

# Akathist Service to Our Lady of Sitka





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**Deacon:** Bless, Master.

**Priest:** Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth who art everywhere present and fillest all things. Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life. Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

**Reader:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. 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 the evil one.

**Priest:** For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

## God Is the Lord

**Deacon:** In the 4th Tone: God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

**Deacon:** All nations surrounded me, but in the Name of the Lord I destroyed them.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

**Deacon:** I shall not die but live and recount the works of the Lord.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

**Deacon:** The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this is the Lord's doing, and it is wonderful in our eyes.

**People:** God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us: Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.

## Troparion of the Sitka Icon of the Mother of God

*Tone 4* Today, like the morning sun rising o-ver us,  
Your all-honored icon enlightens the world with rays of mer-cy  
And our land reverently receives it  
as a divine gift from on high,  
Glorifying you, O Birthgiver of God, Our Lady of Sit-ka,  
With joy magnifying Christ our God Who was born of you.  
Pray to Him O Lady Mary, Queen and Theo-kos  
That all cities and lands be protected from our en-emies,  
And that they will be saved who in faith venerate your most pure i-con  
That has come to dwell with us, O Virgin Moth-er,  
who show us the way to Christ.

## Kontakion One

*Tone 8* O Mother of God, cho - sen from all generations to be the protectress of the Christian peo - ple;  
we offer you songs of thanksgiving for your wonderworking Icon that has come to Alas - ka.  
You are a foun - tain of mercy and help all who seek ref - uge in you.  
Defend us in all afflic - tions, necessities and tribulations that we may cry to you: //  
Rejoice, zealous defend - er of the Orthodox faithful in Amer - ica.

## Oikos One

An Archangel was sent to greet the Holy Virgin: Rejoice, for God the Word shall be made flesh in your womb. And we sinners give glory to the wonderworking icon of the holy Virgin and the divine Infant, our Savior, Jesus Christ. And we cry to her, who is full of grace, from the depths of our hearts:

Rejoice, divinely chosen Maiden of God, Mother of our Sav-ior.  
Rejoice, you who are honored by the angels and hymned by the ser-aphim.  
Rejoice, bright fulfillment of proph-ecy.  
Rejoice, boast of the Apos-tles.  
Rejoice, crown of the Mar-tyrs.  
Rejoice, glory of all Monas-tics.  
Rejoice, joy of the Right-eous.  
Rejoice, hope of sin-ners.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
Of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## Kontakion Two

We recognize you as the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only true God. Your all pure face looks down from your holy icon on the glorious town of Sitka; and worshipping your Son with love and joy, we sing to God:  
*Alleluia.*

## Oikos Two

Burdened by many afflictions and sins, we have no other help or hope but you, O Lady. Therefore falling before your holy icon with hearts full of love we sing:

Rejoice, perfection of praise to God through the mouths of chil-dren.  
Rejoice, revealer of the mysteries of Divine grace to the meek.  
Rejoice, conversion of unbeliev-ers.

Rejoice, you, who, by the glory of your miracles, illumine the minds of the faith-ful.  
Rejoice, rebuker of those fallen into her-esy.  
Rejoice, confirmation of the Chris-tian Faith.  
Rejoice, changer of our sor-row into joy.  
Rejoice, for you make us joyful with unfail-ing hope.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

### Kontakion Three

When the stormy seas engulf us and the rough waters fill our souls with fear, then does our holy Father Herman call from heaven upon your all powerful intercession, O Lady, and a deep calm envelops us all. Therefore, as we now gaze at your holy icon, we cry to God: *Alleluia*.

### Oikos Three

With compassionate forethought for your Alaskan people, you have sent forth from your icon in the Cathedral of Sitka a stream of wonders enlightening the minds and souls of those lying in ignorance of God. Granting a safe haven and good fishing to those on the seas you protect all on their paths, and for this, in love we cry to you:

Rejoice, illumination of all men with the shining rays of your won-ders.  
Rejoice, sight of the blind.  
Rejoice, glory of Alas-ka.  
Rejoice, calm haven of those seeking salva-tion.  
Rejoice, pure Theoto-kos.  
Rejoice, shelter and defender of chil-dren.  
Rejoice, queller of the ocean's fierce waves.  
Rejoice, joy of all the poor and the afflict-ed.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

### Kontakion Four

A storm of passions and sins rages against us and we know not where to turn. It is then that the holy Mother of God gives us her peace; and gazing at the icon she has sent us, we cry with thanksgiving to God: *Alleluia*.

### Oikos Four

Beset by hardships in this far northern land, we are lifted up by the faith our Father Herman instilled in us, and by the prayers of Our Lady of Sitka we take upon ourselves, with hope and fortitude, the Cross our Lord has given to each one of us and sing to her:

Rejoice, mother of the Most High God.  
Rejoice, queen of heav-en and earth.  
Rejoice, intercessor to your Son Jesus Christ for all of us.  
Rejoice, protectress of those who run to you.  
Rejoice, giver of what is needful to all who pray before your wonderworking i-con.  
Rejoice, for you are swift to help.  
Rejoice, for you pour upon us unfailing mer-cy.  
Rejoice, deliverer from peril on land and sea.  
Rejoice, zealous defender

of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

### **Kontakion Five**

Your icon shines in our Cathedral like a bright star enlightening the whole land with its radiance. It guides all the Orthodox in America gone astray on the sea of life and overwhelmed by the waves of sorrow, tribulations and sickness, giving them peace and happiness as they take refuge in you and sing to God: *Alleluia*.

### **Oikos Five**

Dark are the winters, and cold are the winds; but cheered by the beauty of your face, we find warmth of soul and body as we raise our prayers to you, singing:

Rejoice, abode of Christ our God.  
Rejoice, dwelling place of His ineffable glo-ry.  
Rejoice, joy of towns and har-bors.  
Rejoice, guardian and bulwark of Christians in afflic-tion.  
Rejoice, treasure of the Or-thodox Church.  
Rejoice, helper of those who fight for Christ.  
Rejoice, for you drive away the en-emy.  
Rejoice, visitation of all men with your mer-cies.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

### **Kontakion Six**

Standing before your all pure icon the assembly of bishops, priests and faithful people proclaims your great mercy, O Mother of God, for you protect our cities and lands against floods and storms, and we truly know you to be our helper. We offer you our love and tears, begging you to stretch out your hand to your Son asking Him to deliver us from all evil that we may thankfully sing to God: *Alleluia*.

### **Oikos Six**

Who can worthily praise you and thank you for sending us your wonderworking icon? Our tongues fail before this miracle and we beg you to help us sing to you:

Rejoice, unfailing source of ho-liness.  
Rejoice, river of divine grace flowing in ma-ny streams.  
Rejoice, reconciler of sin-ners with God.  
Rejoice, teacher of pi-ety.  
Rejoice, helper and confirmation in good works.  
Rejoice, receiver of pi-ous vows.  
Rejoice, destroyer of e-vil intents.  
Rejoice, you who tear to pieces the snares of the en-emy.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

### **Kontakion Seven**

Your icon has come to us as dew upon the fleece confirming the power given to you by God. As we praise Him for His boundless mercies, we cry: *Alleluia*.

## Oikos Seven

To your icon we Orthodox run when about to embark on a new enterprise or to set out on a journey by sea, land or air, offering you a prayer of thanksgiving and asking for your blessing and your help and our deliverance from tribulation and assault; for we know you to be a strong protectress and defender, and we therefore sing to you:

Rejoice, protectress of Alas-ka.  
Rejoice, confirmation and guardian of Orthodoxy in our land.  
Rejoice, breastplate that cannot be pierced.  
Rejoice, reprover of dishon-esty.  
Rejoice, destroyer of the ser-pent.  
Rejoice, corrector of those who have gone astray.  
Rejoice, com-forter of the old.  
Rejoice, bestower of knowledge good for the soul.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## Kontakion Eight

Doubters and unbelievers are amazed to hear that streams of divine grace flow through your icon, while we know that this is so with this icon of Sitka and that God's grace will abide with it forever. Therefore, standing reverently before it, we kiss it and venerate it as we would your very self; for the honor paid to icons passes to their prototype, and God's grace acts through this icon in wonders and signs for those who run to you with faith and cry to God: *Alleluia.*

## Oikos Eight

We praise you O burning bush, unhewn mountain, royal throne, daughter of the King, and unwedded bride who has given us God's grace through your icon in Sitka, and raising our voices in songs and hymns, we cry to you:

Rejoice, vessel of Him who cannot be contained.  
Rejoice, bearer of the liv-ing God.  
Rejoice, earthly branch who brought forth the heav-enly Fruit.  
Rejoice, for your prayer before your Son and God is of great ben-efit.  
Rejoice, for from the time of the Crucifixion you have adopted us all as your chil-dren.  
Rejoice, you who show motherly love towards us.  
Rejoice, cause of eternal bles-ings.  
Rejoice, giver of blessings in this tem-poral life.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## Kontakion Nine

You have shown yourself above every angelic rank, O Virgin, for you have conceived in the flesh Him Who cannot be circumscribed. And you have carried in your arms Him Who holds the whole world in the palm of His hand. Therefore, as you are greater in honor than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim we glorify you and sing to God on your account: *Alleluia.*

## Oikos Nine

O Mother of God, we see most eloquent orators silenced before you, for every tongue is at a loss to praise you worthily. Our minds have not the strength to extol you. Therefore, O you who are gracious, accept from us the salutation of the Archangel as we cry to you:

Rejoice, you who are full of grace and blessed among wom-en.  
Rejoice, for you have found fa-vor with God.  
Rejoice, for you have brought forth the Sav-ior of the world.  
Rejoice, mother of the Son of God.  
Rejoice, for you have given birth to the Eter-nal King.  
Rejoice, for you were overshadowed by the power of the Most High.  
Rejoice, true handmaiden of the Lord.  
Rejoice, for all generations shall call you bles-ed.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## Kontakion Ten

Wishing to save many from the evils, afflictions and sicknesses which afflict mortal men, you have given Sitka this holy icon before which we pray that the drowning be saved, those possessed of the devil be freed, our boats be filled with fish and our hunting be blessed and our villages and homes be protected from flood, fire and earthquake. Therefore, glorifying God, Who has bestowed on us such mercy, we cry to Him: *Alleluia*.

## Oikos Ten

You are the wall of protection guarding the land of Alaska. You are the glory and joy of Sitka and strengthen the Orthodox to withstand their enemies. Therefore in thanksgiving we cry to you:

Rejoice, glorifier of those who glo-rify you.  
Rejoice, confounder of those who fail to hon-or you.  
Rejoice, glory of the Or-thodox.  
Rejoice, strength of soldiers on the field of bat-tle.  
Rejoice, life-giving guardian gladdening the hearts of the faith-ful.  
Rejoice, defender before whom devils quake and trem-ble.  
Rejoice, unction who soothes the sinful wounds of those who repent.  
Rejoice, our fer-vent hope.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## Kontakion Eleven

Choirs of young maidens offer you, O Lady, hymns of praise and thanksgiving. Leading a pure life under your protection and setting all their hope on you they cry to your Son: *Alleluia*.

## Oikos Eleven

O all holy Lady, as a candlestick that has received the Light, we look upon your holy icon, for having taken the spiritual fire of your grace it kindles new lamps in its likeness, and they also participate in this same grace and shine bright with wonders, guiding upon the path of salvation all those who cry to you:

Rejoice, unwed-ded bride.  
Rejoice, chosen Maiden, Mother and Vir-gin.

Rejoice, boast of wom-en.  
Rejoice, defender of widows, protectress of or-phans.  
Rejoice, nour-isher of the poor.  
Rejoice, clother of the na-ked.  
Rejoice, comforter of those in sor-row.  
Rejoice, joy of the afflict-ed.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## **Kontakion Twelve**

Wishing to give your grace to those venerating you with love, you, O Mother of God, have left in your holy icons the power of your grace. For this same divine grace remaining with these holy icons ever bring about signs and wonders, and by your unceasing supplications to God you give healing of body and soul to those who approach you with faith and love and who sing to Him: *Alleluia*.

## **Oikos Twelve**

Singing the praises of your wonders both past and present, we laud you as a life-bearing fount of grace, as an unfailing river of miracles, as a fountain of mercy and compassion. Setting all our hope on you after God in both this and in the world to come, we sing to you:

Rejoice, unfounded hope of Chris-tians.  
Rejoice, refuge of the faith-ful.  
Rejoice, hope of the hopeless, salvation of those in despair.  
Rejoice, fountain washing the con-science clean.  
Rejoice, unmercenary physician for your chil-dren.  
Rejoice, speedy deliverance from all afflic-tions.  
Rejoice, comforter in every tribula-tion.  
Rejoice, intercessor in the hour of our death.  
Rejoice, zealous defender  
of the Orthodox faithful in Amer-ica.

## **Kontakion Thirteen (3x)**

O Most pure Lady, in whom all creation rejoices, and Mother of the Word holier than all the saints, accept now this supplication of your faithful servants. And for the sake of your great goodness and the depth of your mercy bring not to mind the multitude of our sins, but fulfill our prayers, giving health to our bodies and salvation to our souls. Deliver us from all sorrow and necessity, and make heirs of the heavenly Kingdom all those who faithfully sing to God: *Alleluia*.

*Then Oikos One and Kontakion One are repeated from page 2.*

## The Little Litany

**Deacon:** Again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

**People:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:** For Thou art the King of peace and the Saviour of our souls, and unto Thee we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

## The Prokeimenon and Gospel

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us attend.  
The Prokeimenon in the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone: I will call upon Thy name from generation to generation.

**People:** I will call upon Thy name from generation to generation.

**Deacon:** Hearken O Daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear.

**People:** I will call upon Thy name from generation to generation.

**Deacon:** I will call upon Thy name

**People:** from generation to generation.

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For holy art Thou, O our God, who restest in the saints, and unto Thee we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Deacon:** Let every breath praise the Lord!

**People:** Let every breath praise the Lord!

**Deacon:** Praise God in His sanctuary! Praise Him in His mighty firmament!

**People:** Let every breath praise the Lord!

**Deacon:** Let every breath

**People:** Praise the Lord!

**Deacon:** And that we may be accounted worthy of hearing the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel!

**Priest:** Peace be unto all!

**People:** And to your spirit.

**Priest:** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**People:** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

**Deacon:** Let us attend! (*Luke 1:39-49, 56*)

In those days: Mary arose and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord." And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name." And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house.

**People:** Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

**Clergy:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

**People:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

**Clergy:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

**People:** now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*In Tone 8*  
It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos,  
Ever blessed, and most pure and the Mother of our God;  
More honorable than the cherubim,  
and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim,  
without defilement you gave birth to God the Word.  
True Theotokos we magnify you.

## Litany of Fervent Supplication

**Deacon:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Deacon:** Again we pray for His Beatitude, our Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, and His Grace our Bishop \_\_\_\_\_, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Deacon:** Again we pray for the President of our country/Her Majesty the Queen, for all civil authorities, and for our armed forces everywhere.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Deacon:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servant(s) of God \_\_\_\_\_, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Deacon:** Furthermore we pray to Thee, O Lord our God, that the voice of our petition and prayer be heard. Have mercy upon Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_, in Thy grace and goodness, and fulfill all their supplications, and pardon them their transgressions both voluntary and involuntary; that their petitions and alms be acceptable before the throne of Thy Majesty, and protect them from all visible and invisible enemies, from all attacks, misfortune and sorrow, and save them from illness, and grant their health and length of days: we pray Thee, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Deacon:** Look down, O Master, Lover of mankind with Thy merciful eye upon Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and hear our prayers offered in faith, for Thou Thyself hast said: What things so ever you desire, when you pray, believe that you will receive them, and you shall have them, and again: Ask, and it shall be given you.

Therefore, though unworthy, but trusting upon Thy mercy, we ask: grant Thy grace to Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and fulfill all (his, her, their) good desires, preserve (him, her, them) in peace and tranquility; in health and length of days all their life, we pray Thee, hear us quickly and graciously have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*Additional petitions are for special occasions can be found beginning on page 12.*

**Deacon:** Furthermore we pray for all the people here present, awaiting from Thee great and bountiful mercies, for all the brethren and for all Christians.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and to those who are far off upon the sea; and show mercy, show mercy, O Master, upon us sinners, and be merciful unto us. For Thou art a merciful God Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

## Prayer before the Sitka Icon of the Mother of God

**Deacon:** Again and again on bended knees let us pray to the Most Holy Theotokos!

**People:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

**Priest:** O Lady, Mother of God Most High, look down upon your faithful servants praying before your holy icon and serving your Son. Receive our humble prayer and visit us in our unworthiness. Help us to keep pure the Orthodox Faith and to walk in the ways of our Savior, Jesus Christ. By your intercessions entreat Him to grant us health of soul and body and the forgiveness of our sins in this life, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

**People:** Amen.

## Dismissal

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Priest:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

**People:** More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you!

**Priest:** Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee!

**People:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Father (Master), bless.

**Priest:** May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His Most Pure Mother, the Birth-giver of God; of Saints \_\_\_\_\_ (of the day), through the prayers of our fath among the saints, Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts; Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America, the Confessor; John of Shanghai and San Francisco, the Wonderworker; Nikolai of South Canaan, Bishop of Zhicha; Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn; the holy Hieromartyrs, Juvenal of Iliamna, Alexander and John; Peter the Aleut, Martyr of San Francisco; the Venerable Herman of Alaska and all America, the Wonderworker; the holy and Righteous Alexis of Wilkes-Barre and Minneapolis; and Jacob, enlightener of the native peoples of Alaska; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is a good God and lovest Mankind.

**People:** His Beatitude the Most Blessed Herman, Archbishop of Washington and New York, Metropolitan of all America and Canada;

His Grace the Right Reverend Nikolai, Bishop of Sitka, Anchorage, and Alaska;

*or* His Eminence/Grace the Most/Right Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, [Arch]Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_;

the President and government of this country;

the brethren of this Holy Temple and all Orthodox Christians;

O Lord preserve for many years.

*If it be a service for the sick, the three following petitions may be read.*

**Priest:** O Healer of souls and bodies, with broken and repentant hearts we fall down before Thee. Heal every sickness and evil passion afflicting Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_. Forgive (him, her, them) every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary, and in the goodness of Thy heart quickly raise (him, her, them) from (his, her, their) bed(s) of illness, we beg Thee, O Lord hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** O Merciful Lord, Who desires not the death of the sinner, but that he should turn from his wickedness and live, take pity on Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_. Heal (his, her, their) sickness, take away the pain, forgive (his, her, their) sins, for we are conceived in sin, and our hearts incline to evil even from birth. As Thou didst deliver the daughter of Jairus from the jaws of death, stretch forth Thy strong right hand and raise (him, her, them) from this bed of pain and restore (him, her, them) quickly to health, we beg Thee, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** O Lord, by the touch of Thy hand Peter's mother-in-law was healed of her fever. By the tender mercy of Thy compassionate heart heal today the illness of Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_, for (his, her, their) affliction is great, (he, she) has (they have) no hope except in Thee, O fountain of healings, we beg Thee, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*If it be a service for those about to travel, the following petitions may be read.*

**Priest:** O Lord Who gloriously delivered Joseph from his brothers' jealousy, and led him to Egypt, where he prospered in all things through Thy blessing, bless also Thy servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_, as (he, she, they) begin (his, her, their) travels, and make (his, her, their) journey to be peaceful and profitable, we beg Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** O Lord, Who didst send Thine angel to travel with Isaac and Tobias, who enabled them to complete their journey in peace; send Thine angel of peace to Thy servant(s) who pray(s) to Thee, that he may guide (him, her, them) in all good deeds, and deliver (him, her, them) from all enemies both visible and invisible, and enable (him, her, them) to return in safety, peace and prosperity, for the glory of Thy name, we beg Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** O Lord, who accompanied Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus, and made them to return to Jerusalem with their hearts burning with the joy of Thy resurrection, send Thy grace and divine blessing to accompany Thy servant(s) and guide (him, her, them) in every good work, to the glory of Thy Holy Name. Preserve (him, her, them) in health, and bring (him, her, them) back to us again in due time, we beg Thee, our merciful protector, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*If the persons are to travel by Sea the following petitions may be read.*

**Priest:** O Lord, Who rebuked the winds and the sea and by a single word calmed the waves and gave peace to Thine apostles when they were storm-tossed in the ship; receive also the prayers of Thy servant(s) who come(s) to Thee in faith. Bless (his, her, their) voyage; grant (him, her, them) a calm, peaceful, and untroubled journey, we beg Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** O Saviour, Who walked upon the water as if it were dry land, and saved Peter from drowning by Thine Almighty right hand, deliver Thy servant(s) who pray(s) to Thee in faith, and preserve (his, her, their) journey from tempests and stormy winds. Bless (his, her, their) voyage and restore (him, her, them) to (his, her, their) home(s) in peace, we beg Thee, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

**Priest:** Send Thine angel, O merciful Lord, to accompany (him, her, them) on (his, her, their) way, and to guard (his, her) soul and body (their souls and bodies). Preserve and shelter (him, her, them) from all enemies, both visible and invisible. Deliver (him, her, them) by Thy might from all tribulation and danger, from sickness and accidents. In due time restore (him, her, them) to (his, her, their) home(s) in safety, to the glory of Thy Holy Name, we beg Thee, O all powerful Master, hear us and have mercy.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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