

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE SERVICE

Holy Matrimony is the holy mystery in which man and woman work out their salvation by living according to the paradigm of the relationship between Christ, the True Bridegroom and the Holy Church, His Bride (Eph 5.32). True love is perfectly exemplified by Christ's self-sacrifice, free-will obedience, and love for the Church (Eph 5:25). God created man and woman as fitting and complementary (Gen 2:23) companions (Gen 2:18) to be united together and become one (Gen 2:24). It is important to note that the iconographic hymns of the Sacrament of Matrimony according to the Syriac Orthodox tradition witness the intimate and loving relationship of Christ and the Church. This provides the exemplar for the groom and bride to consider how they ought to think, live, and commit to realizing in their own marriage.

As God blessed the union of Adam and Eve (Gen 1:28) and Christ blessed the wedding at Cana (Jn 2), God blesses the couple through the sacrament of marriage. Married life is a special vocation (1 Cor 7:17) and requires the blessings, grace, and gift from the Holy Spirit.

The Sacrament of Matrimony in the Syriac Orthodox tradition is comprised of two services, which were once separate: 1) **Blessing of the Rings** and 2) **Blessing of the Crowns**. The first service is a service of betrothal. The rings, which are a symbol of a contract, are blessed and placed on the groom and bride by the priest. In the second service, the priest blesses the crowns, which according to the Indian custom, are represented by a necklace with a cross pendant. The priest crowns the groom and bride signifying the establishment of a new family of which the man and wife are the king and queen of the new house church. The crowns symbolize both joy and martyrdom, as joy and self-sacrifice are inseparably tied together in true marriage. In the Sacrament of Matrimony, it is God's representative, the priest, who places the rings and crowns the groom and bride as God is the One Who joins the groom and bride together (Mt. 19:6).

According to Indian custom, the groom ties the "thaali" or "minnu", which is a small golden pendant, around the neck of the bride. It represents the life-long inseparable bond established in marriage. The groom then places the "manthrakodi" or veil upon the bride's head, symbolizing his acceptance of his responsibility to care for and cherish his bride. The service concludes with the priest exhorting the worshipping community, joining the right hands of the groom and bride together thereby entrusting them to one another, and seeking the intercessions of the entire community, both living and departed.

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. Amin.

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

Blessed is He Who has come and is to come in the Name of the Lord God. Glory be to Him in the highest.

TRISAGION (QAWMO)

Holy art Thou, O God!

Holy art Thou, Almighty

Holy art Thou, Immortal

❖ Crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

(Three times)

Lord, have mercy upon us

Lord, be kind and have mercy

Lord, accept our service and our prayers

Have mercy upon us

Glory be to Thee, O God

Glory be to Thee, O Creator

Glory be to Thee, O Christ the King,

Who pities His sinful servants. **Barekhmor.**

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. Amin.

THE FIRST SERVICE
THE BLESSING OF THE RINGS

*Before the entrance of the sanctuary, the bride
stands at the right hand side of the groom.*

PRIEST: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: May His grace and mercy be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds, forever. Amin.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

PRIEST: O Lord God, make us worthy of Your imperishable joy, for You are the source of our joy and the fulfillment of our gladness. May our souls and spirits exult in You and by Your compassion, abolish our distress. By Your mercy, increase our virtues, shower Your blessings upon us and enrich our minds. Perfect our bridegroom and make our bride glorious so that along with all of Your Saints, who have forever pleased You, we may rejoice with You in everlasting bliss. Together with the congregation of Your Saints and the company of Your beloved, we will offer up glory and praise to You, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

PSALM 51

Have mercy on me, O God, / in Your loving kindness; / in the abundance of Your mercy / blot out my sin.

Wash me thoroughly from my guilt / and cleanse me from my sin. / For I acknowledge my fault / and my sins are before me always.

Against You only have I sinned / and done evil in Your sight, / that You may be justified in Your words / and vindicated in Your judgment. / For I was born in guilt / and in sin did my mother conceive me.

But You take pleasure in truth / and You have made known to me the secrets of Your wisdom. / Sprinkle me with Your hyssop / and I shall be clean; / wash me / and I shall be whiter than snow.

Give me the comfort of Your joy and gladness, / and the bones, which have been humbled, shall rejoice. / Turn away Your face from my sins and blot out all my faults.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, / and renew Your steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me from Your presence / and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

But restore to me Your joy and Your salvation / and let Your glorious spirit sustain me; / that I may teach the wicked Your way / and sinners may return to You.

Deliver me from blood, O God, / God of my salvation / and my tongue shall praise Your justice. / O Lord, open my lips / and my mouth shall sing Your praise.

For You do not take pleasure in sacrifices; / by burnt offerings You are not appeased. / The sacrifice of God is a humble spirit, / a heart that is contrite God will not despise.

Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion / and build up the walls of Jerusalem. / Then shall You be satisfied with sacrifices of truth / and with whole burnt-offerings; / then shall they offer bullocks upon Your altar.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekhamor. (Bless, Lord)

**❖ Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore**
(men 'olam wa'damo l'olam olmin amin)

HYMN 1 – ‘ENYONO

(brikh d-hadi lashmayone – dhanyan vinmanvaasikale)

- 1. Bless'd is He Who gladdened those – in – hea-ven and earth
Merciful Christ, gladden, Your – wor-shi-ppers with joy
- 2. Savior, stretch out Your right hand – and – bless ❖ – by Your grace
These rings given by the priests – in – Your – Holy Name
- 3. The Holy Church was betrothed – to Christ, by the ring
Which she received as His Bo-dy and Holy Blood
- 4. By the ring, Tamar was saved – from being put to death
By the ring, may our debts and – our sins be absolved. **Barekhamor.**

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore
(men 'olam wa'damo l'olam olmin amin)

- 5. Worshipped is the Father, Son – and Holy Spirit
Myst'ry of the Trinity, – praised in heav'n and earth
-
- 1. ധന്യൻ വിൺമൺവാസികളേ-സന്തോ-ഷിപ്പിച്ചോൻ
ഭക്തർക്കരുളുക-കരുണാബ്ധേ-മശിഹാ-സന്തോഷം
 - 2. രക്ഷകനെ വൈദികർ-തിരുന്നാ-മ-ത്തിൽ നൽകീടും
മോതിരഭൂഷകളേസ്തുഭയം-വാഴ്ത്തുക തൃക്കയ്യാൽ
 - 3. മോതിരമരുളി തിരുസ്തുഭയെ-മശിഹാ-വേട്ടപ്പോൾ
പരിപാവന തനുരൂധിരങ്ങൾ-കൈക്കൊണ്ടാളവളും
 - 4. മോതിരമതിനാൽ കൊലയീന്നും-താ-മാർരക്ഷിതയായ്
അതുപോൽ പാപവിമോചനമീ-ഞങ്ങൾ-നേടട്ടെ

ബാറക്മോർ. ശുബ്ഹോ. മെന് ഓലം.

5. മാനവർ വാനവർ വന്ദിച്ചു-വാഴ്ത്തിപ്പാടുന്ന
ത്രിതാരഹസ്യാ സമ്പൂജ്യം-താതാർമജറൂഹാ

PRAYER

PRIEST: O Lord God, may Your peace, which reconciled both heaven and earth, as well as the heights and the depths, unite our son and daughter, who have come together before You. O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, grant peace between them that they may love and accept each other with gladness all the days of their lives, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

HYMN 2 – QUQLIYON (PSALM 45)

(aba' leb fethgome – nalkuka nanmozhi, tone 3)

My heart overflows with good news, Halleluyah
And I will tell my deeds to the king

My tongue is the pen of a skillful scribe, Halleluyah
You are the fairest of the sons of men

Mercy is poured upon your lips, Halleluyah
Therefore, God has blessed you forever

In Your majesty, gird your sword upon Your thigh, Halleluyah
O Mighty One! Your glory will win victory. **Barekhmor.**

നൽകുക നൻമൊഴി മാനസമേ-ഹാലേലുയ്യ
സേവിക്കും ഞാനചരനെയെന്നുരചെയ്യും

വർഷിച്ചാൻ കൃപ നിന്നധരത്തിൽ-ഹാലേലുയ്യ
എന്നെന്നേയ്ക്കും നിന്നെ ദൈവം വാഴ്ത്തി

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore**
(men 'olam wa'damo l'olam olmin amin)

‘EQBO

(*khad shbleymun – upamakalaal*)

Solomon – speaking in – parables

Said, “Who is – your beloved – of Whom you are so proud, O fair one?”¹

“My beloved – was chosen from the myriads²

His vineyard is Is-ra-el.

He is whiter than Jacob’s vine,

Ruddier than oil from Nardin,³

Taller than Lebanon’s cedars,⁴

And He is – the likeness – of God, Whom we praise, – for He is glorious”

ഉപമകളാൽ-ശ്ലോമൂൻ ചൊന്നാനേവം

ചാരുമുഖീ പാരം നീ-ശ്ലോഘിയ്ക്കും

നിൻപ്രിയനേവൻ

എൻനാഥൻ-പതിനായിരമതിലുത്തമനാം

തൻപൂങ്കാവാനി സ്രായേൽ

ശുഭ്രൻ യാക്കോബിൻ ലതയിൽ

രക്തൻ നർദ്ദീൻ തൈലത്തിൽ

മൃദുലൻ ലബനോൻ കാരകിലിൽ

പാർക്കിലിവൻ-ദൈവസമൻ

വിശ്രുതനാ-മിവനെ-നാം വാഴ്ത്തിടുന്നു.

DEACON: Let us stand well. (Stoumen Kalos)

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (Kyrie eleison)

PRUMIYON (PREFACE)

PRIEST: Let us pray and implore the Lord for grace and mercy.

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

1 (Solomon 6:1)

2 (Solomon 5:10)

3 (Song of Solomon 4:14)

4 (Solomon 5:15)

PRIEST: Make us worthy, O Lord God, to offer unto You praise and thanksgiving, glory and unceasing exaltation, continually and at all times and all seasons.

Glory to the Heavenly Bridegroom, Who chose the Church, the daughter of the Gentiles, for Himself; Who purified her from all imperfections and impurities with His innocent blood; Who betrothed the earthly Church to Himself and became her Bridegroom; Who saved her from the slavery of impure and evil spirits and set her free from all her debts and sins. Blessed is the Lord, Who invited all the Gentiles and all peoples: the Prophets, Apostles, and all races, to the wedding feast of His Church. To Him belongs glory and honor at this time of the blessing of the rings of His servants, and at all festivals, times, seasons, hours, and all the days of our lives, forever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

SEDRO

O God, Who is exalted and beyond the understanding of all men; Who is always abundant in His goodness; and distant from every evil; and Who is the source of divine blessings. You are the One Who adorned Your creation and made her glorious and helped her by Your loving-kindness. You have accepted her earnest faith in You, according to her potential. You have granted imperishable blessings to Your Holy Church and graciously filled her with sweet fragrance and enriched her abundantly with divine blessings. You have clothed her with the garment of glory and betrothed her by Water and Spirit. You have made her Your bride and fiercely trampled upon the head of the enemy. You have given her Your Body and innocent Blood as a ring of purity. You have filled her with joy and gloriously illumined her with Your brilliant light. You have divinely granted that she may dwell with You. You have kept her in perfect order through Your holy Apostles.

O True Bridegroom, You are the One, Who established that the joy of men and women be perfected by the ring. By these rings, may this betrothal attain perfect joy. At this time, O Lord God, bless these rings ❖ that we, Your weak and sinful servants bless with joy. We beseech You, O Lord, to bless these rings ❖, which were profane and consecrate them by Your grace. O God, bless these rings ❖ with Your divine blessings as You have blessed the ring of Your Holy Church.

O Lord God, perfect this bridegroom, our son, and this bride, our daughter, and fill them with wisdom. By Your compassion, keep away from their marriage, all kinds of faults and defilements. O God, bestow upon them Your gladness in this world, and in the world which is to come. Adorn them in manifold ways during this temporal wedding feast all the days of their lives. But, above all, guide them graciously to Your heavenly feast, where the Watchers and the angels rejoice unceasingly. O Lord, by Your love, free this congregation, which is present before You, from all sins and offences, from all blemishes and faults. May they be blessed by You and may they bless You. May they stand before You and unceasingly glorify You, and Your Father, and Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

PRIEST: From God, may we receive remission of debts and forgiveness of sins in both worlds, forever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

HYMN 3 – QOLO*(eno no nubro shariro – pathivrathayaam)*

When the hea-venly Bridegroom betrothed the – Faithful – and Holy Church
 He then called – Simon and John and entru-sted her – to both of them
 He made Simon the steward
 And He made John the preacher
 Calling and instructing them
To guard – the Church that He had purcha-sed with His – own precious blood

The Church pro-claims, “My Lord and my God has – prepared – a feast for me
 Yet strangers – may not approach the altar, – where the – off ring is made”
 The Lord has commanded me:
 “Do not let all who approach
 Enter and learn the mystr’ies
Which are – hidden in us, unless I – give him – birth from Water. **Barekhor.**

❖ Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

With the ring, – the staff and the veil, Tamar – confirmed – her innocence
 With the sling, – stones, and shepherd’s bag, David – conquered – the
 Philistines
 Tamar – and David became
 Glorious – by these three items
 Likewise, – the Holy Church was
Made glo-rious by the Three Persons, One, – True God, – Who redeemed her

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore*(men ‘olam wa’damo l’olam olmin amin)*

Do not be – disturbed, nor let your mind be – troubled, – O Faithful Church
 Since you have – not forsaken Me, likewise – I shall – not forsake you
 Even at the end of time,
 When heav’n – and earth pass away,
 No harm shall come to you for
Your throne – is established in the man-sions of – the Trinity

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us*(moryo rahem layn w’adaryn)*

പതിവ്രതയാം-പരിപാവന സഭയെ
 വാനോൻ കാന്തൻ-വേട്ടൊരു നേരം
 ശീമോൻ യോഹന്നാനെന്നിവരേ-
 യാഹാനം ചെയ്തേൽപ്പിച്ചേവം
 വീടിൻ-ഭരണം ശീമോ-നെ
 സുവിശേഷം യോഹ-ന്നാനെ
 കൽപ്പി-ച്ചാൻ വിലയേ-റീടും
 രക്തത്താൽ ഞാൻ വാങ്ങിയൊരീ
 സ്തഭയെ-നിങ്ങൾ-സംരക്ഷി-പ്പിൻ

ബാറക്മോർ. ശുബ്ഹോ. മെൻ ഓലം.

വിശ്വസ്തേ സഭയേ ഭയമെന്തി
 നുള്ളിൽ ക്ലേശം ലേശം വേണ്ടോ
 അപരനെ നീ-മോഹിക്കാത്തതിനാൽ
 നിന്നെ ഞാനും-കൈവെടികില്ല
 ലോകത്തിന്നവസാനത്തിൽ
 പാരും വാനുമഴിഞ്ഞാലും
 വാഴും നീയാപത്തെന്യേ
 താ-താൽമജ-വിമലാത്മാവിൻ
 ഗേഹം-പാർത്താൽ നിൻദ്രോണോ-സാം

‘ETRO

PRIEST: O Bridegroom of Truth and Justice, to Whom the Virgin and pure souls are betrothed, make these servants worthy, who stand before Your majesty and who have made You the mediator of their matrimony through us, who are weak and sinful, that the sweet fragrance of virtue may rise up from them. May peace and concord, true love and perfect unity reign among them. Strengthen them that they may preserve their purity for each other, both in soul and body, and grant that they may offer up glory and praise to You, and to Your Father and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

BLESSING OF THE RINGS

The deacon holds the rings and the priest says the following prayer.

PRIEST: Glory be to the ❖ Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Who blesses these rings by His grace and abundant mercy, forever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

The priest waves his hands over the rings and says aloud:

PRIEST: For the fulfillment of the joy of the children of the Holy Church, these rings are blessed.

In the Name of the Father, ❖ and of the Son ❖ and of the Living Holy Spirit. ❖ Amin.

The priest gives the ring to the bridegroom, saying the following prayer.

PRIEST: Through this ring of your betrothal, receive the grace and blessing of the Lord's loving-kindness. May His right hand, full of grace, which grants blessings, be with You and protect You all the days of Your life.

PEOPLE: Amin.

The priest gives the ring to the bride, saying:

PRIEST: May the right hand of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is full of blessings, be mystically stretched out to you. Receive the ring of Your betrothal from the hand(s) of the holy priest(s) as though you receive it from the hands of the Holy Apostles. With the healing of your soul and body and with a joyful

heart, may you offer praise to Him, and to His Father, and to His Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

PRAYER FOR THE BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE

PRIEST: O Lord God, Who perfected the love of Your Church through Christ, in truth and justice, perfect these, our children, who are now betrothed to each other. Through these rings, which they have received, bestow upon them heavenly blessings, adorn them with chastity and make them noble with modesty. As You perfected the betrothal of Isaac and Rebecca with ornaments of gold, perfect the betrothal of these Your servants with the rings of righteousness. Gladden this bridegroom by the great joy of Your salvation. Adorn this bride with beautiful ornaments that neither perish nor become corrupt. Adorn them with the seal of purity, rather than with ornaments of gold.

O God, grant them harmony and the desire to please You. May they become mature in virtue. Remove from them all insincere love. Kindle their minds with the fire of Your love that they may love each other. Adorn them with imperishable beauty. Grant them strength to keep their conscience pure, which is more fragrant than sweet-smelling lilies. O God, save them from the hands of wicked and jealous men who hate humanity and deliver them from evil spirits that corrupt the purity of matrimony. Grant them times of prosperity and years of blessings.

The priest turns back towards the east and says:

Again, O Lord, hear the petitions of Your weak and sinful servants, who stand before Your Majesty. Grant this couple the blessing of children and times of joy. Multiply their blessings and good works. Strengthen them in the True Faith. Grant that they may continue to dwell in the Faith

and entrust it to their children as an inheritance. May Your grace and blessings be upon those who are present for this wedding feast. By Your victorious Cross, protect this bridegroom and bride and shower Your mercy upon all of us, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

The following hymn expresses the deep desire and the longing that the Church, the Bride, has for Christ, her Bridegroom. It narrates the journey of love as the Church searches for Christ, from Bethlehem to the Resurrection.

HYMN 4 – SUGITHO

(omro 'idath qudsho – sabhayaam thiru sabhayaam)

I the Church am the true bride
Of the Most Exalted One.

1. “I am bless’d,” exclaims the Church,
“Who has truly betrothed me?
I worship the True Bridegroom
Who came down and betrothed me.”
2. On that day He betrothed me
Creation was astonished,
For He made this poor girl rich.
Oh how He exalted me!
3. In the heights He established
A bridal chamber for me.
Where I may rejoice with friends
I am bless’d to confess Him.
4. He took me from idols and
Revealed His Myst’ries to me.
He said, “I will be with you
Until the end of the world.”

5. The Son of the King gave me
All the riches that He brought.
Riches from His Father's House
Therefore I will worship Him.
6. Woe to Satan who misleads
And corrupts me with idols.
Praise Jesus, Who redeemed me,
And Who has made me worthy.
7. In baptism He clothed me,
With armor of the Spirit,
And placed His Body and Blood
As the ring on my finger.
8. The groom resembles the sun
And the bride is like the day.
The marriage feast resembles
A tree which has great fragrance.
9. When I heard of His Good News
My mind burned with love for Him.
Even before seeing Him,
I confessed Him and was bless'd.
10. I searched out the sea and land
No one told me where He was.
I sought Him in Bethlehem
But He had left for Egypt.
11. I went after Him with joy
But when I came to Egypt,
They told me that He left for
Nazareth in Galilee.
12. I set out on a journey
To find Him in Nazareth.
When I reached there I was told,
"He left for River Jordan."

(Solomon 2:13, Isaiah 61:10)

13. I had no fear of the way,
Nor had I fear of robbers.
I set out for the Jordan
And searched for Him in the crowd.
14. Exhausted, I slept a while.
When I awoke they told me,
“The Bridegroom invites you to
Come for the great wedding feast!”
15. I decided to go and
Seek my Master at the feast.
When I reached there I was served
The good wine that He had made.
16. The groom and his friends asked me,
“Holy One, whom do you seek?
Your beloved is not here;
He left for the wilderness.”
17. The fragrant breath of His love
Illumined and gladdened me.
I rushed to the wilderness
And searched for him in the crowds.
18. I inclined my ear and heard
A voice in the crowd saying,
“Her beloved has been raised up
On the Tree on Golgotha.”
19. Overcome with grief I wept
And ran to Zion for Him.
When I reached there I was told
He had been placed in a tomb.
20. Hearing this, I wept with pain
And leaned my head on the Tree.
An angel appeared saying,
“Weep not for Christ is risen!”

21. I heard His voice and rejoiced
 And my face became radiant.
 I embraced Him and kissed Him;
 Lovingly He spoke to me.

22. “Come in peace, O Holy One,
 Whom I betrothed on the Cross.
 To My Father, I ascend;
 He shall send you the Spirit”

സഭയാം തിരുസഭയാ-മീ-ഞാൻ
 അത്യുന്നതനുടെ മണവാട്ടി

1. പാവനസഭ ചൊന്നീ-ടു-ന്നു
 എൻവരനേവൻ ഞാൻ ധ-ന്യ
 വന്ദിക്കുന്നേൻ വ-നെ-നെ
 വേട്ടൊരു മണവാളൻ ത-നെ
2. പ്രിയനെനെ വേട്ടൊ-രു നാളിൽ
 സത്വരമുന്നതി ഞാൻ പൂണ്ടു
 സൃഷ്ടികളതിലതിശ-യമാണ്ടു
 മഹിമയണിഞ്ഞാൾ ഞാൻ ധന്യ
7. എന്നെ മാമോദീസായാൽ
 ആത്മീയായുധ മണിയി-ച്ചാൻ
 വിരലിൻമേൽ മെയ്-ര-ക്ല-ങ്ങൾ
 മോതിരമായെൻ പേർക്കേ-കി
13. ദുർഗ്ഗമ മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങ-ളിലു-ടെ
 ചോരന്മാരെ കു-സാ-തെ
 യോർദ്ദാൻനദിയിങ്കൽ-ഞാൻ-ചെ-
 ന്നവനേ ജനമധ്യേ-തേ-ടി

19. സങ്കടമൊടു നില-വിളി കു-ട്ടി
 സിയോനിൽ ഞാൻ-ചെ-ന്ന-പ്പോൾ
 കബറതിലവനെ യു-ദ-ന്മാർ
 വെച്ചെന്നവരെന്നോ-ടോ-തി
22. സ്കീപ്പായാൽ ഞാൻ വേ-ട്ടോ-ളാം
 സുമുഖീ സ്വഗാതമൊ-തു-ന്നേൻ
 താതനികേതം ഞാൻ-പുകി
 വിട്ടീടാം ഞാൻ റു-ഹാ-യെ

CONCLUDING PRAYER

PRIEST: O faithful brothers and sisters, may God reward you thirty, sixty and hundred fold for having witnessed this betrothal blessed by God. May He reward you with all good things and may the Cross of our Lord be with you always by night and by day and guard you from the Evil One and his hosts, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

THE SECOND SERVICE
THE BLESSING OF THE CROWNS

PRIEST: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: May His grace and mercy be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds, forever. Amin.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

PRIEST: Make us worthy, O Lord God, of that eternal wedding feast and everlasting bridal chamber. Together with the guests whom You have invited to Your wedding feast, invite us also O Lord, to Your everlasting joy, so that with them we may offer up glory and thanksgiving to You, and to Your Father and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

PSALM 51

(Page 3)

HYMN 5 – ‘ENYONO

(*rahem 'lay: emo d-kitho – aadhima neethi*)

1. May God, Who blessed – the righteous of old, – bless ❖ these servants,
With the abundance – of His grace. – O God, have mercy.
2. May God, Who blessed – both Adam and Eve, – bless ❖ these servants,
With the abundance – of His grace. – O God, have mercy.
3. May God, Who blessed – Abram and Sarah, – bless ❖ these servants,
With the abundance – of His grace. – O God, have mercy.
4. May God, Who blessed – Isaac *and* Rebecca, – bless ❖ these servants,
With the abundance – of His grace. – O God, have mercy.

5. May God, Who blessed – Jacob and Rachel, – bless ❖ these servants,
With the abundance – of His grace. – O God, have mercy. **Barek**mor.

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore
(men 'olam wa'damo l'olam olmin amin)

6. May God, Who blessed – Joseph in Egypt, – bless ❖ these servants,
With the abundance – of His grace. – O God, have mercy.

1. ആദിമ നീതിജ്ഞരെ വാഴ്ത്തിയ ദൈവം
തൻ-ബഹു കൃപയാ-ലീ ദാസരെ വാഴ്ത്ത-ട്ടെ +
ദേവാ! ദയ ചെയ്തീടണമേ

2. ഹവ്വായോടാദാ-മിനെ വാഴ്ത്തിയ ദൈവം
തൻ-ബഹു കൃപയാ-ലീ ദാസരെ...

3. സാരായോടാബറാ-മിനെ വാഴ്ത്തിയ ദൈവം
തൻ-ബഹു കൃപയാ-ലീ ദാസരെ...

4. രബക്കയോടിസഹാക്കിനെ വാഴ്ത്തിയ ദൈവം
തൻ-ബഹു കൃപയാ-ലീ ദാസരെ...

5. റാഹേലോടു യാക്കോ-ബിനെ വാഴ്ത്തിയ ദൈവം
തൻ-ബഹു കൃപയാ-ലീ ദാസരെ...

ബാറക്മോർ. ശുബ്ഹോ. മെന് ഓലം.

6. മെസിറേനിൽ യൗസേ-പ്പിനെ വാഴ്ത്തിയ
ദൈവം തൻ-ബഹു കൃപയാ-ലീ ദാസരെ...

PRAYER

PRIEST: Magnify Your servants who are now united to each other with the wealth of Your spiritual gifts. Make them rejoice with Your favor. Fill them with the joy of Your divine commandments so that they may sing praise to You with gladness and exult in You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

HYMN 6 – QUQLIYON (PSALM 21:1-4)

(moryo b-haylokh – modhikkatte param naatha tone 7)

May the king rejoice in Your strength, O Lord, Halleluyah
And greatly rejoice in Your – salvation

You have given him his heart's desire, Halleluyah
And have not withheld the request – of his lips

For You have given him his heart's desire, Halleluyah
You have placed a glorious crown – on his head

He asked You for life and You gave it, Halleluyah
With length of days, forever – and ever. **Barekhamor.**

മോദിക്കട്ടെ പരം നാഥാ-ഹാലേലുയാ-ഉ ഹാലേലുയാ
നിൻശക്തിയിലും രക്ഷയിലും നൂപതേ

നല്ലവരം നീ മുൻപേറവനേകി-ഹാലേലുയാ-ഉ ഹാലേലുയാ
മഹിമാവിൻ മുടി ചൂ-ടി തലയിൽ

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore**

'EQBO*(yawmono – manavaraye mel)*

The Bridegroom – has prepared – a bridal chamber – for His Church
 He has raised and – placed her above – the rulers and – heavenly hosts
 In the heights, as He – had promised

മണവറയേ-മേ-ൽ-സ്വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ
 സഭയേ! നിൻ കാന്തൻ-സ്ഥാപിച്ചാൻ
 വാഗ്ദത്തം പോൽ സ്വർഗ്ഗേ മേവും
 ശുൽത്തോനന്മാർ ഹൈലേയർക്കോ
 സ്തിവരേക്കാൾ നിന്നെ മേലാക്കി

DEACON: Let us stand well. (Stoumen Kalos)

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (Kyrie eleison)

PRUMIYON (PREFACE)

PRIEST: Let us pray and implore the Lord for grace and mercy.

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

PRIEST: Make us worthy, O Lord God, to offer unto You praise and thanksgiving, glory and unceasing exaltation, continually and at all times and all seasons.

Glory to the Self-existent One, Who existed, exists and will exist forever; to the Eternal Word, Whom the angels above His throne, worship; to the Great and Exalted One, Who had pity on us all because of His abundant mercy; to the One Who turned our fallen human race back to Him and Who by His love, made our nature, which had alienated itself from Him, worthy of drawing near to Him; to the One Whom both philosophers and skeptics have no choice but to worship, for even they are unable to question or examine His Being; to the One Who plaited jeweled crowns for the princes; to One Who when He loses, everything remains

loosed and when He binds, everything remains bound; to the Majestic One, Who confers crowns of joy to the bridegroom and the bride; to Him belongs glory and honor at this time of the blessing of the crowns of his servants and at all festivals, times, seasons, hours and all the days of our lives, forever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

SEDRO

PRIEST: O Lord God, Whom all the heavenly hosts glorify with fear and trembling; Whose greatness terrifies the fiery cohorts and makes them shudder in the heights above; Who by His abundant and ineffable compassion and infinite mercy, rejoices when we, who are poor, offer our praises; Who is pleased when we, who are weak and earthly, offer our service. O Lord, You are long-suffering, and Your desire is that we approach You with our needs, for You are quick to bestow gifts and slow to punish those who deserve chastisement.

O Lord God, bless Your servants who travel everywhere and dwell under the authority of Your greatness, especially these Your servants who stand present before You and take refuge in the shadow of Your loving-kindness and under the wings of Your compassion. Restore, save, and gladden Your servants that they may be virtuous in all their actions. Keep them and direct them in the path of Your Law that they may walk in Your Truth. Grant that they may follow the straight and narrow path, which leads to the Kingdom of Heaven. Grant that they may attain spiritual gifts and be diligent and earnest in their divine pursuit, which is profitable for both their bodies and their souls. O Lord God, grant that they may love eternal life and be distant from those who have fallen into the death of sin. Unite their hearts that they might draw near to Your holiness and flee from the slavery of the accursed Satan. Make us and them righteous laborers in Your spiritual vineyard, who are diligent in piety and zealous in observing Your commandments.

O Lord God, make us imitators of Your Saints; make us love one another and hate the evil one; make us obey Your Divinity and bless our enemies; make us, O Lord, worshippers of Your Majesty and ministers of Your Lordship. Grant rest, Lord, to our faithful departed, that they may rejoice in Your Heavenly Kingdom, for You are good and the lover of mankind. And we will offer up glory and praise to You, and to Your Father and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

PRIEST: From God, may we receive remission of debts and forgiveness of sins in both worlds, forever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

HYMN 7 – QOLO

(quqoyo – sundharikalil athi sundhari nee)

1. How beautiful are you, O – daughter of Gentiles!
 King Solomon sings your praise, – O Fair and Pure Church.⁵
 Your lips are sweet, – like drops of honey.
 You are spotless and so beautiful.
 The scent of Your garb is like – roses in April.
 Christ, the King, protects you as – you worship His Cross.
 Halleluyah – Halleluyah

2. How beautiful are you, O – daughter of Gentiles!
 You resemble the sun which – dawns on the whole world
 The Cross is signed – upon your forehead,
 And your pure mouth – sings praises to God.
 Your lips are imbued with the – sacred Blood of Christ.
 And your children sing praises, – all day and all night.
 Halleluyah – Halleluyah. **Barekhmor.**

❖ Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Halleluyah

- 3. The singing Church is like the – swallow at morning.
Which rises early and sings – praise to the Lord God.
In her hand, she – holds David’s harp and
Lifts her voice with – the watchers above.
With the harp of one hundred – fifty strings,⁶ she *sings praise*,
That God may shower His merc-ies on the whole world.
Halleluyah – Halleluyah

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore, Halleluyah

- 4. “Three outer walls protect me,” says the Holy Church.
The Evil One, who deceives, cannot breach these walls
For these three are – bound to each other
And between them, – there is no divide.
These three walls are the Father, – Son – and the Spirit
In Whose midst I am standing, – as the glorious bride.
Halleluyah – Halleluyah

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

(moryo rahem layn w’adaryn)

സുന്ദരികളിലതി സുന്ദരി നീ-ജാതികളിൽ സു-നു
 നൃപതിശലോമോൻ വിമലസഭേ-നിനെ
 ലാളിപ്പുനിന്നധരങ്ങൾ-മധുവർഷിക്കുന്നുവസന
 സുഗന്ധം-നീസാൻ കൂസുമസമം
 സഭയേ! സകലവിധം സുമുഖി-നീ കരതീണ്ടാത്തോൾ
 സ്ത്രീബായെ വന്ദിപ്പതിനാൽ-രാജാവം മശിഹാ
 ഹാലേലുയ്യാ-കാക്കുന്നു നിന്നേ

ബാറക്മോർ. ശുബ്ഹോ-ഹാലേലുയ്യാ. മെന് ഓലം.

പുലരിയിലപ്പരമോന്നതനാം-ദൈവത്തെ വാ-ഴ്ത്തും
 മീവൽപ്പരയോടൊപ്പം താൻ-സഭസംഗീത-ത്തിൽ

ദാവീദിന്റെ-കിന്നരവും പേരി
 അവളീറയരോ-ടൊപ്പം പാടുന്നു
 നൂറ്റമ്പതു കമ്പികളേലും-തംബുരുവാദ്യ-ത്താൽ
 അവളുടയോനെ വാഴ്ത്തീടു-ന്നുലകങ്ങളിലെ-ങ്ങും
 ഹാലേലുയ്യാ-കൃപവർഷിച്ചീടാൻ

ETRO

PRIEST: O Lover of mankind, O Just and True Bridegroom, Who was invited to the city of Cana for the wedding feast and transformed ordinary water into excellent wine, by Your grace, receive this incense, which is now being offered to You. Bless Your servants who have bowed their heads, before Your Holy Altar. Overshadow them with Your right hand, which is full of mercy and compassion, and make them rejoice in Your spiritual bridal chamber. Make us and them worthy of the marriage feast, which you promised to Your Saints who loved and kept Your commandments. Grant that Your servants may stand at Your right hand side and receive Your compassion and offer praise and thanksgiving to You, and to Your Father and to Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

HYMN 8 - QOLO

(tubayk 'itho - paulos shleeha)

I heard Paul, the – blessed Apostle, saying,
 “If one comes to you preaching
 Other than what we have preached,
 Be he even an angel,
 He shall be cut off – from the Church.”
 See perverse doctrines arise,
 Springing forth from every side.
 Bless-ed is he who begins
 And ends in the Lord’s teachings.

PAULINE EPISTLE

DEACON: My brethren, the reading is taken from the Epistle of Saint Paul the Apostle to the Ephesians, **Barekhamor.**

PEOPLE: Glory be to the Lord of the Apostle and may His mercy be upon us, forever.

DEACON: (Ephesians 5:20-6:3)

My brethren, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the Church, the Body of which He is the Savior. Just as the Church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her, in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, so as to present the Church to Himself in splendor, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind, so that she may be holy and without blemish. In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the Church, because we are members of His body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the Church. Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother,” this is the first commandment with a promise: “so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”

Ahai Barekhamor.

HYMN 9 – PETHGOMO (PSALM 21:1)

(moryo b-haylokh – modhikkatte param naatha)

Halleluyah – Halleluyah
 May the king rejoice in Your strength, O Lord
 And greatly rejoice in Your salvation
 Halleluyah

ഹാലേലൂയാ-വ്-ഹാലേലൂയാ
 മോദിക്കട്ടെപരം നാഥാ
 നിൻശക്തിയിലും രക്ഷയിലും നൂപതേ
 ഹാലേലൂയാ

READING OF THE GOSPEL

DEACON: With stillness, fear and purity, let us give heed and listen to the Good News of the living words of God, in the Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, that is read to us.

PRIEST: ❖ Peace be unto you all.

PEOPLE: Make us worthy, O Lord God, with Thy Spirit.

PRIEST: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving proclamation from Saint Matthew, the Apostle, who preaches the good news of life and salvation to the world.

PEOPLE: Blessed is He Who has come and is to come. Glory be to Him who sent Him for our salvation, and may His mercy be upon us all, forever.

PRIEST: Now, in the time of the Dispensation of our Lord and our God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Word of Life, ❖ God who took flesh of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things thus came to pass.

PEOPLE: We believe and confess.

PRIEST: (Matthew 19:1-12)

When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. Large crowds followed Him, and He cured them there.

Some Pharisees came to Him, and to test Him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that the One Who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?" He said to them, "It was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another commits adultery."

His disciples said to Him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." But He said to them, "Not everyone can accept this teaching, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. Let anyone who can accept this, accept it."

❖ Peace be unto you all.

HYMN 10*(khad h-zothok – vandhya sleebaa)*

When the Holy Church witnessed
 The Great Sun of Righteousness
 Raised upon the sacred Tree
 Like the moon she stood in rank
 And cried out befittingly,
 “May the pow’r of Your Essence
 Be glorified, Lord of all!”

വന്ധ്യ സ്ത്രീബാത്തരുവിന്മേൽ
 നീതിമഹാരവിയാം നിന്നെ
 നിർമ്മലയാം സഭ കണ്ടപ്പോൾ
 അമ്പിളിതൃല്യം ക്രമമായ് നിന്നി-
 ട്വഖിലാധിപനാം നിൻ പ്രാഗത്ഭ്യത്തെ
 വിധിപോൽ ഭംഗ്യാ ഘോഷിച്ചു

BLESSING OF THE CROWNS*The priest waves his right hand over the crowns saying:*

PRIEST: May the crowns and the heads upon which they are placed
 be blessed and perfected.

In the Name of the Father ❖ and of the Son ❖ and of the
 Holy Spirit, forever. ❖ Amin.

CROWNING OF THE BRIDEGROOM

*The priest extols the crown three times above the bridegroom’s head and
 chants the following hymn three times.*

PRIEST

(kleelo bideh – vaaneen udayon)

By our Lord’s hand, this crown – which descends from heaven
Is fitting and placed on – this groom’s head by the priest.

വാണീന്നുടയോൻ-കൈയ്യാൽ – മകുടം ഘോഷമിറ-ങ്ങുന്നു
മണവാളനെയാ-ചാര്യൻ – അണിയിക്കും മകുടം-രമ്യം

حُكَّلاً كَرَبَةً وَحُبًّا . فَهَ هَ صَ لُ أُوْ أَسْ هُ نُسُ .
حُ لُ لُ أُوْ حُ كُ لُ . حُ لُ لُ هُ أُوْ حُ دُ مَ .

PEOPLE

(hudo moran – vaydeeka shemmaashanmaar)

- 1. By Your mercy, O Lord, – grant gladness with these crowns
To this bride and bridegroom – in their bridal chamber.
- 2. How splendid is the crown – plaited by Christ the King.
Which is placed by the priest – on the groom and the bride.
- 3. Christ, the True Bridegroom, Whose – wedding feast has no end,
Come quickly that we may – rejoice with You always.

- 1. വൈദികശെമ്മാ-ശ്ശന്മാർ – കമ്പാലിമ്പം-നൽക
മുടിയായ് മണവാ-ളന്നും – മണവറയാൽ മണവാട്ടിക്കും
- 2. മഹിതാചാര്യ-ന്മാരാൽ – ദമ്പതികൾക്കേ-കിടുവാൻ
മ്ശിഹാ നൃപനാൽ-രചിതം – മകുടം പാരം-രൂചിരം
- 3. ശാശ്വതശാലാ-ധീശാ! – സത്യമണാളാ! ശീഘ്രം
സവിധമണഞ്ഞീ-ടെണമേ – സതതം സന്തോ-ഷിക്കാം

*The priest places the crown upon the bridegroom’s head
and says the following prayer.*

PRIEST: May the Lord crown you with the crown of righteousness, adorn you with imperishable beauty, and clothe you with invincible weapons to fight against all the powers of the enemy.

PEOPLE: Amin.

CROWNING OF THE BRIDE

The priest extols the crown three times above the bride's head and chants:

PRIEST

(kleelo bideh – vaaneen udayon)

By our Lord's hand, this crown – which descends from heaven
Is fitting and placed on – this bride's head by the priest.

വാന്നീന്നുടയോൻ-കൈയ്യാൽ – മകുടം ഘോഷമീറ-ങ്ങുന്നു
മണവാട്ടിയെയാ-ചാര്യൻ – അണിയിക്കും മകുടം-രമ്യം

كَلِمًا كَلِمَةً وَجَدَّ . فَهَاجِلًا أَلَمَ سُبُحًا .
حَدَّ أَلَمَ كَلِمًا . وَجَدَّ سُبُحًا حَمَّ

PEOPLE

(hudo moran – vaydeeka shemmaashanmaar)

1. By Your mercy, O Lord, – grant gladness with these crowns
To this bride and bridegroom – in their bridal chamber
 2. How splendid is the crown – plaited by Christ the King.
Which is placed by the priest – on the Groom and the Bride.
 3. The groom's crown is like the – crown of thorns of our Lord;
The bride's crown is like the – crown of the chaste women.
1. വൈദികശൈമാ-ശ്ശന്മാർ – കമ്പാലിമ്പം-നൽക
മുടിയായ് മണവാ-ളന്നും – മണവറയാൽ മണവാട്ടിക്കും

- 2. മഹിതാചാര്യ-ന്മാരാൽ - ദമ്പതികൾക്കേ-കിടുവാൻ
 മ്ശിഹാ ന്യൂപനാൽ-രചിതം - മകുടം പാരം-രുചിരം
- 3. മണവാളൻ തൻ-മകുടം - തിരുമുൽമുടിയോ-ടു സദ്യശ്യം
 മണവാട്ടിയുടെ-മകുടം - സതിമാർ മുടിയോ-ടു സദ്യശ്യം

The priest places the crown on the bride's head and says the following praeyr.

PRIEST: May the Lord crown you with the crown of righteousness and adorn you with incorporeal beauty. May you rejoice all the days of your lives, offering up glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always, and forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

According to the ancient custom of India, the bridegroom ties a cross (minnu) around the neck of the bride. The deacons then sing the following hymn.

HYMN 11

(sleebo otho d-shayno - shubha chinam)

The Cross is the sign of peace - and the sign of victory
 By the Cross we have been saved; - and in it we all glory

ശുഭ ചിഹ്നം താൻ സ്ലീബാ - വിജയകൊടി താൻ സ്ലീബാ
 നമ്മെ രക്ഷിച്ചിടും - സ്ലീബായിൽ പുകഴുന്നു നാം

*shubha chinam thaan sleebaa - vijayakodi thaan sleebaa
 namme rekhicheedum - sleebaayil pukazhunoo naam*

رُكْبًا لِلْهِ وَمَعْنًا - رُكْبًا سَلَامًا وَنُصْرًا
 رُكْبًا وَهَيْبَةً وَرُكْبًا - رُكْبًا وَرُكْبًا وَرُكْبًا

*sleebo otho d-shayno - sleebo neesho d-zoqutho
 sleebo d-behu freeqinan - w-beh khulan meshthabhrinan*

PRAYER FOR THE BRIDEGROOM AND BRIDE

PRIEST: May the Lord, Who is pleased with the lives of men, be pleased with your lives and bless your union. May Christ, the Heavenly Bridegroom, confirm your marriage in true matrimony. As Christ rejoices in His Holy Church, may you rejoice in each other. May His right hand of mercy rest upon you, overshadow you and protect you from all harm. May the angel of peace dwell with you and protect you from the deceit of the enemy. May God deliver you from envy, which leads to death and may He keep away all sorrow that you may rejoice together.

May the Lord God grant you righteous children that you may rejoice in them as Abraham rejoiced in Isaac, Isaac in Jacob and Jacob in Joseph. May the blessing, which God gave to Noah and his children saying, "Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth" be upon you. May the blessing that God gave to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob be upon You. May God bless you with the dew from heaven and with every good thing that the earth produces. May the blessing, which Jacob gave to his son, Joseph, saying, "May the God of your father help you," be upon you. May the blessing of those who loved God and pleased Him be upon you, as well as upon the crowns, which have been placed on your heads today, by the hands of the priest.

May all the peoples rejoice and give glory for the Name of the Lord has been invoked upon you. May God make you abound in prosperity, possessions, and blessings. May God absolve your debts and sins as He absolved the sinful woman. May you become heirs of the Heavenly Kingdom, like the thief on the right hand side of our Lord. May all of our faithful departed be forgiven. May the Exalted One, Who descended to Mount Sinai and made the covenant with His bride, Whom He rescued out of Egypt, bless you and this congregation. Let us offer up glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

HYMN 12 – SUGITHO

(ath ithaykh talyo – edhen thottam)

1. O Great Gardn'r of Eden, – You are He Who betrothed Me.
Send the breeze from Your garden – so that I may be refreshed.
2. I am Yours, I am Your bride, – betrothed in Your Holy Name.
O Groom of Truth and Justice, – pity me who seeks refuge.
3. Your Cross has sealed our marriage, – Your suffering has set me free.
You've prepared the bridal room – and have asked me to be Yours.
4. Thieves surrounded me, seeking – to corrupt my true beauty
By Your love, I conquered them – and have been freed from bondage
5. I exult, Lord, in Your love. – I rejoice in Your beauty.
I know You, O Son of God. – Carry me on Your shoulders.
6. Behold, I seek Your comfort. – I take refuge in Your love.
Hold me with Your right hand, while – Your left hand supports my head.
7. Do not be far from me, Lord, – nor withhold intimacy.
For if you disregard me, – I shall surely faint and die.
8. Splendor greater than the Sun, – Fragrance sweeter than the rose.
Lord, I long for Your embrace, – for life comes forth from Your lips.
9. Look at my beauty, O Lord. – Take me to your bridal room.
That I may sleep pleasantly, – taking rest in Your bosom.
10. I was bless'd when they announced – that the One Who betrothed me,
The True Bridegroom, Jesus Christ, – rose from the tomb in glory.
11. Lord, I sat days, months and years, – in the darkness of my sins.
Upon hearing Your sweet voice, – my eyes became illumined.

- 1. ഏദൻതോട്ടം നട്ടോനേ!
നീയാണെൻ യുവമണവാളൻ
നിൻതോട്ടത്തിന്നെൻ പേർക്കായ്
വീശിച്ചിടുക കുളിർത്തെന്നൽ

- 2. സത്യമണാളാ നീതിജ്ഞാ
നാഥാ ഞാൻ നിൻ മണവാട്ടി
നീയാണെൻ തണലും താങ്ങും
ചെയ്യണമെന്നോടു കാരുണ്യം

- 3. സ്ത്രീബായാലവകാശ ധനം
മുദ്രിതമാക്കി പീഡകളാൽ
അടിമ വിടർത്തി സ്വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ
പന്തിയിലെന്നെ നീയേറ്റി

- 11. നാളും മാസവുമാണ്ടും ഞാൻ
പാപപ്പാഴിരുളിൽ പോക്കി
നിൻജീവധാനി കേട്ടപ്പോൾ
കണ്ണുതെളിഞ്ഞാനന്ദിച്ചേൻ

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us
(moryo rahem layn w'adaryn)

BO'UTHO OF ST. JACOB
(fihah lan moran – karthaave nin)

- 1. Open unto us, Your great door full of mercy.
Lord, hear our pray'r and have mercy upon our souls.

- 2. O Son of God, stretch out Your right hand and bless ❖ them:
This bridegroom, and bride and the crowns upon their heads.

- 3. Bless, ❖ O Lord, this bridegroom and bride, by their names and
Bless all the years of their lives, in the world of light.

4. May this congregation be bless-ed, ❖ forever,
By the pray'rs of the Bless-ed Virgin and the Saints.
5. Bless ❖ Your servants, that with their mouths they might sing praise,
And with their harps, worship You, with sincere praises.
6. O Lord, Who hears all and Who accepts earnest prayers,
Hear our petition and have mercy on our souls.

1. കർത്താവേ നിന്നാർദ്രത നിറയും വാതിൽ തുറന്നീ
പ്രാർത്ഥന കേട്ടിട്ടാത്മാക്കളിലൻപുണ്ടാ-കേണം
2. ദൈവാത്മജനേ ദമ്പതികളേയും തലയിൽ ചൂടും
മകുടങ്ങളേയും വലതുകരത്താൽ വാഴ്ത്തിടേണം. +
3. നാമം ചൊന്നീ ദമ്പതികൾക്കായ് വരമേകേണം. +
തേജോ ലോകത്തിവരുടെ കാലം ശുഭമാകേണം.
4. ധന്യതയാർന്നോൾ പരിശുദ്ധന്മാർ തൻ പ്രാർത്ഥനയാൽ
വാഴ്ത്തണമേ + യീജനനിവഹത്തെ യെന്നെന്നേയ്ക്കും.
5. നിൻസ്തുതി പാടാൻ കിന്നരമേന്തി സ്ത്രോത്രം ചെയ്യാൻ
എൻ കർത്താവേ! ഇവരുടെ വായ്കളെ വാഴ്ത്തിടേണം. +
6. സർവ്വം കേട്ടിട്ടഭൃർത്ഥനയെ കൈക്കൊൾവാനേ
പ്രാർത്ഥന കേട്ടിട്ടാത്മാക്കൾമേൽ കൃപ ചെയ്യേണം.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

PRIEST: My beloved brothers and sisters, we have a custom, which we have received from our holy fathers and venerable ancestors: to admonish the faithful when we are gathered together in the house of God, and to confirm and command you, who stand before us, to be attentive to virtuous deeds and to be diligent in truth, righteousness, and good works.

Dear children, pay attention and know that you are standing before God, before the Table of Life and the Throne of our Lord Jesus Christ, before the Holy Cross, the Holy Gospel and before this entire congregation. Realize that you do not stand before One Who is ignorant, but before the One Who knows your hearts.

Behold, I now entrust you to one another.

Here the celebrant joins their right hands together.

May God be the witness between you and me, that I will not be responsible for anything you may do against His law. May the abundant grace and mercy of the Lord dwell and overshadow the bridegroom and bride, the guests and hosts, as well as the priests, deacons and all the faithful people.

Here the celebrant separates the hands.

FINAL EXHORTATION

PRIEST: My beloved faithful, realize that these commandments are for all of you who have gathered here today. Husbands, learn how your relationship with your wife ought to be. Remember that she has left her people and is now united to you. Therefore, you must please her and be compassionate towards her. Even if you are naked, you must clothe her; even if you are hungry, you must feed her; even if you are thirsty, you must provide her drink. Likewise, wives, you must act towards your husband as though he were your own soul. Have the mind to serve him as is fitting. In everything, behave with love and kindness towards him.

By the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Theotokos, and all the Saints who loved our Lord and kept His commandments, may the right hand of our Lord Jesus Christ dwell upon you and may His grace be with you and with us, forever.

PEOPLE: Amin.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Page 1)

Our Father, Who art in Heaven...

NICENE CREED

PRIEST: We believe in One, True God,

PEOPLE: The Father Almighty / Maker of heaven and earth / and of all things visible and invisible. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, / the Only-begotten Son of God / begotten of the Father, before all worlds, / Light of Light, / True God of True God, / begotten, not made, / being of One essence 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 Spirit and of the Holy Virgin Mary, / Mother of God, / and became man.

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

❖ And on the third day He rose again / according to His Will, / and ascended into heaven, / and sits at 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 together, with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified, / Who spoke through the Prophets and the Apostles. And in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

And we confess one baptism, for the remission of sins, / and
we look for the resurrection of the dead / and the new life in
the world to come. **Amin.**

QUQLIYON

(Commemoration of the Theotokos – Tone 1)

PETHGOME

(bath malko – ninnal sthuthiyodu raajamakal)

The King's daughter stands in glory, Halleluyah – Halleluyah
And the Queen at – Your right hand

Leave your people and your father's house, Halleluyah – Halleluyah
For the King will desi-re your beauty. **Barehkmor.**

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore**

'EQBO

(qareb bo'utho – bhakthar pukazhchaa)

O pride of the faithful ones
Offer pray'rs on our behalf,
To the Only-begotten,
That He have mercy on us
Stoumen Kalos. Kyrie eleison.

QOLO

(dukhrono d-maryam – mariyaamin smaranam)

May Mary's Mem'ry
Be for our blessing.
May her pray'r be a
Refuge for our souls. **Barehkmor.**

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**

Behold, sweet fragrance
 Rises in the air
 For Virgin Mary,
 The Theotokos.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us
(moryo rahem layn w'adaryn)

BO'UTHO

(basleebokh moran – moran eesho kurishum)

By Your Cross, our Lord Jesus,
 And the pray'r of Your mother,
 Keep from us all afflictions,
 Punishments and rods of wrath.

QUQLIYON

(Commemoration of the Saints – Tone 8)

PETHGOME

(zadeeqo akh deqlo – nayavaan panapole)

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, Halleluyah
 Like cedars of Lebanon – they shall grow

They shall flourish and be great in old age, Halleluyah
 They shall be fruitful – and fragrant. **Barekhnor.**

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

'EQBO

(dukhnokh o mor – orupolingum mor)

Your mem'ry, O St. (Thomas),
 Be kept here and in heaven.
 May your pray'r be a help to
 Those who honor your mem'ry.
Stoumen Kalos. Kyrie eleison.

QOLO*(tubo lanbiye – bhaagyam nibiyarkum)*

Bless'd are the Prophets,
 And the Apostles;
 Bless'd are the martyrs
 At Resurrection. **Barekhamor.**

❖ **Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**

Martyrs who desired
 To behold the Christ,
 By the sword, gained wings,
 And flew to the heights.

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us*(moryo rahem 'layn w'adaryn)*BO'UTHO*(afees 'aman – parishudhanmaare ningal)*

Pray for us, O holy Saints,
 To Him Whose will you fulfilled.
 Keep from us all afflictions,
 Punishments, and rods of wrath.

BENEDICTION

PRIEST: May God, the Creator of heaven and earth, bless you. May God bless and sanctify all those who have participated in this spiritual service. May the Lord, our God, grant forgiveness of sins to you and to your faithful departed. O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, grant that our feeble and unworthy prayers be pleasing and acceptable before Your exalted Throne, now and always, forever and ever.

PEOPLE: Amin.