



THE PROTHESIS

The Celebrants enter to the Altar of Prothesis, all standing. *Any congregation in attendance should stand and respond, even though the Iconostat is closed.*

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

V. Let us pray

The Celebrant (Priest) takes the altar bread, placing it on the paten, and lifting it slightly, or to chest level, prays, making the cross with the paten over the altar of prothesis at the (+).

V. Accept O Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, this unspotted sacrificial victim which, I, unworthy servant, offer unto Thee, my living and true God, for my innumerable sins, offenses, and negligences, and also for those here present and for all faithful Christians, both living and dead (here may be named or stated the particular person(s) or intentions, if any, of this Divine Liturgy), that it may avail (+) me and them unto life everlasting.

R. Amen

The Celebrant pours the wine into the chalice, blesses the water at the + and mixes three drops of water in the chalice of wine as he is saying.

V. O God, who in creating human nature hast wonderfully dignified it and still more wonderfully +

reformed it, grant that by the mystery of this water and wine, we may become partakers of His Divine Nature, Who deigned to partake of our human nature, Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages of ages.

R. Amen.

The celebrant shall lift the chalice slightly, as with the paten, as he is praying, and make the cross with the chalice over the altar of prothesis at the (+):

V. We offer unto Thee, O Lord, the chalice of salvation, beseeching Thy mercy, that it may ascend before Thy Divine Majesty as a sweet odour for our salvation and that of the whole world (+).

R. Amen.

The censor is then brought to the altar of prothesis. Celebrant, soft voice, places three spoonfuls of incense into the thurible, praying:

C. May He bless thee, in whose honor thou shalt burn. Amen.

and the High Place is incensed in three separate groups of three, while the Celebrant prays:

C. We offer Thee incense, O Christ our God, for an odor of spiritual

fragrance. Receive it upon Thy heavenly altar, and send down upon us in return the grace of Thine all Holy Spirit.

D. Let us pray to the Lord.

While the Subdeacon/Deacon holds the censor the Priest censes the star and places it over the Holy Bread, praying:

P. And the star came and stood over the place where the young child was.

D. Let us pray to the Lord.

While the Subdeacon/Deacon holds the censor, the Priest censes the first veil and places it over the paten, praying:

P. The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, He is girded with strength. The world is established; it shall never be moved. Thy throne is established from old; Thou art from everlasting. The floods have lifted up, O God, the floods have lifted up their voice, the floods have lifted up their roaring. Mightier than the thunder of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty. Thy decrees are very sure; holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, for ever more.

D. Let us pray to the Lord. Cover, Master.

The Priest censes the second veil and places it over the chalice, praying:

P. Thy virtue has covered the heavens, O Christ, and the earth is full of Thy praise.

D. Let us pray to the Lord. Cover, Master.

The Priest censes the large veil and places it over both the paten and the chalice, praying:

P. Cover us with the shelter of Thy wings, and drive away from us every foe and adversary. Give peace to our lives, O Lord. Have mercy on us and on Thy world, and save our souls, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

The Priest then takes the censor and censes the Offerings in three separate groups of three, then censes in a cross three times over the Offerings.

C. Accept us, O Lord, in the spirit of humility and contrition of heart; and grant that the Sacrifice we offer this day in Thy sight may be pleasing to Thee, O Lord God.

Then with his left hand first on the base of the paten, then on the chalice, he blesses each at the + + while praying **Come, O almighty and eternal God the Sanctifier, bless + + this Sacrifice prepared for the glory of Thy Holy Name.**

The Preparation of the Gifts completed, the celebrant shall return to the sacristy and prepare for the processional.