

## Byzantine Prayer of Consecration to the Most Holy Theotokos, Mother of the Church

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

O God, be merciful to me a sinner.

Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled Death; and to those in the tombs he granted life. *(Three times)*

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

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.

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(Twelve times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Come, let us worship our King and God.

Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.

Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ the King and our God.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos! Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne Christ, the Savior of our souls!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Open unto us the doors of mercy, O blessed Theotokos. Let us not perish who put our trust in you, but rather through you be delivered from misfortune. For you are the salvation of all Christians.

## **Prayer of Consecration to the Theotokos, Mother of the Church**

*(Adapted from St. John of Damascus' First Homily on the Dormition)*

*Pray together:*

Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, we are present before you.

O Holy Lady, you are our Queen and the Mother of the Church, and we commit our souls to our hope in you and your motherly love as to a most secure and firm anchor in the storms of this present life. To you we consecrate our minds, our souls, our bodies, our very selves, honoring you insofar as we are able - even though it is impossible to do so worthily.

In this time of pandemic we come to you, our sure sign of hope and comfort. Embrace this Eparchy which we entrust and consecrate once again to you, together with ourselves and our families. As the sacred Word has taught us, if the honor paid to our fellow servants testifies to our good will towards our common Lord, how could we neglect honoring you who in the fullness of time have brought forth that same Lord to us? In so doing, we can better show our ardent attachment to Him and to His Kingdom.

Mary, Theotokos, Mother of the Church, we ask your intercession for the needs of our country. We entrust to you all who are infected with the coronavirus, all who have lost loved ones, all who are suffering in any way from the pandemic. We entrust to your love all caregivers, all who are working to find a cure from this pandemic, all of our leaders in this time of crisis.

Turn then your gaze upon us, O Noble and Compassionate Lady; rule over and direct in your wisdom all that concerns us as your subjects and spiritual children. Protect and guide the Church to the tranquil harbor of the divine will, and make us worthy of future blessedness in the vision of your divine Son, the Word of God, who was made flesh in you.

Amen.

### **Closing Prayers**

The angel exclaimed to her, full of grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin; and again, I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from the grave on the third day and has raised the dead. Rejoice, all you nations!

Shine in splendor, O new Jerusalem; for the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. O Zion, now dance and be glad; and you, pure Theotokos, rejoice in the resurrection of your Son.

Glory to you O Christ our God our hope Glory to you.

Lord, have mercy (*Thrice*).

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, through the prayers of Your most pure Mother, the Mother of the Church, and our holy and God-bearing fathers and all the saints, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.