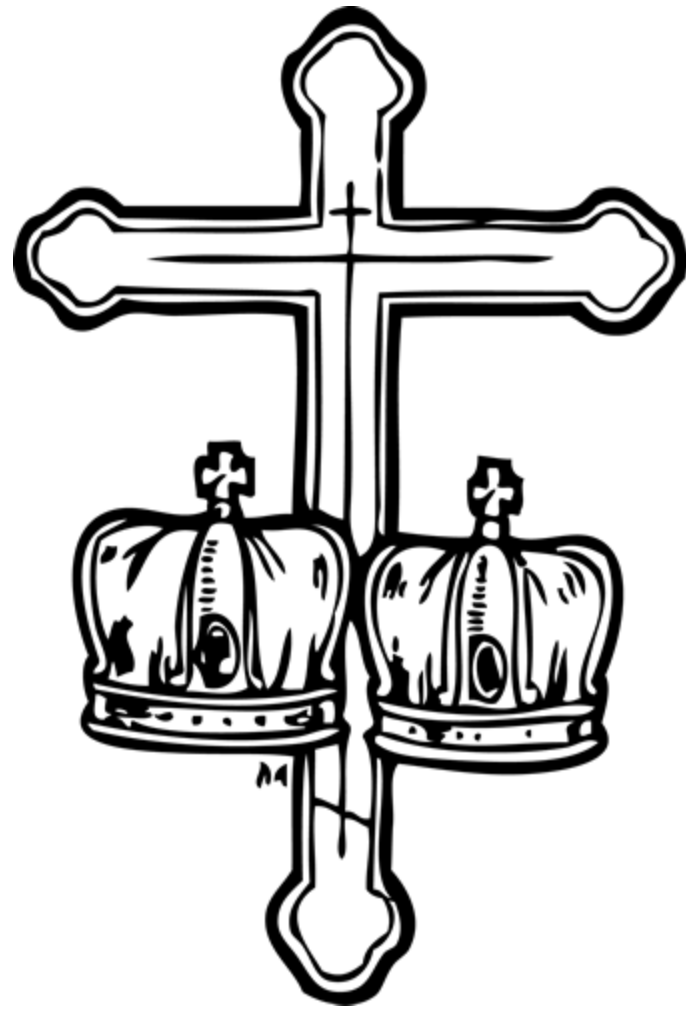


The Blessing of the Marriage in the Orthodox Church



·MARRIAGE·



The Blessing of the Marriage in the Orthodox Church

P: Blessed is our God, now and ever and forever

C: Amen.

O heavenly King, the Comforter; the Spirit of Truth, Who are in all places and fill all things; Treasurer of blessings and Giver of life, come and dwell within us and cleanse us from every blemish and save our souls, O blessed One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty one, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us (x3)

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

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

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen. Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

P: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord have mercy!

P: O God most pure, Author of all creation, Who through Your man-befriending love transformed a rib of Adam the forefather into a woman, and blessed them and said, "Increase and multiply, and have dominion over the earth," and, by the conjoining, declared them both to be one member, for because of this a man shall forsake his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and the two shall be one flesh—and whom God has joined together let not man put asunder;

Who did also bless Your servant Abraham, and opened the womb of Sara, and made him the father of many nations; Who bestowed Isaac upon Rebecca, and blessed her offspring; Who joined Jacob and Rachel, and from them made manifest the twelve patriarchs; Who yoked Joseph and Asenath together, and as the fruit of generation did bestow upon them Ephrem and Manasse; Who accepted Zacharias and Elizabeth, and declared their offspring the Forerunner;

Who out of the root of Jesse, according to the flesh, produced the Ever-Virgin Mary, and from her were Incarnate-born for the salvation of the human race; Who through Your unspeakable Grace and plentiful goodness were present in Cana of Galilee, and blessed the marriage there, that You might show a lawful union, and a generation there from, is according to Your Will; do You Yourself, O Most Holy Master, accept the prayer of us, Your servants; and as You were present there, be present also here with Your invisible protection.

Bless (+) this marriage and grant unto these Your servants (Name) and (Name) a peaceful life, length of days, chastity, love for one another in a bond of peace, offspring long-lived, fair fame by reason of their children, and a crown of glory that does not fade away.

Account them worthy to see their children's children. Keep their wedlock safe against every hostile scheme; give them of the dew from the Heavens above, and of the fatness of the earth. Fill their houses with bountiful food, and with every good thing, that they may have to give to them that are in need, bestowing also on them that are here assembled with us all their supplications that are unto salvation.

For a God of mercy and of compassion, and You love mankind, and to You do we send up Glory: as to Your eternal Father and Your All-Holy, Good, and Life-creating Spirit, both now and ever and forever.

C: Amen.

After the Amen, the Priest, taking up the Crowns, crowns first the Bridegroom, saying:

The servant of God (Name) is crowned for the servant of God, (Name), in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (Thrice)

And he crowns the Bride, saying:

The servant of God (Name) is crowned for the servant of God (Name), in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (Thrice)

And now he blesses the couple:

O Lord, our God, crown them with glory and honor.

Tropar (tone 7)

The Priest leads to couple around the Tetraod three times during the singing of the Tropar

O Lord, O Lord,* look down from heaven and see,* and visit this vineyard and perfect this vine*which Your right hand has planted.

O Holy Martyrs,* you have suffered courageously* and received your reward:* pray to the Lord our God,* to have mercy on our souls.

Glory to You, O Christ our God:* glory to the Apostles;* joy to the Martyrs;* who proclaimed the consubstantial Trinity.

When the Tropar is completed the priest removes the crowns with the following prayer:

Be magnified, O Bridegroom, as Abraham, and blessed as Isaac, and increased as was Jacob. Go your way in peace, performing in righteousness the commandments of God.

And you, O Bride, be magnified as was Sarah, and rejoiced as was Rebecca, and increased as Rachel, being glad in your husband, keeping the paths of the Law, for so God is well pleased.

Dismissal

P: Glory to You, O Christ our God, our Hope, Glory to You!

C: 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. Father bless us!

P: May Christ our True God, Who by His presences in Cana of Galilee declared marriage to be honorable, through the intercessions of His all-pure Mother, of the holy, glorious, and all-praiseworthy Apostles, of the holy, God-crowned and Equal-to-the-Apostles Constantine and Helen, of the Holy, great Martyr Procopios, and of all the holy Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is gracious and loves mankind!

C: Amen.

P: May God grant to His newly-married servants N & N many years of Peace, Health, Happiness and Salvation!

C: God grant them many years, God grant them many years, God grant them many blessed years! In health and Salvation, in health and Salvation: God Grant them many blessed years!