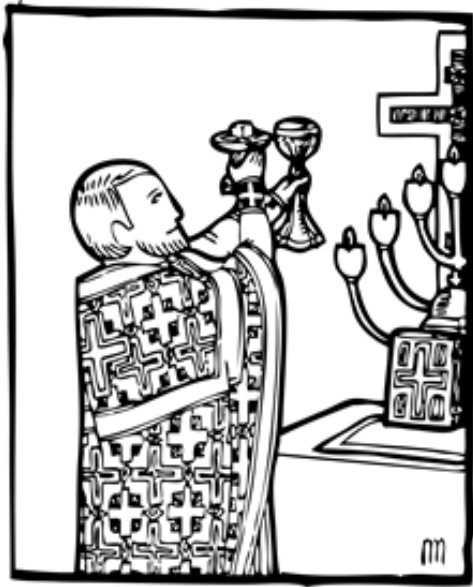


Prayers Before Communion



Prayer of Saint John Chrysostom

O Lord my God, I know that I am not worthy or sufficient that You should come under the roof of the house of my soul, for all is desolate and fallen, and You have not with me a place fit to lay Your head. But as from the highest heaven You humbled Yourself for our sake, so now conform Yourself to my humility. As You consented to lie in a cave and in a manger of dumb beasts, so also consent to lie in the manger of my unspiritual soul and to enter my defiled body. As You did not disdain to enter and dine with sinners in the house of Simon the Leper, so consent also to enter the house of my humble soul which is leprous and sinful. As You did not reject the woman who was a harlot and a sinner like me when she approached and touched You, so also be compassionate with me, a sinner, as I approach and touch You, and let the live coal of Your most holy Body and precious Blood be for the sanctification and enlightenment and strengthening of my humble soul and body; for a relief from the burden of my many sins; for a protection from all diabolical practices; for a restraint and a check on my evil and wicked way of life; for the mortification of passions; for the keeping of Your commandments; for an increase of Your divine grace, and for the advancement of Your Kingdom. For it is not insolently that I draw near to You, O Christ my God, but as taking courage from Your unspeakable goodness, and that I may not by long abstaining from Your communion become a prey to the spiritual wolf. Therefore, I pray to You, O Lord, Who alone are holy, sanctify my soul and body, my mind and heart, my emotions and affections, and wholly renew me. Root the fear of You in my body and soul, and make Your sanctification indelible in me. Be also my helper and defender, guide my life in peace, and make me worthy to stand on Your right hand with

Your Saints: through the prayers and intercessions of Your immaculate Mother, of Your ministering Angels, of the immaculate Powers, and of all the Saints who have always been pleasing to You. Amen.

Prayer of Saint Basil the Great

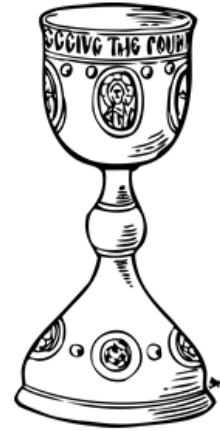
I know, O Lord, that I partake of Your immaculate Body and precious Blood unworthily, and that I eat and drink judgment to myself by not discerning the Body and Blood of You ~ my Christ and God. But taking courage from Your compassion I approach You, for You have said: “He who eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood abides in Me and I in him.” Therefore have compassion, O Lord, and do not make an example of me, a sinner, but deal with me according to Your mercy; and let these Holy Things be for my healing, purification, enlightenment, protection, salvation and sanctification of body and soul; for the turning away of every fantasy, all evil practice and diabolical activity working subconsciously within me; for confidence and love towards You; for reformation of life and an increase of virtue and perfection; for fulfillment of Your commandments; for communion with the Holy Spirit, as a provision for eternal life, and as an acceptable defense at Your awesome Judgment Seat and not unto judgment or condemnation.

Prayer of Saint John of Damascus

I stand before the doors of Your sanctuary, yet I do not put away my terrible thoughts. O Christ our God ~ Who justified the Publican, had mercy on the Canaanite woman, and opened the gates of Paradise to the Thief ~ open to me the depths of Your love for mankind and, as I approach and touch You, receive me like the Harlot and the woman with an issue of blood: for the one obtained release from her sins by embracing Your sacred feet and the other received healing by only touching the hem of Your garment. Yet I, in my unworthiness, dare to receive Your whole Body! May I not be burned; but receive me even as You received them, and enlighten the senses of my soul, burning up my sinful faults through the prayers and intercessions of her who bore You without human seed, and of the heavenly angelic powers, for You are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayers After Communion

I thank You, O Lord my God, that You have not rejected me, a sinner, but hast granted me to be a communicant of Your holy Things. I thank You that You have granted me, unworthy as I am, to partake of Your holy, pure, and heavenly Gifts. O Lord, Lover of mankind ~ Who died for us and rose again and bestowed upon us Your awesome and life-giving Mysteries for the wellbeing and sanctification of our souls and bodies ~ grant that these may be even to me for the healing of my soul and body; for the averting of everything hostile power; for the enlightenment of the eyes of my heart; for the peace of the powers of my soul; for unashamed faith; for sincere love; for the fullness of wisdom; for the keeping of Your commandments; for an increase of Your divine grace, and for the inheritance of Your Kingdom. That being kept through them in Your holiness I may always remember Your grace, and not live for myself alone but for You ~ our Lord and Benefactor. May I pass from this life in the hope of eternal life, and so attain to the everlasting rest, where the voice of those who feast in unceasing, and the gladness of those who behold the ineffable goodness of Your countenance is unending. For You are the true desire and the unutterable gladness of those who love You ~ O Christ our God ~ and all creation sings Your praise throughout the ages.



Prayer of Saint Basil the Great

Lord Christ our God, King of the ages and Creator of all, I thank You for all the blessings You have granted me and for the communion of Your holy, pure, and life-giving Mysteries. I pray to You, therefore, good Lord and Lover of mankind: guard me under Your protection and within the shadow of Your wings; and grant me with a clear conscience, until my last breath, to worthily partake of Your Holy Things; for forgiveness of sins and unto life eternal. For You are the Bread of Life, the Source of Holiness, the Giver of all that is good, and to You we send up glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

May Your Holy Body, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, be to me for eternal life, and Your Precious Blood for remission of my sins. Let this Eucharist be my joy, health, and gladness. Make me, a sinner, worthy to stand on the right hand of Your glory at Your awesome second coming, through the prayers and intercessions of Your most pure Mother and of all the saints. Amen.

Prayer to the Most Holy Mother of God & Theotokos

All-holy Lady, Mother of God and Theotokos: the light of my darkened soul, my hope and protection, my refuge and consolation, and my joy! I thank you that you have made me, who am unworthy, worthy to be a communicant of the immaculate Body and precious Blood of your Son and our God. You who bore the true Light, enlighten the spiritual eyes of my heart. You who conceived the Source of Immortality, give life to me who am dead in sin. You who are the compassionately loving Mother of the merciful God, have mercy on me and give me compunction and contrition of heart, humility in my thoughts, and a release from the slavery of my own reasoning. Enable me, even to my last breath, to receive without condemnation the sanctification of the most-pure Mysteries for the healing of soul and body. Grant me tears of repentance, confession, and thanksgiving, that I may glorify you all the days of my life; for you are blessed and greatly glorified forever. Amen.

