

**The
Service Book
For**

**BLESSING OF THE
HOME**



*English Translation by
H.G. Dr. Yaḳob Mar Irenaios, Metropolitan*

PREFATORY PRAYERS

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
one true God;

Glory be to Him, and may His grace and mercy be upon us forever.
Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, by whose glory, the heaven
and earth are filled, Hosanna in the Highest.

Blessed is He, who has to come, and is to come, in the name of the
Lord; Glory be to Him in the Highest.

TRISAGION (KAUMA)

Holy art thou, O God!
Holy art thou, Almighty,
Holy art thou, Immortal,

† Crucified for us, Have mercy on us. *(Repeat Thrice)*

Lord, have mercy upon us,
Lord be kind, and have mercy,
Lord accept Thou our office
And our entreaties, Have mercy on us.

Glory be to Thee, O God!
Glory be to Thee, O Creator,
Glory be to Thee, O King,
Christ who dost pity, on sinners thy servants. Barekmor

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts and sins,
- as we also have forgiven our debtors. Lead us not into temptation,
- but deliver us from the evil one. For Thine is the kingdom, - the
power and the glory, - forever and ever. –Amen

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace, - our Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women, - and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, - our Lord Jesus Christ. O Virgin Saint Mary, - O Mother of God, - pray for us sinners, - now and at all times, - and at the hour of our death. -Amen.

Priest: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His grace and mercy be upon us, weak and sinful servants, in both worlds forever and ever. Amen

PRAYER

Priest: Lord Jesus, make this house an abode of Thy love, peace and tranquility. Bless everything in this house. Let everything that takes place in this house be for the glory of Your Name; and for the upkeep of righteousness. May this house prosper through Your grace and mercy. Fill those who live in this house, with Your true light. Enable these Your children to please You, and to glorify Your Name, both in their private and public life. Our Lord and eternal God, grant good memory and solace for our departed one. We ascribe glory and honor unto You, and to Your Only Begotten Son and to Your Holy Spirit now and forever more.

People: Amen.

HYMN: KUKLIYON

(Tone 1: En atmavine Ninkaluyarthunnen Nadha)

Unto Thee I raise my soul, Hal - O - Hal
Shame me not, Thou art - my refuge.

Let not enemies exult ov'r me, Hal-O-Hal
Be not confounded - Thy faithful

Evil men shame in worthless deeds, Hal-O-Hal
Reveal me Thy ways - O, my Lord!

Show me, Lord, Thy little ways, Hal-O-Hal
Teach me and lead me- in Thy truth. **Barekmor**
Shubaho.... Men olam...

EKBO

(Naravalsalane...)

From the deluge was rescued
 Prophet Jonah - by Thee, Lord!
 Rescue Thy servants from the
 Deluge of sorrows and pain
Stoumen Kalos.... Kurieleison

PROMEON

Priest: Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for grace and mercy.

People: O Merciful Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

Priest: Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and exaltation unceasing, truly at all times and all hours, may we ascribe unto Thee, O Lord!

Praise to You, O Lord, who created everything out of nothingness, who has become our abode from generation to generation, who gave us the wisdom to build houses and live in them. You answer those who call upon You in true faith and bless those who love You truly, and also their houses. You protect those who please You by obeying Your commandments, and also all their belongings.

We praise You at this time of the blessing of this house, and at all festivals and times, and seasons and hours, and during all the days of our lives for ever and ever.

People: Amen

SEDRA

Priest: O Lord, You are the refuge of those who trust in You, and who call upon You with broken hearts; You are the strong and high fortress for those who are tormented by enemies - visible and invisible, and those who are heavy-laden with powerful temptations. You are the ocean of kindness and mercy who desires for the life and salvation of man. Our Lord and our God, in Your mercy, hearken unto us and accept our prayers and supplications which we offer in Your glorious presence, along with this incense, on behalf of

this house and its dwellers. Lord, gladden their hearts and make this house rich with all good things and blessings. Save this household from all kinds of evil and sorrows. May all the dealings in this house be for the glory of Your Name. Merciful Lord, mark this house with the sign of Your adorable Cross. Protect those who live in this house, just as the houses of the children of Israel were sprinkled with the Passover blood and they were saved from the angel who smote all the first born of Egypt. By the sign of thread that was tied to the window of Rahab, her entire household was spared and saved. In the same manner, spare and save this house and its dwellers from the evil one and his hosts, by the sign of the Holy Cross that is being made on it. Even as Satan was ashamed and fled from Job the just, may Satan be ashamed and flee from this house.

Lord, just as You entered into the house of Zachaeus, the publican and blessed him, enter into this house and bless it as well as those who dwell in it. Bless this house, its dwellers, their earnings and all their belongings, just as you shed your mercy and blessing on Cornelius and his household and saved them. Give them blessed offsprings who adore Your Holy Name and gladden their parents. Remove from them heavy punishments, famine, epidemics and all forms of difficulties. Assign the angel of peace on this house and its dwellers. Save them from the envy of the devils, from unjust authorities, and the designs of evil men by Thy Victorious Cross, which is the high fortress of the faithful. Increase their belongings thirty, sixty, and hundred fold. Enable us to please Thy will by just and pure activities. Console and have mercy upon our departed ones, and all the faithful departed.

Unto Thee we ascribe praise and thanksgiving, to Thee and to Thine only begotten Son, and to Thy Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

People: Amen

Priest: From God may we receive remission of debts and forgiveness of sins in both worlds for ever and ever.

People: Amen

HYMN: KOLO*(Vaazhvettabraham...)*

Blessed was that day - Abraham's household
 By those three persons¹
 Messiah, blessed Bridegroom,
 Bless'd household of Zachaeus
 Holy Trinity may dwell - in this house visited by
 Thy servants – all through generations.

Apostles were told - by our Lord in the
 Gospels, I listen
 "That house which receiveth you
 Only me it receiveth"
 Bless this house by Thy right hand-
 just as Abraham was bless'd
 This house which - we have entered in **Barekmor**
Shubaho...

With five loaves of bread - satiated was ²
 Crowd in wilderness
 This household that Thy servants
 Have entered, and those who dwell
 Within this, Lord and Savior
 With Thy right hand bless them all
 For ever – all through generations. **Men olam...**

Prophet Elijah – bless'd the widow's House³
 Lo! Nev'r exhausted
 Was the flo-ur in the pot
 Nor the o-il in the urn
 That blessing may descend on
 This household of Thy servants
 Blessed be - all through generations. **Moriyo...**

¹Genesis 18:1-16 ²John 6 ³1 Kings 17: 8-16

ETHRO

Priest: Lord, Jesus Christ, You commanded Your disciples thus: "When you go, whichever house receives you, receives Me." Accept the sweet incense that we have offered in the presence of Your exalted and invisible Godhead. And bless this house and gladden these Your servants by Your Holy Name. Make this house flourish abundantly with the gift of Your grace. Grant them that they may receive good rewards from Thee, with happy faces, in both worlds, forever.

People: Amen

HYMN – GOSPEL READING

Hal... Hal...

O Lord, grant me Thy Light and Thy gift of- Faith
Con-sole and lead me unto the Holy Mountains. Halleluiah.

Deacon: With calmness and reverence and with sober minds, let us give heed and listen to the Gospel of the living words of God, in the Holy Evangleion of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is read to us.

Priest: † Peace be unto you all.

People: May the Lord God make us worthy, With Thy Spirit.

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving Announcement from Luke, the Evangelist, who publishes the Good News of Life and Salvation to the world.

People: Blessed is He- who has come and is to come. – Praise be to Him, who sent Him for our salvation, - and His mercy be upon us all – forever.

Priest: Now in the time of the Incarnation of our Lord and our God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, the living Word of God Who was incarnate of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things did come to pass in this manner. †

People: We believe and confess.

Priest: (*St. Luke 19: 1-10*)

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'" But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now, I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

† **Peace be unto you all**

HYMN

Tone 1: (Karthave Ninardratha...)

Open Thy- door full of- mercy, Lord!- Unto us
Thou hear our- pray'r and have- mercy up-on our souls.

Pleasing to-God are pray-ers offered- in secret
Blessed were- not the saints- of old by- voice alone.

Red Sea was- opened by- the pray'rs of- Moses, meek
People moved- through, and their- enemy- Pharaoh drowned¹.

Lord took pi-ty upon- David on- his prayers
Absolved of- sins, he got- his prophe-cy returned.

Hanani-a² and his- friends prayed from- the furnace
They all were- rescued from- the fierce fi-re by God.

Death, and the- Seat of Judge-ment, and Hell,- all the three
Striketh ter-ror in my- heart, O help- me, my Lord.

Moriyo...

¹Exodus 14, ²Daniel 3 (*Hananiah – Jewish name for Shadrach*)

PRAYER

Priest: God of gods and Lord of lords! who answers those who call upon You in faith, accept our feeble prayers, though we are weak, sinful and unworthy. Just as You protected Noah, his children, animals, birds, and reptiles in the Ark during the flood; just as You saved your friend Abraham from the sword of enemy kings, and blessed him and his possessions; just as You saved Lot from the fire of Sodom; just as You protected Jacob in the household of Laban, made him great and increased his wealth; just as You protected Joseph in Egypt and made him lord and king, augmented his income and possessions, and saved him from all kinds of dangers; just as You doubled the wealth of Job, the righteous, following his trials and tribulations; just as You protected Moses and the children of Israel from the sea and the Pharaoh; and as You banished your anger and death from Israel at the prayer of Moses, the incense of Aaron and the sword of Phinehas, Lord! banish from the household of this your servant, rods of wrath, great punishments, illness, accidents and dangers. For You are the merciful Lord who is full of pity towards Your creation. Lord have mercy on us by the prayers of Mary, Mother of God, Saint (.....) and all your saints, now and for ever.

People: Amen

BLESSING OF THE WATER

Priest: In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, this water is blessed and sanctified that it may become the sprinkling for the blessing and dedication of this house.
Barekmor...Bashmo-dabo...

(The following is said marking the door of the house with the sign of the Cross. A small hymn is sung as the Celebrant moves to each door of the house)

PRAYER ON THE DOORS

Priest: May this house, sealed with the sign of the living, and life-giving Cross, be blessed and hallowed, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever **Barekmor...Bashmo-dabo...**

HYMN

Thy Mother and Thy Saints, Lord
Pray on behalf of us all
Lord bestow Thy blessings on
This house and dwellers therein.

മാതാവും ശുഭ്ദന്മാരും
അർപ്പിക്കും മദ്യസ്ഥതയാൽ
വാഴ്വമ്പോടീ വീടിനും
വീട്ടാർക്കും നാഥാ! നൽക.

(This is followed by the Nicene Creed and the Kukliyon of the Mother of God, and Saints; and Benediction)

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one true God / the Father Almighty / Maker of heaven and earth / and of all things, visible and invisible/

And in the One Lord Jesus Christ / the only-begotten Son of God / begotten of the Father / before all worlds / Light of Light / very God of very God / begotten, not made / being of the same substance with the Father / and by whom all things were made/

†Who for us men / and for our Salvation / came down from heaven/

† And was incarnate of the Holy Virgin Mary / Mother of God / by the Holy Ghost / and became Man/

†and was crucified for us / in the days of Pontius Pilate / and suffered, and died / and was buried/

And the third day rose again / according to His will / and ascended into heaven / and sat on the right hand of His Father / and shall come again in His great glory / to judge both the living and the dead / whose kingdom shall have no end/

And in the One living Holy Spirit / the life-giving Lord of all / who proceeds from the Father / and who with the Father and the Son / is worshipped and glorified / who spoke by the prophets and the Apostles/

And in the one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church / And we acknowledge one Baptism / for the remission of sins / And look for the resurrection of the dead / and the new life in the world to come.

Amen, Barekmor, Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison.

I. COMMUNION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

KUKLIYON

(Tune : Ninnal Stuthiyodu...)

Priest: King's daughter stands in glory, Hal - u – Hal
At thy right hand stands – the princess

People: Thy father's folk and home leave thou, Hal - u - Hal,
The King desires thy- beauty now- **Barekmor**

Priest: Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

People: Unto to the ages of ages and forever more.

EKBO

(Tune : Bhakthar Pukazhcha...)

Priest: Thou whose praise the church doth sing

People: Intercession for us bring,
Unto Him, thine only Son,
That He may not mercy shun
Stoumen kalos Kurielaison

KOLO

(Tune : Mariammin Smaranam...)

Priest: Mary's memory

People: Blessing for us be,
May her pray'rs for us
Be a fortress thus **Barekmor**

Priest: Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

People: Fragrance sweet of smell
Through the air doth swell-
For Virgin Mary
God's Mother holy
Moriyo rahem melain oo aa darein

BOVOOSA

(Tune: Nirtheedaruthe Parishudhe)

Priest: Cease not, O Ho-ly Mother!

People: From thy pray'rs on – our account
Unto Him Thine only Son
That He may not mercy shun

II. COMMUNION OF THE PATRON AND OTHER SAINTS

KUKLIYON

(Tune : Nayavan panapole...)

- Priest:** Righteous shall prosper like palm trees - Halleluiah
And thrive like the cedars of - Lebanon
- People:** In age they shall thrive and be flourishing – Halleluiah
Yea, growing both fattened - and pleasing **Barekmor**
- Priest:** Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost
People: Unto to the ages of ages and forever more.

EKBO

(Tune : Orupolingum...)

- Priest:** (O St. Thomas), as in heav'n
- People:** Keep we here thy memory;
Hear us as we honor thee,
Thy entreaties be our aid
Stoumen kalos Kurielaison

KOLO

(Tune : Bhag'yam Nibiyarkum...)

- Priest:** Bliss to the prophets,
People: And the apostles,
And to the martyrs
At resurrection **Barekmor**
- Priest:** Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost
- People:** Those martyrs who longed
For seeing the Christ
By their death took wings,
And fluttered to heights
Moriyo rahem melain oo aa darein

BOVOOSA*(Tune : Parishudhanmare Ningal...)*

- Priest:** Plead for us, ye holy Saints,
People: Pray to Him whose will ye did,
 That from anger we be spared-
 That from scourges we be hid.

BENEDICTION

Priest: Blessed are you all by the Lord, the Creator of the heaven and earth. May God bless and sanctify all those who have participated in this spiritual service. May God our Lord grant forgiveness of sins to you and your faithful departed.

O Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, grant that our feeble and unworthy prayers be pleasing and acceptable before Thy exalted Throne, now and always for ever.

People: Amen