

The Procession with the Holy Icons

On the Sunday of Orthodoxy, "it is the custom in cathedrals, monasteries and many parish churches to go in procession with the holy ikons round the outside of the church, and then to read the special Office celebrating the triumph of Orthodoxy."¹

The procession is conducted in the following order: The altar servers proceed with the processional standards, candles, fans, and cross. They are followed by the clergy and then the laity, all carrying Holy Icons.

As we process, we repeatedly sing the Troparion for the Sunday of Orthodoxy – Tone 2:



We bow be - fore your sa - cred im - age, O gra - cious Lord, and beg for - giveness for
our of - fens - es, O Christ our God; for you, of your own good will, ascended
the cross in your hu - man na - ture to de - liv - er from the enemy's
bondage those whom you cre - a - ted. There - fore, we grate - ful - ly cry
out to you: By your com - ing to save the world, O Sav - ior,
you have filled all with joy.

¹ Mary and Ware, K. (1984). *The Lenten Triodion*. London: Faber and Faber, p.311.

Synodikon of Orthodoxyⁱ

The following is chanted solemnly at the conclusion of the procession.

Priest: Who is so great a God as our God? You are our God, who alone does great wonders! (*Thrice.*)

Let us Orthodox people, now celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy, glorify our good God above all else, Who is blessed forever.

This is our God, Who took thought for and established His beloved inheritance, the holy Church, setting her foundation in Paradise, comforting with His true word our forefathers who fell through disobedience. This is our God, Who, directing us to His promise of salvation, left Himself not without witness, but foretold the coming salvation, first through the forefathers and prophets, and by many images gave a lively description of it. This is our God, Who by the prophets of old often spoke to the fathers, and in these latter days spoke to us by His Son, by Whom time was created; Who declared the goodwill of the Father towards us, disclosed the mysteries of heaven, confirmed the truth of the Gospel through the power of the Holy Spirit, sent His apostles through the whole world to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom, and confirmed it by various powers and miracles.

Following this saving revelation, and holding the Gospel...

The Symbol of Faith

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, the only-begotten, born of the Father before all ages. Light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in essence with the Father; through whom all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, and was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried. He rose on the third day according to the scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he is coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of Life, who proceeds from the Father. Together with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified; he spoke through the prophets. In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I profess one baptism for the remission of sins. I expect the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Priest: This is the faith of the apostles! This is the faith of the fathers! This is the Orthodox faith! This faith has established the universe!

Furthermore, we accept and confirm the councils of the holy fathers, and their traditions and writings which are agreeable to divine revelation.

And though the enemies of Orthodoxy oppose this providence and the saving revelation of the Lord, yet the Lord has considered the reproaches of His servants, for He mocks those who blaspheme His Glory, and has challenged the enemies of Orthodoxy and put them to flight!

As we therefore bless and praise those who have obeyed the divine revelation and have fought for it; so we reject and anathematize those who oppose this truth, if while waiting for their return and repentance, they refuse to turn again to the Lord; and in this we follow the sacred tradition of the ancient Church, holding fast to her traditions.

To those who deny the existence of God, and assert that the world is self-existing, and that all things in it occur by chance, and not by the providence of God, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who say that God is not spirit, but flesh; or that He is not just, merciful, wise and all-knowing, and utter similar blasphemies, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who dare to say that the Son of God and also the Holy Spirit are not one in essence and of equal honor with the Father, and confess that the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit are not one God, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who foolishly say that the coming of the Son of God into the world in the flesh, and His voluntary passion, death, and resurrection were not necessary for our salvation and the cleansing of sins, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who reject the grace of redemption preached by the Gospel as the only means of our justification before God, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who dare to say that the all-pure Virgin Mary was not virgin before giving birth, during birth giving, and after her child-birth, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who do not believe that the Holy Spirit inspired the prophets and apostles, and by them taught us the true way to eternal salvation, and confirmed this by miracles, and now dwells in the hearts of all true and faithful Christians, and teaches them in all truth, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who reject the immortality of the soul, the end of time, the future judgment, and eternal reward for virtue and condemnation for sin, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who reject all the holy mysteries held by the Church of Christ, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who reject the Councils of the holy fathers and their traditions, which are agreeable to divine revelation and kept piously by the Orthodox Catholic Church, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who mock and profane the holy images and relics which the holy Church receives as revelations of God's work and of those pleasing to Him, to inspire their beholders with piety, and to arouse them to follow these examples; and to those who say that they are idols, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To those who dare to say and teach that our Lord Jesus Christ did not descend to earth, but only seemed to; or that He did not descend to the earth and become incarnate only once, but many times, and who likewise deny that the true Wisdom of the Father is His only-begotten Son, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: To the followers of the occult, spiritualists, wizards, and all who do not believe in the one God, but honor the demons; or who do not humbly give their lives over to God, but strive to learn the future through sorcery, Anathema!

All: Anathema! Anathema! Anathema!

Priest: But to all who have fought for Orthodoxy, by their words, by their writings, by their teaching, by their sufferings and religious life, as its defenders and allies, the Church of Christ annually commemorates and proclaims:

To the holy fathers, great hierarchs and teachers of the Church, Athanasius and Cyril, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, John Chrysostom, Methodius and Cyril, and all the other pastors of the Church, eternal memory!

All:



E - ter - nal mem - o - ry, e - ter - nal mem - o - ry,
bless - ed re - pose, e - ter - nal mem - o - ry.

Priest: To the most holy emperor Constantine, Equal-to-the-Apostles, to his mother Helena; to the Orthodox emperors Theodosius the Great, Theodosius the Younger, Justinian; to the most pious Grand Duke Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, to the Grand Duchess Olga, and all other Orthodox emperors and empresses, princes and princesses, eternal memory!

All: Eternal memory... *(as above, and after each exclamation)*

Priest: To the most holy patriarchs and to all Orthodox metropolitans, archbishops, and bishops, eternal memory!

All: Eternal memory...

Priest: To all who have suffered and fallen in battle in defense of the Orthodox faith, and of their country; and to all Orthodox Christians deceased in the true faith and piety, and in hope of the Resurrection, eternal memory!

All: Eternal memory...

Priest: The Orthodox Church of Christ thus triumphantly commemorates those who have in times past contended in piety, to teach all her Christian children to follow their examples, but also has the duty to extol those who now labor for Orthodoxy and by saving faith and virtue prepare themselves for eternal beatitude.

Priest: To our holy father *(Name)*, Pope of Rome, to our most reverend Metropolitan *(Name)*, and to our God-loving Bishop *(Name)*, grant, O Lord, many years.

All: 
God grant them ma-ny years. God grant them ma-ny years.


God grant them ma - ny bles - sed years.

Priest: To all the most reverend Orthodox metropolitans, archbishops and bishops, and to all the clergy, grant, O Lord, many years.

All: God grant them many years... *(as above)*

Priest: To all those in civil authority, grant, O Lord, many years!

All: God grant them many years... *(as above)*

Priest: To all Orthodox Christians rightly holding the saving faith, and living in obedience to the Church of Christ, grant, O Lord, peace, quiet, prosperity, and abundance of the fruit of the earth, and keep them for many years!



God grant them ma-ny years. God grant them ma-ny years.



God grant them ma - ny bles - sed years.



In health and hap-pi-ness, in health and hap-pi-ness,



God grant them ma - ny bles - sed years.

Priest: Glorify all these, O Holy Trinity, and confirm them in the right faith even to the end; and convert the enemies and those ignorant of the Orthodox faith and Christ's Church, that they may come to know Your eternal Truth, through the intercessions of our most holy Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and of all the saints.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Priest: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope;
glory to you!

Response: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and forever. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Give the blessing.

Priest: May Christ our true God, risen from the dead, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of the holy (*Name/s*), the patron[s] / [patroness] of this church; of the holy (*Name/s of the saint/s whose day it is*); and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response: