrants in this holy hour before Your Holy Altar, offering to You this holy sacrifice without the shedding of blood, and grant to them and to us words to speak glorifying and praising Your all-holy Name. Remember me also, Your humble, sinful, and unworthy servant, O Lord, according to the riches of Your tender mercies and Your compassion, and look upon me with love and compassion. O Lord, the Lord of angelic powers, acquit me and deliver me from all those who persecute me. Do not enter into judgment against Your servant. Although sin has increased in me, Your grace has abounded all the more. Remember, Lord, the deacons round about Your holy Altar. Grant to them a blameless life, preserve their ministry unstained, adorning them with higher offices.

Remember, O Lord our God, Your holy City, the Queen city of Jerusalem, and every city and country, and those who, in the Orthodox faith, live in them, granting them peace and safety. Remember, O Lord, our civic leaders. Set in good order their deliberations that we may live peaceful and serene lives in all piety and holiness. Lord, remember those who travel by sea, land, and air; Christians living in foreign lands; and those in prisons, in captivity and exile, in chains and torture and in bitter slavery because of their faith. Grant them a peaceful return to their own home. Remember, Lord, the aged and weak, the sick and suffering, those troubled by unclean spirits, and grant them healing and salvation. Remember, Lord, every afflicted and suffering Christian soul that needs Your divine mercy and help. Grant the return of those who have been led astray. Remember, O Lord, those who live in virginity, piety, asceticism and holy marriage; and those in the mountains, in caves and dens of the earth who strive in hermitages for the sake of Your holy Name.

Lord, remember all Your people with benevolence. Have mercy on us all, O Master. Forgive us all. Bring peace to the multitude of Your people. Dissipate the scandals, abolish the wars and put an end to the schisms of the churches and any heresies. Put down the wanton acts of nations. Raise the banner of the Orthodox Christians. Grant us Your peace and love, O God, our Savior, the hope of the whole earth from one end to the other. Remember us, O Lord, with favorable weather, mild rains, gentle dews, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, temperate seasons, and the crowning of the year in Your goodness. For all things look to You in hope and You give them their food in due season. You stretch forth Your hand and all living beings are filled with Your grace. Remember, Lord, those who labored and those who are laboring in the holy churches of God; those who remember the poor and those who have asked us to offer prayers on their behalf. Furthermore, deem it worthy, O Lord, to remember those who have brought on this day the offering upon Your Holy Altar, and those for whom each has brought them, whether in their thoughts or those commemorated by name. Remember, O Lord our God, our parents, relatives, and friends. Remember, O Lord, all Orthodox Christians, those whom we commemorated and those we did not. Grant them the heavenly for the earthly; the incorruptible for the corruptible; the eternal for the transient, according to the promise of Your Christ, for You have authority over life and death.

Furthermore, O Lord, remember all those who from time immemorial, generation after generation, have been well pleasing to You: the holy fathers, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, confessors, teachers, the pious, and every righteous spirit made perfect in faith. Remember O Lord the voice of the Archangel saying: Mary, full of grace, rejoice, the Lord is with you: blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have given birth to the Savior of our souls.

Priest: Especially for our most-holy, pure, blessed, glorious Lady, the *Theotokos* and ever-virgin Mary.

People: Remember, O Lord our God.

Priest: For Saint John the glorious prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, the holy apostles, the holy prophets, the patriarchs and the righteous, the holy martyrs and confessors. Remember, O Lord our God, our holy fathers and archbishops and all Your people, those we remembered in prayer and those we did not. Grant rest to them in the land of the living, in Your kingdom, in the bliss of paradise, in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, our holy fathers, where there is no pain, no sorrow, and no suffering, and where the light of Your face is sovereign and shines brilliantly forever.

Here the Priest prays for all those whom he wishes to commemorate who have fallen asleep in the Lord.

O Lord, direct the course of our lives in peace that they may be Christian, well-pleasing in Your sight, and sinless. Gather us at the feet of Your elect, and do whatever You please and however You please, but let it be without shame or transgression through Your only-begotten Son, our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ; for He alone is the only sinless One who has appeared upon the earth. And again we pray for the peace and stability of the whole world and God's holy churches, for all those for whom these gifts have been offered and for their remembrance, for this congregation, and for all people. Grant to us and to them Your blessings, for You are a good and loving Master.

Chanters: Remit, pardon, and forgive our transgressions, O God, whether done willingly or unwillingly, in knowledge or in ignorance.

Priest: By the grace, mercy, and love for us of Your Christ, with whom You are blessed and glorified, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

THE PETITIONS BEFORE THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For these precious, heavenly, ineffable, pure, glorious, awesome, fearful divine Gifts here presented and sanctified, let us pray to the Lord our God.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the Lord our God, who has received these gifts at His holy, heavenly, invisible, spiritual Altar, as a sweet fragrance, may in return send upon us divine grace and the gift of the all-holy Spirit, let us pray.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Having prayed for the unity of the faith and the communion of His all-holy Spirit, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O God and Father of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord whose Name is exalted above all others, the God and Master of all, He who is blessed to the ages of ages, He who sits upon the Cherubim and is glorified by the Seraphim, in whose presence stand thousands upon thousands and myriads upon myriads of armies of angels and archangels: receive, as sweet fragrance, these gifts, offerings, and fruits here presented to You and deem it worthy to bless and perfect them, O Good One, by the grace of Your Christ and of Your all-holy Spirit. Sanctify, O Lord, also our souls, bodies, and spirits. Touch our minds and search out our consciences. Cast out from us every evil thought and impure notion, every evil desire and remembrance, every unseemly word, all envy, conceit, and hypocrisy, all falsehood, all worldly temptation, all greed, arrogance, wickedness, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy,

covetousness, and every movement of flesh and spirit alien to the will of Your holiness.

And make us worthy, O Master and loving Lord, with boldness and without fear of condemnation; with a pure heart, illumined soul, unashamed face, and sanctified hands to dare call You, the heavenly and holy God, as our Father, and to say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: And do not bring us to the test, Lord, O Lord God of the heavenly hosts, for You know our infirmity, but deliver us from the Evil One and all of his works, from his every influence and deceit, for the sake of Your holy Name which we have invoked in our humility.

For Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: Standing before Your holy Altar, we Your servants have bowed our heads to You, O Lord, expecting to receive the riches of Your tender mercies. Send down upon us now, O Lord, Your bountiful grace and every blessing; sanctify our souls, bodies,

and spirits that we may become worthy partakers and sharers in Your holy Mysteries for the remission of our sins and eternal life.

For You are worthy of worship and glory, our God, together with Your only-begotten Son and Your all-holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Turning toward the congregation, the Priest blesses the congregation and exclaims:

Priest: And may the grace and mercies of the holy, one-in-essence, uncreated and undivided Trinity, who is alone worthy of worship, be with all of you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: (raising the Bread, he prays) Holy Lord, You rest among Your saints. Sanctify us with the Word of Your grace and the visitation of Your all-holy Spirit. For You, O Master, Lord our God, have said, "Be holy, for I am holy." O God incomprehensible and beyond our understanding, the Word one-in-essence, co-eternal and inseparable from the Father and the all-holy Spirit, accept from me the sinner, together with the Cherubim and Seraphim, this pure hymn in celebration of Your holy sacrifice, without the shedding of blood, as I cry out and say:

Priest: The Holy Gifts for the holy people of God.

People: One is holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father together with the Holy Spirit, to whom belongs glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon: For the salvation, and divine help of our most holy father and Archbishop (*Name*) and for every afflicted and suffering soul, needing God's mercy and help; for the return of those who have been led astray; for the healing of the sick; and for the repose of our fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, who have fallen asleep in hope of resurrection unto eternal life, let us all earnestly say: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

While the Deacon is leading the above petitions, the Priest breaks the Holy Bread in half, he dips one half of it into the Chalice saying:

Priest: (in a low voice) Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world and is sacrificed for the life and salvation of the world. The union of the all-holy Body and precious Blood of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. These Gifts are united, sanctified, and perfected in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, to whom belongs all glory and dominion to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Priest then pours hot water into the Chalice and the clergy then receive the holy sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



THE PRAYERS BEFORE RECEIVING COMMUNION

In preparation for receiving the Body and Blood of Christ the congregation recites the following prayers before receiving communion:

People: I believe, Lord, and confess that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore I pray to You: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions, whether voluntary or involuntary, committed in word or deed, knowingly or unwittingly, and make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of Your most pure mysteries for the remission of my sins and for everlasting life. Amen.

How shall I, unworthy as I am, enter into the splendor of Your saints? For if I dare to enter the mystical bridal feast, my clothing will disgrace me since I do not wear the wedding garment of virtue. Bound by the angels, I fear that I shall be cast out. Lord, in Your love, cleanse my soul and save me.

Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ my God: let not these holy gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness. Instead, may I receive them for the cleansing and sanctification of both my soul and my body, and as a pledge of the future life and Your kingdom. It is good for me to cling to my God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

O Christ, our Master and our God, You are the bread that came down from heaven, the food given for the salvation of the whole world. I have sinned against heaven and before You, and I am not worthy to partake of Your holy and pure Mysteries; but because of Your goodness and ineffable patience, deem me worthy, without condemnation and shame, to partake of Your all-holy Body and precious Blood for the remission of my sins and eternal life.

Receive me today, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical supper. For I will not speak of Your mystery to Your enemies, nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief on the cross I confess You: Remember me, O Lord, when You come into Your kingdom.



THE RECEIVING OF HOLY COMMUNION

Deacon: With the fear of God, draw near.

Those who are prepared come forward with reverence to receive the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ while Psalm 34 and any other designated communion hymns are sung by the chanters, congregation and choir.

Deacon: In peace let us sing to the Lord.

People: Taste and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia (3 times)

And the chanters lead the singing of Psalm 34 in the following manner:

Chanters: I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall always be on my lips. *Psalm 34 :1*

People: Taste and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia (3 times)

Chanters: My soul will glory in the Lord; let those who are afflicted hear and rejoice. *Psalm 34 :2*

People: Taste and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia (3 times)

Chanters: Come magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt His Name together. *Psalm 34 :3*

People: Taste and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia (3 times)

Chanters: I sought the Lord and He answered me and delivered me from all of my fears. *Psalm 34 :4*

People: Taste and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia (3 times)

The chanters and congregation continue to sing all 22 verses of Psalm 34 in this manner until those who have prepared have received Holy Communion.

If more time is required to distribute Holy Communion other hymns may be sung as appropriate.

*Following the reception of Holy Communion by the congregation
the Priest raises the Chalice and blesses the people singing:*

Priest: O God, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.

People: Let our mouths be filled with Your praise O Lord that we may sing of Your glory. You have made us worthy to partake of Your holy Mysteries. Keep us in Your holiness that all the day long we may meditate upon Your righteousness. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

*The Priest, having placed the gifts upon the Holy Altar,
says the following prayer to bless the offering of incense and then censes the gifts:*

Priest: In our union with You our hearts rejoice, O God our Father, and we offer to You, together with this incense, a hymn of thanksgiving, the fruit of our lips, confessing Your grace. Let this incense rise up before You, O God, and do not turn it away. But grant us, through the offering of this incense, the fragrance of Your all-holy Spirit, the pure myrrh which is never to be taken away. Fill our mouths with praise, our lips with delight, and our hearts with joy and gladness in Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the communion of His Holy Gifts may be to us for the averting of every evil action, a provision unto eternal life, and the communion and gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed and glorious Lady, the *Theotokos* and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints and the righteous, let us commit ourselves, and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O God, in Your great and ineffable compassion, You have condescended to the weakness of Your servants and have made us worthy to partake of this heavenly Table. O Master, in receiving Your pure Mysteries, do not condemn us sinners, but safeguard us in Your holiness, that being found worthy of Your Holy Spirit, we may find a place and portion with all the saints, who from all ages have pleased You, and now dwell in the unapproachable light of Your face.

For Your holy, majestic and all-honorable Name is blessed, sanctified, and glorified, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O God, great and wonderful, look upon Your servants, for to You we have bowed our heads. Stretch forth Your mighty hand which is full of blessings, and bless Your people. Preserve Your inheritance that we may praise glorify You now and forevermore, the only true and living God, the Holy Trinity, one in essence and undivided, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

For to You are due, and owed by all of us, all glory, honor,

worship, and thanksgiving, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us go forth in the peace of Christ.

The Priest goes and stands in the center of the Nave, and says:

Priest: By Your grace, advancing from strength to strength and from glory to glory, having fully completed the Divine Liturgy in Your temple, we ask You now, O Lord our God, deem us worthy of Your perfect love. Set aright our ways, establish us firmly in Your fear, have mercy upon us all, and make us worthy of Your heavenly kingdom, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom belongs all glory, honor and dominion, together with You and Your all-holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Then the Priest turns and re-enters the Sanctuary.

The Deacon, facing the people, says in a solemn and calm tone:

Deacon: You are dismissed in peace.

Priest: (in a low voice) Blessed is our God, He who blesses and sanctifies us with the communion of His holy and pure Mysteries, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.



St. James (Iakovos), the Brother of God

His memory is celebrated on October 23rd

The holy Apostle James, the Brother of God, was the son of the Righteous Joseph the Betrothed by a previous marriage. From his early years James was a Nazarene, a man especially dedicated to God. The Nazarenes vowed to preserve their virginity, to abstain from wine, to refrain from eating meat, and never to cut their hair. Within Judaism, the Nazarenes symbolized a life of holiness and purity. When the Lord Jesus began to preach and teach the Kingdom of God, James believed in Him as the Christ and became one of His disciples. He was eventually chosen as the first Bishop of Jerusalem. St. James presided over the Council of Jerusalem and his word was decisive (Acts 15). In his thirty years as bishop, St. James converted many of the Jewish people to Christianity. Annoyed by this, the Pharisees and the Scribes led the saint up on the pinnacle of the Jerusalem Temple and asked what he thought of Jesus. The holy Apostle began to bear witness that Christ is the Messiah. Angered, the Jewish teachers threw him off the roof. The saint did not die immediately but prayed to the Lord for his enemies while they were stoning him. St. James' martyrdom occurred about 63 AD, some seven years before the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans.

The ancient Liturgy of the church in Jerusalem, the Liturgy of St. James, which formed the basis of the Liturgies of Sts. Basil the Great and John Chrysostom, is still celebrated in the Orthodox Church to this day on October 23rd and the Sunday after Christmas.

The Church has also preserved the *Letter of St. James*, one of the 27 books of the New Testament.

***Excerpts from the Letter of St. James (Iakovos)
on Living One's Life as a Christian***

"Let everyone be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to get angry; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness" (1:19).

"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world" (1:27).



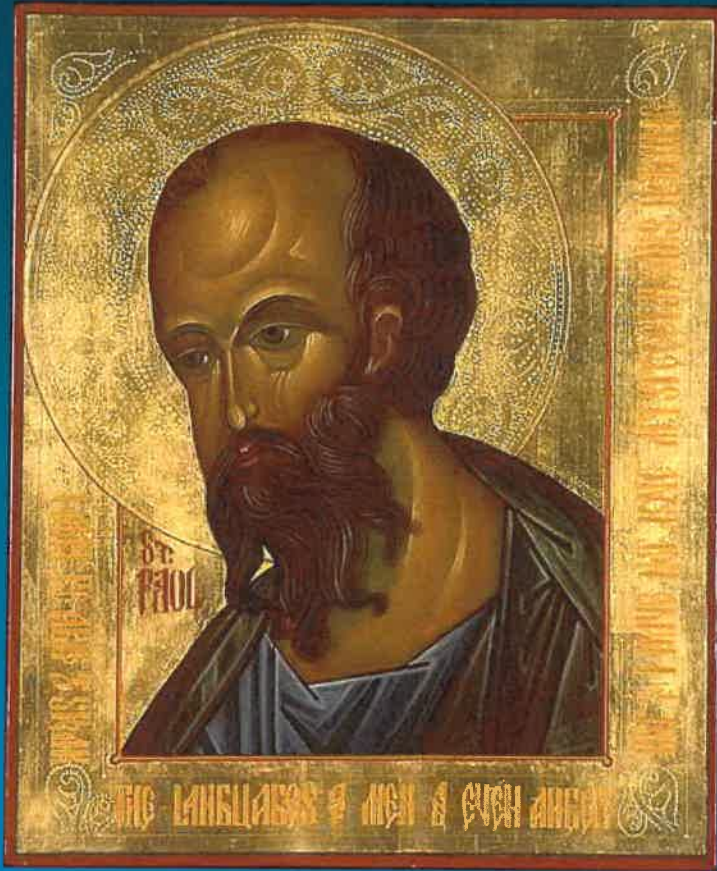
"What good is it if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? Suppose there are brothers or sisters who need clothes and don't have enough to eat. What good is there in your saying to them: "God bless you! Keep warm and eat well!" - if you don't give them the necessities of life? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (2:14-17).

"Faith is brought to completion by works" (2:22).

"Is there anyone among you who is wise and understanding? He is to prove it by his good life, by his good deeds performed with humility and wisdom" (3:13).

"Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you" (4:7-8).

"Do not speak evil against one another" (4:11).



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