

BOOK OF NEEDS

OF THE
HOLY ORTHODOX CHURCH

WITH

AN APPENDIX

CONTAINING OFFICES FOR THE
LAYING ON OF HANDS.

DONE INTO ENGLISH

BY

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Chapter
IX.

THE ORDER THAT IS USED AT
BETROTHALS.

After the divine liturgy, while the priest standeth in the sanctuary, they that purpose to be joined together stand before the holy doors, the man on the right side and the woman on the left, And on the right side of the holy table are laid their two rings, a golden one and a silver one, the silver one towards the right and the golden one towards the left, close to one another. And the priest signeth the heads of the bridal pair thrice, and giveth them burning tapers, and leadeth them within the temple, and censeth crosswise, and by the deacon is said,

Bless, master.

And the priest. Blessed be our God

Choir. Amen.

Deacon. In peace let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace that is from above, and for the salvation of their two

For the peace of the whole world, the good estate

For this holy temple, and for them that with faith

For the most holy governing Synod

For our Most Pious

For the servant of God, *name*, and for the handmaid of God, *name*, who are now being betrothed to one another, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be vouchsafed unto them children for the succession of generation, and all desires that tend to salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be sent down upon them perfect love, peace, and assistance, let us pray to the Lord.

That they may be preserved in unanimity, and stedfast faith, let us pray to the Lord.

That they may be blessed with a blameless course of life, let us pray to the Lord.

That the Lord our God may grant unto them an honourable marriage, and a bed undefiled, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all affliction

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed

Priest.

For to thee is due all glory

Then he saith the prayer with a loud voice.

GOD eternal, who bringest things that are divided unto unity, and imposest upon these an indissoluble bond of love, who didst bless Isaac and Rebecca, and declare them to be the inheritors of thy promise; do thou thyself bless these thy servants, *name, name*; directing them in every good work. For a merciful and man-

loving God thou art, and to thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Priest. Peace to all.

Choir. And to thy spirit.

Deacon. Bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir. To thee, O Lord.

Priest.

OLORD our God, who hast espoused the church as a pure virgin from among the gentiles; do thou bless these espousals, and unite and keep these thy servants in peace and unanimity.

For to thee is due all glory, honour, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Then the priest, taking the rings, giveth first the golden one to the man, then the silver one to the woman.

And he saith to the man,

The servant of God, *name*, is betrothed to the handmaid of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then to the woman he saith,

The handmaid of God, *name*, is betrothed to the servant of God, *name*, in the name of the

Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
Amen.

And when he hath thus spoken to each one thrice, he maketh a cross with the rings upon their heads, and placeth them on the fingers of their right hands. Then the sponsor changeth the rings of the bridal pair.

The priest saith the prayer.

Let us pray to the Lord.

OLORD, our God, who didst accompany the servant of the patriarch Abraham to Mesopotamia, when he was sent to espouse a wife for his lord Isaac, and didst reveal to him by means of the drawing of water to betroth Rebecca; do thou thyself bless the betrothal of thy servants, this, *name*, and this, *name*, and confirm the word that hath been spoken by them, confirm them by the holy union that is from thee; for thou from the beginning hast created male and female, and by thee a woman is conjoined to a man, for assistance and for the succession of the generation of man. Therefore, O Lord our God, who hast sent forth thy truth unto thine inheritance, and thy promise unto thy servants, our fathers, even thine elect in every generation, do thou thyself regard thy servant, *name*, and thine handmaid, *name*, and confirm their betrothal in faith, and unanimity, and truth, and love. For thou, O Lord, hast declared that troth should be given and confirmed in everything. By a ring was

given might unto Joseph in Egypt; by a ring Daniel was exalted in the land of Babylon; by a ring was revealed the truth of Tamar; by a ring our heavenly Father showed compassion upon his son; for, said he, Put ye a ring upon his right hand, and kill the fatted calf, and let us eat and rejoice. Thine own right hand, O Lord, armed Moses in the red sea; for, by thy true word, the heavens were established and the earth firmly founded, and the right hand of thy servants shall be blessed by thy mighty word, and by thine uplifted arm. Therefore, O Master, do thou thyself now bless this putting on of rings with thy heavenly benediction; and may thine Angel go before them all the days of their life.

For thou art he that blesseth and sanctifieth all things, and to thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Straightway the deacon this ectenia.

Furthermore let us pray for our Most Pious, Autocratic, Great Lord, **THE EMPEROR ALEXANDER ALEXANDROVITCH** of all Russia.

Furthermore let us pray for His Consort, the Most Pious Lady, **THE EMPRESS MARIA THEODOROVNA**.

Furthermore let us pray for His Heir, the Right-believing Lord, the **Cesarevitch** and

Grand Duke, NICOLAUS ALEXANDRO-VITCH.

Furthermore let us pray for the Most Holy Governing Synod.

Furthermore let us pray for all Their christ-loving army.

Furthermore let us pray for the servants of God, *name*, and *name*, who are being betrothed to one another.

Choir. Lord have mercy, *thrice*.

Furthermore let us pray for the whole brotherhood

Exclamation.

For a merciful and man-loving God thou art, and to thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Then the dismissal.



Chapter X. THE ORDER OF THE CORONATION.

Now if at the same time they desire to be crowned, they go into the temple with burning tapers, preceded by the priest with the censer, and singing psalm cxxvii thus. And the people say after each verse,

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

Blessed are all they that fear the Lord.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

They that walk in his ways.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee,

Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labours.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

Blessed art thou, and it shall be well with thee.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the gables of thine house.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

Thy sons shall be as newly-planted olive trees round about thy table.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

Lo, thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

The Lord shall bless thee out of Sion, and thou shalt see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

And thou shalt see thy son's sons: peace be upon Israel.

Glory to thee, O our God, glory to thee.

After this the priest saith a word of instruction, telling them what is the mystery of marriage, and how in marriage they have to live acceptably unto God, and honourably. And after the conclusion of this, the priest interrogateth the bridegroom, saying,

Hast thou, *name*, a good and unconstrained

will, and a firm intention to take unto thyself this woman, *name*, whom here thou seest before thee?

And the bridegroom answereth, saying, I have, reverend father.

The priest again, Thou hast not vowed thyself to another bride?

Bridegroom. I have not vowed myself, reverend father.

And straightway the priest, regarding the bride, interrogateth her, saying, Hast thou a good and unconstrained will, and a firm intention to take unto thyself this man, *name*, whom thou seest here before thee?

And the bride answereth, saying, I have, reverend father.

The priest again, Thou hast not vowed thyself to another man?

And the bride answereth, I have not vowed myself, reverend father.

Then the deacon saith, Bless, master.

Priest. Blessed be the kingdom

Choir. Amen.

Deacon, the ectenia.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace that is from above

For the peace of the whole world

For this holy temple

For the Most Holy Governing Synod.

For our Most Pious

For the servants of God, *name, name*, who are now being conjoined to one another in the community of marriage, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

That this marriage may be blessed as was that in Cana of Gallilee, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be vouchsafed unto them chastity, and fruit of the womb for their benefit, let us pray to the Lord.

That they may be rejoiced in the beholding of sons and daughters, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be granted unto them the acquisition of fair children, and a blameless course of life, let us pray to the Lord.

That there may be granted unto them and unto us all desires that tend unto salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

For their deliverance and ours from every affliction.

Help us, save us, have mercy

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed

Priest, with a loud voice,

For to thee is due all glory

Choir. Amen.

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir. Lord have mercy.

The priest, with a loud voice, this prayer.

GOD most pure, and the Author of all creation, who, through thy love to man, didst transform a rib of Adam the forefather into a woman, and didst bless them, and say, Increase and multiply, and have dominion over the earth, and, by the conjoining, didst declare them both to be one member; for because of this a man shall forsake his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and the two shall be in one flesh; and whom God hath joined together let man not put asunder; who didst also bless thy servant Abraham, and open the womb of Sara, and didst make him the father of many nations; who didst bestow Isaac upon Rebecca, and didst bless her offspring; who didst join Jacob unto Rachel, and from them didst make manifest the twelve patriarchs; who didst yoke Joseph and Aseneth together, and as the fruit of generation didst bestow upon them Ephrem and Manasse; who didst accept Zacharias and Elizabeth, and didst declare their offspring the Forerunner; who out of the root of Jesse, according to the flesh, didst produce the Ever-Virgin, and from her wast incarnate and wast born for the salvation of the human race; who through thine unspeakable grace and plenteous goodness, wast present in Cana of Gallilee, and didst bless the marriage there, that thou mightest show that a lawful union, and a generation therefrom is according to thy will. Do thou thyself, O most holy Master, accept the

prayer of us, thy servants, and, with thine invisible presence being here, as there, do thou bless this marriage, and give unto thy servants, *name, name*, a peaceful life, length of days, chastity, love for one another in the bond of peace, a long-lived seed, grace upon their children, and an unfading crown of glory. Count them worthy to see their children's children; preserve their bed undefiled; and give them of the dew of heaven from above, and of the fatness of the earth. Fill their houses with corn, wine and oil, and with every bounty, that they may have to give to them that are in need, bestowing also unto them that are here assembled with us all desires that tend to salvation.

For a merciful, and compassionate, and man-loving God thou art, and to thee we ascribe glory, with thine unbeginning Father, and thy most holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir. Lord, have mercy.

The priest this prayer with a loud voice.

BLESSED art thou, O Lord our God, thou hierurgist of mystical and pure marriage and lawgiver of that of the body, thou guardian of incorruption, thou good provider of the means of life. Do thou thyself now, O Master, who in the beginning didst create man, and

appoint him as the king of creation, and say, It is not good for man to be alone upon the earth, let us make him a help-meet for him; and, taking one of his ribs, didst make woman, whom when Adam saw he said, This now is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called woman, for she was taken out of her man: for this cause a man shall forsake his father and mother, and cleave unto his wife, and two shall be in one flesh: and whom God hath joined, let not man divide: do thou thyself now, O Master, Lord our God, send down thy heavenly grace upon these thy servants, *name, name*, and grant unto this thine handmaid to be in all things subject unto the man, and to this thy servant to be at the head of the woman, that they may live according unto thy will. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Abraham and Sara. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Isaac and Rebecca. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Jacob, and all the patriarchs. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Joseph and Aseneth. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Moses and Sepphora. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Joakim and Anna. Bless them, O Lord our God, as thou didst bless Zacharias and Elizabeth. Preserve them, O Lord our God, as thou didst preserve Noe in the ark. Preserve them, O Lord our God, as

thou didst preserve Jonas in the belly of the whale. Preserve them, O Lord our God, as thou didst preserve the three holy children from the fire, sending down upon them dew from heaven; and may that joy come upon them which the blessed Helen had when she found the precious cross. Remember them, O Lord our God, as thou didst remember Enoch, Sem, and Elias. Remember them, O Lord our God, as thou didst remember thy holy forty martyrs, sending down upon them crowns from heaven. Remember, O God, the parents who have reared them; for the prayers of parents confirm the foundation of houses. Remember, O Lord our God, thy servants, the paranympths, who are present at this rejoicing. Remember, O Lord our God, thy servant, *name*, and thine handmaid, *name*, and bless them. Give them fruit of the womb, fair children, and unanimity of soul and body. Exalt them as the cedars of Libanus, and as a well-cultured vine. Bestow upon them seed of corn, that, having every sufficiency, they may abound in every work that is good and acceptable unto thee; and let them behold their sons' sons as newly planted olive-trees round about their table; and, being accepted before thee, may they shine as the luminaries in heaven unto thee, our Lord. And, together with thee, be glory, might, honour, and worship, to thine unbeginning Father, and to thy life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir. Lord, have mercy.

And again the priest saith this prayer with a loud voice.

HHOLY GOD, who didst form man from the dust, and from his rib didst fashion woman, and yoke her unto him a helpmeet for him, because so it was seemly unto thy majesty for man not to be alone upon the earth; do thou thyself now, O Master, stretch forth thy hand from thy holy dwelling-place, and conjoin this thy servant, *name*, and this thine handmaid, *name*; for by thee a woman is conjoined unto a man. Yoke them together in unanimity, crown them in one flesh, bestow on them fruit of the womb, and the gain of well-favoured children.

For thine is the might, and thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

And after the Amen the priest, taking the crowns, crowneth first the bridegroom, saying,

The servant of God, *name*, is crowned for the handmaid of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Then he crowneth also the bride, saying,

The handmaid of God, *name*, is crowned for

the servant of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Then he blesseth them thrice, saying thrice,

O Lord our God, crown them with glory and honour.

Then the prokimenon of the epistle, tone viii.

Thou hast set upon their heads crowns of precious stones: they asked life of thee, and thou gavest it them.

Verse. For thou wilt give them a blessing to ages of ages, thou wilt make them glad through joy with thy countenance.

The epistle to the Ephesians, section cci.

Brethren, give thanks *ending*, that she reverence her husband. * *Alleluia.*

Verse. Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us, and shalt protect us, from this generation, and to ages.

Deacon. Wisdom, standing, let us hear

The gospel from John, section vi.

At that time there was a marriage *ending*, believed on him. †

Deacon. Let us all say with our whole soul, and with our whole mind let us say.

O Lord Almighty, the God

* Chap. v. 20, ad fin.

† Chap. ii. 1-11.

Have mercy upon us, O God

Furthermore let us pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God, *names, and he commemorateth whom he wisheth.*

Exclamation. For a merciful

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir. Lord have mercy.

Priest, this prayer.

LORD our God, who, in thy saving providence, didst vouchsafe in Cana of Galilee to declare marriage honourable by thy presence; do thou now thyself preserve in peace and unanimity thy servants, *name, and, name,* whom thou art well-pleased should be conjoined to one another: declare their marriage honourable: preserve their bed undefiled: be pleased that their mutual life may be unblamable, and count them worthy to attain unto a ripe old age, keeping thy commandments in a pure heart.

For thou art our God, the God to have mercy and to save, and to thee we ascribe glory, with thine unbeginning Father, and with thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Deacon. Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

Choir. Lord, have mercy.

That the whole day may be perfect, holy

Choir. Vouchsafe, O Lord.

An angel of peace

Pardon and forgiveness of our sins

What is good and profitable for our souls

That the remaining time of our life

A christian end of our life

Having prayed for the unity of the faith, and
the communion of the Holy Ghost

Choir. To thee, O Lord.

The priest exclaimeth,

And count us worthy, O Master, with bold-
ness to dare without condemnation to call upon
thee, our heavenly Father God, and say,

And the people, Our Father *all to the
end.*

The priest exclaimeth, For thine is the king-
dom

Peace to all.

Bow your heads to the Lord.

*Then the common cup is brought, and the priest
blesseth it, and saith this prayer.*

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

GOD, who by thy might createst all
things, and confirmest the universe, and
adornest the crown of all things created by
thee; do thou, with thy spiritual blessing, bless
also this common cup given for the community
of marriage unto them that are conjoined.

With a loud voice, For blessed is thy name,
and glorified thy kingdom

Choir. Amen.

Then the priest, taking in his hand the common cup, giveth them to drink thrice, first to the man, and then to the woman. And straightway the priest taketh them, while the groomsman holdeth the crowns behind, and leadeth them in the form of a circle. And the priest, or the people, sing the present troparion in tone v,

Rejoice, O Esaias, the virgin is with child, and bringeth forth a son, Emmanuel, God and man: the orient is his name, whom magnifying, we call the virgin blessed.

Another, tone vii.

O holy martyrs, who valiantly contended, and are crowned; pray ye the Lord for mercy on our souls.

Glory to thee, Christ God, apostles' boast, and martyrs' joy, whose preaching was the consubstantial Trinity.

Then, taking the crown from the bridegroom, he saith,

Be thou magnified, O bridegroom, as Abraham, and blessed as Isaac, and increased as Jacob, walking in peace, and performing in righteousness the commandments of God.

And when he taketh the crown from the bride, he saith,

And thou, O bride, be thou magnified as Sara, and rejoiced as Rebecca, and increased as Rachel, being glad in thy husband, and

keeping the paths of the law, for so God is well-pleased.

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir. Lord, have mercy.

Priest, the prayer,

GOD, our God, who wast present in Cana of Galilee, and didst bless the marriage there; do thou bless also these thy servants, who, by thy providence, are conjoined in the community of marriage. Bless their incomings and outgoings, replenish their life with good things, accept their crowns in thy kingdom unsullied and undefiled, and preserve them without offence to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Priest. Peace to all.

Bow your heads to the Lord.

And the priest prayeth.

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the all-holy, and consubstantial, and life-originating Trinity, one Godhead and sovereignty, bless you, and vouchsafe unto you long life, well-favoured children, progress in life and faith, and replenish you with all the good things of earth, and count you worthy of the obtaining of promised blessings, through the prayers of the holy God-bearing one, and of all the Saints. Amen.

Then they come and congratulate them, and they

kiss one another, and the full dismissal is made by the priest.

Saith the deacon, Wisdom.

Choir. The more honourable than the Cherubim

Priest, the dismissal.

He that by his presence in Cana of Galilee declared marriage to be honourable, Christ our true God, through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-praised apostles; of the holy god-crowned sovereigns and equals of the apostles, Constantine and Helen; of the holy great martyr Procopius, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save us, as being good and the lover of mankind.



*Chapter
XI.*

PRAYER AT THE TAKING OFF OF THE CROWNS ON THE EIGHTH DAY.

GLORD our God, who blessest the crown of the year, and permittest these crowns to be put on them that are conjoined to one another by the law of marriage, vouchsafing them to them as the reward of chastity; for they are pure that are conjoined in the lawfully

appointed marriage that is from thee; do thou thyself also bless, in the taking off of these crowns, them that have been conjoined together, and preserve their union unbroken, that they may ever give thanks unto thine all-holy name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Priest. Peace to all.

O Lord, thy servants, having met in concord and accomplished the order of marriage as at Cana of Galilee, and contracted the signs according thereto, ascribe glory to thee, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

And the dismissal.



*Chapter
XII.*

THE ORDER FOR A SECOND
MARRIAGE.

The priest beginneth, Blessed be our God
Then, Trisagion. *After Our Father* *the troparion of the day.*

Then, ectenia.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
For the peace that is from above

For the peace of the whole world

For this holy temple

For the servants of God, *name*, and, *name*,
and for their protection by God and mutual
life, let us pray to the Lord.

That they may live together virtuously in
unanimity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy

Commemorating our most holy, most pure,
most blessed

For to thee is due

Then, Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest, the prayer.

GOD eternal, who bringest things that are
divided unto unity, and imposest upon these
two an indissoluble bond of love, who
didst bless Isaac and Rebecca, and declare
them to be the inheritors of thy promise; do
thou thyself also bless these thy servants, *name*,
and, *name*, directing them in every good work.

For a merciful and man-loving God thou art,
and to thee we ascribe glory, to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now
and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Priest. Peace to all.

Deacon. Bow your heads to the Lord.

Priest, the prayer.

LORD our God, who hast espoused the
church as a pure virgin from among the
gentiles; do thou bless these espousals, and

unite and keep these thy servants in peace and unanimity.

For to thee is due all glory, honour, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

Then the priest, taking the rings, giveth first the golden one to the man, and the silver one to the woman, and saith to the man,

The servant of God, *name*, is betrothed to the handmaid of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

And in like manner to the woman, The handmaid of God, *name*, is betrothed to the servant of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

And he maketh a cross with the rings upon their heads, and placeth them on the fingers of their right hands. Then the sponsor changeth the rings of the bridal pair.

After this, the deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest, the prayer.

MASTER, Lord our God, who sparest all, and providest for all, who knowest the secrets of men, having knowledge of all things; do thou cleanse our sins, and pardon the transgression of thy servants, calling them to repentance: vouchsafe unto them remission of iniquities, cleansing of sins, pardon of

voluntary and involuntary transgressions, O thou that knowest the weakness of human nature, thou Fashioner and Creator. O thou who didst forgive Raab the harlot, and accept the repentance of the publican, remember not our sins of ignorance from our youth up. For if thou, O Lord, shouldest mark transgressions, who should stand before thee, O Lord? or what flesh should be justified in thy sight? For thou only art just, sinless, holy, of abundant mercy, plenteous beneficence, and repentest thee concerning the evils of men. Do thou thyself, O Master, who claimest thy servants, *name, name*, unite them to one another in love; give unto them the conversion of the publican, the tears of the harlot, and the confession of the thief, that, through repentance from all their heart, performing thy commandments in unanimity and peace, they may be counted worthy of thy heavenly kingdom.

For thou art the provider for all, and to thee we ascribe glory

Priest. Peace to all.

Deacon. Bow your heads to the Lord.

And this prayer.

LORD Jesus Christ, Word of God, who wast lifted up upon the precious and life-effecting cross, and didst tear up the handwriting that was against us, and deliver us from the power of the devil; do thou cleanse the

transgressions of thy servants, for, unable to bear the burden and the heat of the day, and the burning of the flesh, they are come to a second community of marriage, in accordance with that which thou hast lawfully appointed by thy chosen vessel, Paul, the apostle, saying, because of our low estate, It is better to marry in the Lord than to burn. Do thou thyself, as being good and man-loving, have mercy and pardon, cleanse, remit, and forgive our debts; for thou art he that took our weaknesses on thy shoulders: for there is none sinless, or without defilement for even one day of his life: thou only art the one who didst bear flesh sinlessly, and thou bestowest upon us eternal passionlessness.

For thou art God, the God of the penitent, and to thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

People. Amen.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest, the prayer.

HOLY God, who didst form man from the dust, and from his rib didst fashion woman, and yoke her unto him a helpmeet for him, because so it was seemly unto thy majesty for man not to be alone upon the earth; do thou thyself, now, O Master, stretch forth thy hand from thy holy dwelling-place, and conjoin this thy servant, *name*, and this

thine handmaid, *name*; for by thee a woman is conjoined to a husband. Yoke them together in unanimity, crown them in one flesh, bestow on them fruit of the womb, and the gain of well-favoured children.

For thine is the might, and thine is the kingdom, and the power

And, taking the crowns, he crowneth the bridegroom, saying,

The servant of God, *name*, is crowned for the handmaid of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

In like manner he crowneth also the bride, saying,

The handmaid of God, *name*, is crowned for the servant of God, *name*, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Then he blesseth them, saying thrice,

O Lord our God, crown them with glory and honour.

Then he saith the epistle and gospel, as they are written in the first coronation. Vide page 67.

Then the deacon.

Let us all say with our whole soul

O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers

Have mercy upon us, O God

Furthermore let us pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants

of God, *names*, and he commemorateth whom he wisheth.

Exclamation. For a merciful

Deacon. Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest, this prayer.

QUOD LORD our God, who, in thy saving providence, didst vouchsafe in Cana of Galilee to declare marriage honourable by thy presence; do thou now thyself preserve in peace and unanimity thy servants, *name*, and, *name*, whom thou art well-pleased should be conjoined to one another: declare their marriage honourable: preserve their bed undefiled: be pleased that their mutual life may be unblamable, and count them worthy to attain unto a ripe old age, keeping thy commandments in a pure heart.

For thou art our God, the God to have mercy and to save, and to thee we ascribe glory, with thine unbeginning Father, and with thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon.

Help us, save us, have mercy

That the whole day may be perfect, holy

An angel of peace, a faithful

Pardon and forgiveness of our sins

What is good and profitable for our souls

That the remaining time of our life

A christian end of our life

Having prayed for the unity of the faith, and the communion

The priest exclaimeth,

And count us worthy, O Master

People. Our Father

Priest, For thine is the kingdom

Amen.

Priest. Peace to all.

Bow your heads to the Lord.

Then the common cup is brought, and the priest blesseth it, and saith this prayer.

GOD, who by thy might createst all things, and confirmest the universe, and adornest the crown of all things created by thee; do thou, with thy spiritual blessing, bless also this common cup given for the community of marriage unto them that are conjoined.

With a loud voice,

For blessed is thy name, and glorified thy kingdom

Then the priest, taking in his hand the common cup, giveth them to drink thrice, first to the man, and then to the woman. And straightway the priest, taking them, leadeth them in the form of a circle, and singeth in tone v,

Rejoice, O Esaias, the virgin is with child, and bringeth forth a son, Emmanuel, God and man: the orient is his name, whom magnifying, we call the virgin blessed.

Another, tone vii.

O holy martyrs, who valiantly contended and are crown'd; pray ye the Lord for mercy on our souls.

Glory to thee, Christ God, apostles' boast and martyrs' joy, whose preaching was the consubstantial Trinity.

And, taking the crown from the bridegroom, he saith,

Be thou magnified, O bridegroom, as Abraham, and blessed as Isaac, and increased as Jacob, walking in peace, and performing in righteousness the commandments of God.

And, taking the crown from the bride, he saith,

And thou, O bride, be thou magnified as Sara, and rejoiced, as Rebecca, and increased as Rachel, being glad in thy husband, and keeping the paths of the law, for so God is well pleased.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Then the prayer.

GOD, our God, who wast present in Cana of Galilee, and didst bless the marriage there; do thou bless also these thy servants, who, by thy providence, are conjoined in the community of marriage. Bless their incomings and outgoings, replenish their life with good things, accept their crowns in thy

kingdom unsullied and undefiled, and preserve them without offence to ages of ages.

Choir. Amen.

Priest. Peace to all.

Bow your heads to the Lord.

And he prayeth.

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the all-holy, and consubstantial, and life-originating Trinity, one Godhead and sovereignty, bless you, and vouchsafe unto you long life, well-favoured children, progress in life and faith, and replenish you with all the good things of the earth, and count you worthy of the obtaining of promised blessings, through the prayers of the holy God-bearing one, and of all the Saints. Amen.

Then they come and congratulate them, and they kiss one another. And the dismissal is made.

He that by his presence in Cana of Galilee declared marriage to be honourable, Christ our true God, through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-praised apostles; of the holy god-crowned sovereigns and equals of the apostles, Constantine and Helen; of the holy great-martyr Procopius, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save us, as being good and the lover of mankind.

