

Appendix

The Anaphora of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

(In lieu of the Prayer of Offering (Prothesis) (p. 194) we recite the following prayer)

Priest: Lord, our God, You created us and brought us into this life. You have shown us the way to salvation and have bestowed upon us the revelation of heavenly mysteries. You have appointed us to this service by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Grant, therefore, O Lord that we may be accepted as servants of Your new Covenant and ministers of Your Holy Mysteries. Accept us as we draw near to Your holy altar, according to the multitude of Your mercy, that we may be worthy to offer You this spiritual sacrifice without the shedding of blood, for our sins and for the transgressions of Your people. Grant that, having accepted this sacrifice upon Your holy, heavenly, and spiritual altar as a scent of sweet-fragrance, You may in return send down upon us the grace of Your Holy Spirit. Look upon us, O God, and consider our worship; and accept it as You accepted the gifts of Abel, the sacrifices of Noah, the burnt offerings of Abraham, the priestly offices of Moses and Aaron, and the peace offerings of Samuel. As You accepted this true worship from Your holy apostles, accept also in Your goodness, O Lord, these gifts from the hands of us sinners, that being deemed worthy to serve at Your holy altar without blame, we may obtain the reward of the faithful stewards on the fearful day of Your just judgment.

THE HOLY ANAPHORA

Priest: Let us stand aright. Let us stand with fear. Let us be attentive, that we may offer the Holy *Anaphora* in peace.

People: An offering of peace, a sacrifice of praise.

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

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us lift up our hearts.

People: We have them [turned] up toward the Lord.

Priest: Let us offer our Thanksgiving to the Lord.

People: It is proper and right.

Priest: Master, Lord, God, worshipful Father almighty, it is truly just and right to the majesty of Your holiness to praise You, to hymn You, to bless You, to worship You, to give thanks to You, to glorify You, the only true God, and to offer to You this our spiritual worship with a contrite heart and a humble spirit. For You have given us to know Your truth. Who is worthy to praise Your mighty acts? Or to make known all Your praises? Or tell of all Your wonderful deeds at all times? Master of all things, Lord of heaven and earth, and of every creature visible and invisible, You are seated upon the throne of glory and behold the depths. You are without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, beyond words, unchangeable. You are the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the great God and Savior of our hope, the image of Your goodness, the true seal of revealing in Himself You, the Father. He is the living Word, the true God, eternal wisdom, life, sanctification, power, and the true light. Through Him the Holy Spirit was manifested, the Spirit of truth, the gift of Sonship, the pledge of our future inheritance, the first fruits of eternal blessings, the life giving power, the source of sanctification through whom every rational and spiritual creature is made capable of worshiping You and giving You eternal glorification, for all things are subject to You. For You are praised by the angels, archangels, thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities, powers, and the many-eyed Cherubim. Round about You stand the Seraphim, one with six wings and the other with six wings; with two they cover their faces: with two they cover their feet; with two they fly, crying out to one another with unceasing voices and ever-resounding praises

(Intones) singing the triumphal hymn, shouting, crying out, and saying:

People: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth,
 heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest!
 Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord!
 Hosanna in the highest!

Priest: Together with these blessed powers, loving Master we sinners also cry out and say: Truly You are holy and most-holy, and there are no bounds to the majesty of Your holiness. You are holy in all Your works, for with righteousness and true judgment You have ordered all things for us. For having made man by taking dust from the earth, and having honored him with Your own image, O God, You placed him in a garden of delight, promising him eternal life and the enjoyment of everlasting blessings in the observance of Your commandments. But when he disobeyed You, the

true God who had created him, and was led astray by the deception of the serpent becoming subject to death through his own transgressions, You, O God, in Your righteous judgment, expelled him from paradise into this world, returning him to the earth from which he was taken, yet providing for him the salvation of regeneration in Your Christ. For You did not forever reject Your creature whom You made, O Good One, nor did You forget the work of Your hands, but because of Your tender compassion, You visited him in various ways: You sent forth prophets; You performed mighty works by Your Saints who in every generation have pleased You; You spoke to us by the mouth of Your servants the prophets, announcing to us the salvation which was to come; You gave us the law to help us; You appointed angels as guardians; and when the fullness of time had come, You spoke to us through Your Son Himself, through whom You created the ages. He, being the splendor of Your glory and the image of Your being, upholding all things by the word of His power, thought it not robbery to be equal with You, God and Father. But, being God before all ages, He appeared on earth and lived with humankind. Becoming incarnate from a holy Virgin, He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, conforming to the body of our lowliness, that He might change us in the likeness of the image of His glory. For, since through man sin came into the world and through sin death, it pleased Your Only Begotten Son who is in Your bosom, God and Father, born of a woman, the holy *Theotokos* and Ever-Virgin Mary; born under the law, to condemn sin in His flesh, so that those who died in Adam may be brought to life in Him, Your Christ. He lived in this world, and gave us precepts of salvation. Releasing us from the delusions of idolatry, He guided us to the sure knowledge of You, the true God and Father. He acquired us for Himself, as His chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. Having cleansed us by water and sanctified us with the Holy Spirit, He gave Himself as ransom to death in which we were held captive, sold under sin. Descending into Hades through the Cross, that He might fill all things with Himself, He loosed the bonds of death. He rose on the third day, having opened a path for all flesh to the Resurrection from the dead, since it was not possible that the Author of life would be dominated by corruption. So He became the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep, the first-born of the dead, that He might be Himself the first in all things. Ascending into heaven, He sat at the right hand of Your majesty on high and He will come to render to each according to His works. As memorials of His saving passion, He has left us these gifts which we have set forth before You according to His commands.

For when He was about to go forth to His voluntary, ever-memorable, and life-giving Death, on the night on which He was delivered up for the life of the world, He took bread in His holy and pure hands, and presenting it to You, God and Father, and offering thanks, blessing, sanctifying, and breaking it:

(Intones) He gave it to His holy disciples and apostles saying: Receive, eat, this is My body, Which is broken for you for the remission of sins.

People: Amen.

Priest: Likewise, He took the Cup of the fruit of vine, and having mingled it, offering thanks, blessing, and sanctifying it

(Intones) He gave it to His holy disciples and apostles saying: Drink of this all of you. This is My blood of the New Covenant, shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins.

People: Amen.

Priest: Do this in remembrance of Me. For as often as you eat this Bread and drink [from] this Cup, you proclaim My Death, and you confess My Resurrection.

Therefore, Master, we also, remembering His saving passion and life-giving Cross, His three-day burial and Resurrection from the dead, His ascension into heaven, and enthronement at Your right hand, God and Father, and His glorious and awesome Second Coming

(Intones) we offer You Your own from Your own, [in fulfillment of] all and [in thanksgiving] for all [You have done for us].

People: We praise You, we bless You,
we give thanks to You,
and we pray to You, Lord our God.

Priest: Therefore, most Holy Master, we also, Your sinful and unworthy servants, whom You have made worthy to serve at Your holy altar, not because of our own righteousness (for we have not done anything good upon the earth), but because of Your mercy and compassion, which You have so richly poured upon us, dare to approach Your holy altar, and bring forth the symbols of the Holy Body and Blood of Your Christ. We pray to You and call upon You, O Holy of Holies, that by the favor of Your goodness, Your Holy Spirit may come upon us and upon the gifts here presented, to bless, sanctify,

and make this bread to be the precious Body of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ,

(He blesses the holy Bread)

People: Amen.

Priest: and this Cup to be the precious Blood of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ

(He blesses the holy Cup)

People: Amen.

Priest: shed for the life and salvation of the world;

(He blesses them both)

People: Amen. Amen. Amen.

Priest: and unite us all to one another who become partakers of the one Bread and the Cup in the communion of the one Holy Spirit. Grant that none of us may partake of the Holy Body and Blood of Your Christ to judgment or condemnation; but, that we may find mercy and grace with all the Saints who through the ages have pleased You: forefathers, fathers, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, preachers, evangelists, martyrs, confessors, teachers, and every righteous spirit made perfect in faith,

(Intones) especially with our most holy, pure, most blessed, glorious Lady, *Theotokos* and Ever-Virgin Mary;

People: In you rejoices, lady full of grace, the whole of creation,
 the host of the Angels and the race of the humans.
 O hallowed temple of God and spiritual Paradise,
 in you the virgins take pride,
 in whom our God was incarnate,
 and became for us a Child
 He Who as God preexisted before all time.
 He has made your womb throne of His majesty
 and your body wider and more spacious than heaven
 - He has made for Him.
 In you rejoices, Lady Full of Grace, the whole of creation:
 Glory to you!

(The priest censes)

Priest: with Saint John the prophet, forerunner and baptizer; with the holy, glorious, and most-honorable apostles; with Saint(s) *(Name(s))*, whose memory we commemorate today; and with all Your Saints, through whose supplications, O God, visit us.

Remember also all who have fallen asleep in the hope of the Resurrection to eternal life *(here the priest commemorates the names of the deceased)*, and grant them rest, our God, where the light of Your countenance shines.

We also pray to You, be mindful of Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, which is from one end of the inhabited earth to the other. Grant peace to her which You have obtained with the precious blood of Your Christ. Strengthen also this holy house to the end of the ages.

Remember, Lord, those who have brought You these gifts, and for whom and through whom and the intentions for which they were offered. Remember, Lord, those who bear fruit and do good works in Your holy churches, and those who remember the poor. Reward them with Your

rich and heavenly gifts. Grant them in return for earthly things, heavenly gifts; for temporal, eternal; for corruptible, incorruptible.

Remember, Lord, those who are in the deserts, on mountains, in caverns, and in the chambers of the earth. Remember, Lord, those living in chastity and godliness, in asceticism and holiness of life. Remember, Lord, this country and all those in public service whom you have allowed to govern on earth. Grant them profound and lasting peace. Speak to their hearts good things concerning your Church and all your people that through the faithful conduct of their duties we may live peaceful and serene lives in all piety and holiness.

Sustain the good in their goodness; make the wicked good through Your goodness.

Remember, Lord, the people here present and those who are absent with good cause. Have mercy on them and on us according to the multitude of Your mercy. Fill their treasuries with every good thing; preserve their marriages in peace and harmony; nurture the infants; instruct the youth; strengthen the aged; give courage to the faint-hearted; reunite those separated; bring back those in error and unite them to Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. Free those who are held captive by unclean spirits; sail with those who sail; travel with those who travel; defend the widows; protect the orphans; liberate the captives; heal the sick. Remember, Lord, those who are in mines, in exile, in harsh labor, and those in every kind of affliction, necessity, or distress; those who entreat Your loving kindness; those who love us and those who hate us; those who have asked us to pray for them, unworthy though we may be.

Remember, Lord our God, all Your people, and pour out Your rich mercy upon them, granting them their petitions for salvation. Remember, O God, all those whom we have not remembered through ignorance, forgetfulness or because of their multitude since You know the name and age of each, even from their mother's womb. For You, Lord, are the helper of the helpless, the hope of the hopeless, the Savior of the afflicted, the haven of the voyager, and the physician of the sick. Be all things to all, You who know each person, his requests, his household, and his need. Deliver this community and city, O Lord, and every city and town, from famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, invasion of foreign enemies, and civil war.

(Intones) Above all, remember, Lord, our Archbishop (*Name*). Grant that he may serve Your holy churches in peace. Keep him safe, honorable, and healthy for many years, rightly teaching the word of Your truth.

Deacon: Remember also, Lord, those whom each of us calls to mind and all your people.

People: And all Your people.

Priest (*in a low voice*): Remember, Lord, all Orthodox bishops who rightly teach the word of Your truth. Remember Lord, my unworthiness according to the multitude of Your mercies; forgive my every transgression, both

voluntary and involuntary. Do not take away the grace of Your Holy Spirit from these gifts presented because of my sins. Remember, Lord, the presbyters, the deaconate in Christ, and every order of the clergy, and do not confound any of us who stand about Your holy altar. Visit us with Your goodness, Lord; manifest Yourself to us through Your rich compassion. Grant us seasonable weather and fruitful seasons; send gentle showers upon the earth so that it may bear fruit; bless the crown of the year of Your goodness. Prevent schism in the Church; pacify the raging of the heathen. Quickly stop the uprisings of heresies by the power of Your Holy Spirit. Receive us all into Your Kingdom. Declare us to be sons and daughters of the light and of the day. Grant us Your peace and love, Lord our God, for You have given all things to us.

(Intones) And grant that with one voice and one heart we may glorify and praise Your most honored and majestic Name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen. *(End of the Anaphora Prayer)*

PRAYER BEHIND THE AMBON

(The priest proceeds toward the icon of Christ, and says in a loud voice)

Priest: O Christ, our God, Who accept from those who call upon You with all their heart this spiritual sacrifice without the shedding of blood as a sacrifice of praise and true worship; Who are the Lamb and Son of God Who bears the sins of the world; the blameless calf Who does not accept the yoke of sin and Who freely sacrificed Yourself for us; Who are broken but not divided, Who are consumed but never spent; Who sanctify those who partake of You: In remembrance of Your voluntary passion and life-giving Resurrection on the third day, You have made us partakers of Your ineffable and heavenly and awesome mysteries of Your holy Body and precious Blood. Preserve us, Your servants, those who minister, our leaders, the armed forces, and the people present here, in Your holiness. Grant that we may meditate upon Your righteousness at all times and in every season. Guide us and our actions, so that we may do what is pleasing to You, and may You find us worthy to stand at Your right hand when You return to judge the living and the dead. Deliver our brothers and sisters who are in captivity, visit those who are sick, protect those who are in danger at sea, and give rest to the souls of all those who have fallen asleep in the hope of the eternal life where the light of Your face shines. Hear the petitions of all those who beseech You for Your help. For You are the giver of all good things, and to You we give glory, together with Your Father without beginning and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and unto the ages of ages.

Priest *(proceeding toward the Prothesis and saying in a low voice):*

O Christ our God, the mystery of Your dispensation of salvation is accomplished and fulfilled, as far as it is in our power. For we have held the remembrance of Your Death, we have seen the figure of Your Resurrection, we have been filled with Your unending life, we have enjoyed Your inexhaustible delight, which in the age to come be well pleased to grant to all of us, through the grace of Your Father without beginning and of Your Holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and unto the ages of ages.

The Heavenly Banquet: Understanding the Divine Liturgy

by Fr. Emmanuel Hatzidakis

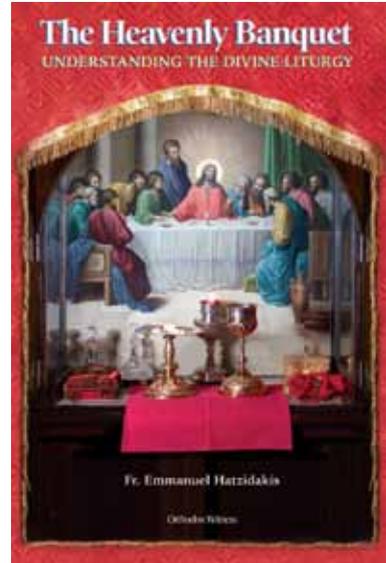
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