# The Service Book For

# BLESSING OF THE HOME



English Translation by H.G. Dr. Yakob Mar Irenaios, Metropolitan

# **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. Amen.

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

Blessed is He, who has to come, and is to come, in the name of the Lord; Glory be to Him in the Highest.

# TRISAGION (KAUMA)

Holy art thou, O God!
Holy art thou, Almighty,
Holy art thou, Immortal,
† Crucified for us, Have mercy on us.(Repeat Thrice)

Lord, have mercy upon us, Lord be kind, and have mercy, Lord accept Thou our office And our entreaties, Have mercy on us.

Glory be to Thee, O God!
Glory be to Thee, O Creator,
Glory be to Thee, O King,
Christ who dost pity, on sinners thy servants. Barekmor

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 and ever. –Amen

#### HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace, - our Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women, - and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, - our Lord Jesus Christ. O Virgin Saint Mary, - O Mother of God, - pray for us sinners, - now and at all times, - and at the hour of our death. -Amen.

**Priest:** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**People:** May His grace and mercy be upon us, weak and sinful servants, in both worlds forever and ever. Amen

# **PRAYER**

Priest: Lord Jesus, make this house an abode of Thy love, peace and tranquility. Bless everything in this house. Let everything that takes place in this house be for the glory of Your Name; and for the upkeep of righteousness. May this house prosper through Your grace and mercy. Fill those who live in this house, with Your true light. Enable these Your children to please You, and to glorify Your Name, both in their private and public life. Our Lord and eternal God, grant good memory and solace for our departed one. We ascribe glory and honor unto You, and to Your Only Begotten Son and to Your Holy Spirit now and forever more.

# People: Amen.

# **HYMN: KUKLIYON**

(Tone 1:En atmavine Ninkaluyarthunnen Nadha)

Unto Thee I raise my soul, Hal - O - Hal Shame me not, Thou art - my refuge.

Let not enemies exult ov'r me, Hal-O-Hal Be not confounded - Thy faithful

Evil men shame in worthless deeds, Hal-O-Hal Reveal me Thy ways - O, my Lord!

Show me, Lord, Thy little ways, Hal-O-Hal Teach me and lead me- in Thy truth. **Barekmor Shubaho...** Men olam...

#### **EKBO**

(Naravalsalane...)

From the deluge was rescued Prophet Jonah - by Thee, Lord! Rescue Thy servants from the Deluge of sorrows and pain Stoumen Kalos.... Kurieleison

### **PROMEON**

**Priest:** Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for grace and mercy.

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

**Priest:** Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and exaltation unceasing, truly at all times and all hours, may we ascribe unto Thee, O Lord!

Praise to You, O Lord, who created everything out of nothingness, who has become our abode from generation to generation, who gave us the wisdom to build houses and live in them. You answer those who call upon You in true faith and bless those who love You truly, and also their houses. You protect those who please You by obeying Your commandments, and also all their belongings. We praise You at this time of the blessing of this house, and at all festivals and times, and seasons and hours, and during all the days of our lives for ever and ever.

People: Amen

# **SEDRA**

**Priest:** 

O Lord, You are the refuge of those who trust in You, and who call upon You with broken hearts; You are the strong and high fortress for those who are tormented by enemies - visible and invisible, and those who are heavyladen with powerful temptations. You are the ocean of kindness and mercy who desires for the life and salvation of man. Our Lord and our God, in Your mercy, hearken unto us and accept our prayers and supplications which we offer in Your glorious presence, along with this incense, on behalf of this house and its dwellers. Lord, gladden their hearts and

make this house rich with all good things and blessings. Save this household from all kinds of evil and sorrows. May all the dealings in this house be for the glory of Your Name. Merciful Lord, mark this house with the sign of Your adorable Cross. Protect those who live in this house, just as the houses of the children of Israel were sprinkled with the Passover blood and they were saved from the angel who smote all the first born of Egypt. By the sign of thread that was tied to the window of Rahab, her entire household was spared and saved. In the same manner, spare and save this house and its dwellers from the evil one and his hosts, by the sign of the Holy Cross that is being made on it. Even as Satan was ashamed and fled from Job the just, may Satan be ashamed and flee from this house.

Lord, just as You entered into the house of Zachaaeus, the publican and blessed him, enter into this house and bless it as well as those who dwell in it. Bless this house, its dwellers, their earnings and all their belongings, just as you shed your mercy and blessing on Cornelius and his household and saved them. Give them blessed offsprings who adore Your Holy Name and gladden their parents. Remove from them heavy punishments, famine, epidemics and all forms of difficulties. Assign the angel of peace on this house and its dwellers. Save them from the envy of the devils, from unjust authorities, and the designs of evil men by Thy Victorious Cross, which is the high fortress of the faithful. Increase their belongings thirty, sixty, and hundred fold. Enable us to please Thy will by just and pure activities. Console and have mercy upon our departed ones, and all the faithful departed.

Unto Thee we ascribe praise and thanksgiving, to Thee and to Thine only begotten Son, and to Thy Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

People: Amen

**Priest:** From God may we receive remission of debts and forgiveness of sins in both worlds for ever and ever.

**People:** Amen

# HYMN: KOLO (Vaazhvettabraham...)

Blessed was that day - Abraham's household By those three persons<sup>1</sup> Messiah, blessed Bridegroom, Bless'd household of Zachaaeus Holy Trinity may dwell - in this house visited by Thy servants – all through generations.

Apostles were told - by our Lord in the Gospels, I listen "That house which receiveth you Only me it receiveth" Bless this house by Thy right handjust as Abraham was bless'd This house which - we have entered in **Barekmor** Shubaho...

With five loaves of bread - satiated was <sup>2</sup> Crowd in wilderness This household that Thy servants Have entered, and those who dwell Within this, Lord and Savior With Thy right hand bless them all For ever – all through generations. **Men olam...** 

Prophet Elijah – bless'd the widow's House<sup>3</sup> Lo! Nev'r exhausted Was the flo-ur in the pot Nor the o-il in the urn That blessing may descend on This household of Thy servants Blessed be - all through generations. Moriyo...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Genesis 18:1-16 <sup>2</sup> John 6 <sup>3</sup>1 Kings 17: 8-16

#### **ETHRO**

Priest: Lord, Jesus Christ, You commanded Your disciples thus: "When you go, whichever house receives you, receives Me." Accept the sweet incense that we have offered in the presence of Your exalted and invisible Godhead. And bless this house and gladden these Your servants by Your Holy Name. Make this house flourish abundantly with the gift of Your grace. Grant them that they may receive good rewards from Thee, with happy faces, in both worlds, forever.

**People:** Amen

#### <u>HYMN – GOSPEL READING</u>

Hal... Hal...

O Lord, grant me Thy Light and Thy gift of- Faith Con-sole and lead me unto the Holy Mountains. Halleluiah.

**Deacon:** With calmness and reverence and with sober minds, let us give heed and listen to the Gospel of the living words of God, in the Holy Evangleion of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is read to us.

**Priest:** † Peace be unto you all.

People: May the Lord God make us worthy, With Thy Spirit.

**Priest:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving Announcement from Luke, the Evangelist, who publishes the Good News of Life and Salvation to the world.

**People:** Blessed is He- who has come and is to come. – Praise be to Him, who sent Him for our salvation, - and His mercy be upon us all – forever.

**Priest:** Now in the time of the Incarnation of our Lord and our God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, the living Word of God Who was incarnate of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things did come to pass in this manner. †

**People:** We believe and confess.

#### **Priest:** (St. Luke 19: 1-10)

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'" But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now, I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

# † Peace be unto you all

# **HYMN**

Tone 1: (Karthave Ninardratha...)

Open Thy- door full of- mercy, Lord!- Unto us Thou hear our- pray'r and have- mercy up-on our souls.

Pleasing to-God are pray-ers offered- in secret Blessed were- not the saints- of old by- voice alone.

Red Sea was- opened by- the pray'rs of- Moses, meek People moved- through, and their- enemy- Pharaoh drowned<sup>1</sup>.

Lord took pi-ty upon- David on- his prayers Absolved of- sins, he got- his prophe-cy returned.

Hanani-a<sup>2</sup> and his- friends prayed from- the furnace They all were- rescued from- the fierce fi-re by God.

Death, and the- Seat of Judge-ment, and Hell,- all the three Striketh ter-ror in my- heart, O help- me, my Lord.

Moriyo...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Exodus 14, <sup>2</sup>Daniel 3 (Hananiah – Jewish name for Shadrach)

# **PRAYER**

Priest: God of gods and Lord of lords! who answers those who call upon You in faith, accept our feeble prayers, though we are weak, sinful and unworthy. Just as You protected Noah, his children, animals, birds, and reptiles in the Ark during the flood; just as You saved your friend Abraham from the sword of enemy kings, and blessed him and his possessions; just as You saved Lot from the fire of Sodom; just as You protected Jacob in the household of Laban, made him great and increased his wealth; just as You protected Joseph in Egypt and made him lord and king, augumented his income and possessions, and saved him from all kinds of dangers; just as You doubled the wealth of Job, the righteous, following his trials and tribulations; just as You protected Moses and the children of Israel from the sea and the Pharaoh; and as You banished your anger and death from Israel at the prayer of Moses, the incense of Aaron and the sword of Phinehas, Lord! banish from the household of this your servant, rods of wrath, great punishments, illness, accidents and dangers. For You are the merciful Lord who is full of pity towards Your creation. Lord have mercy on us by the prayers of Mary, Mother of God, Saint (.....) and all your saints, now and for ever.

People: Amen

# **BLESSING OF THE WATER**

**Priest:** In the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, this water is blessed and sanctified that it may become the sprinkling for the blessing and dedication of this house. **Barekmor...Bashmo-dabo...** 

(The following is said marking the door of the house with the sign of the Cross. A small hymn is sung as the Celebrant moves to each door of the house)

# **PRAYER ON THE DOORS**

**Priest:** May this house, sealed with the sign of the living, and life-giving Cross, be blessed and hallowed, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever **Barekmor...Bashmo-dabo...** 

# **HYMN**

Thy Mother and Thy Saints, Lord Pray on behalf of us all Lord bestow Thy blessings on This house and dwellers therein.

മാതാവും ശുദ്ധന്മാരും അർപ്പിക്കും മദ്ധ്യസ്ഥതയാൽ വാഴ്വമ്പോടീ വീടിന്നും വീട്ടാർക്കും നാഥാ! നൽക.

(This is followed by the Nicene Creed and the Kukliyon of the Mother of God, and Saints; and Benediction)

#### THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one true God / the Father Almighty / Maker of heaven and earth / and of all things, visible and invisible/

And in the One Lord Jesus Christ / the only-begotten Son of God / begotten of the Father / before all worlds / Light of Light / very God of very God / begotten, not made / being of the same substance 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 Virgin Mary / Mother of God / by the Holy Ghost / and became Man/

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

And the third day rose again / according to His will / and ascended into heaven / and sat on 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 with the Father and the Son / is worshipped and glorified / who spoke by the prophets and the Apostles/

And in the one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church / And we acknowledge one Baptism / for the remission of sins / And look for the resurrection of the dead / and the new life in the world to come.

Amen, Barekmor, Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison.

# I. COMMUNION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

#### **KUKLIYON**

(Tune: Ninnal Stuthiyodu...)

**Priest:** King's daughter stands in glory, Hal - u - Hal

At thy right hand stands – the princess

**People:** Thy father's folk and home leave thou, Hal - u - Hal,

The King desires thy- beauty now- **Barekmor** 

**Priest:** Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

**People:** Unto to the ages of ages and forever more.

#### **EKBO**

(Tune: Bhakthar Pukazhcha...)

**Priest:** Thou whose praise the church doth sing

**People:** Intercession for us bring.

Unto Him, thine only Son, That He may not mercy shun **Stoumen kalos Kurielaison** 

#### **KOLO**

(Tune: Mariammin Smaranam...)

**Priest:** Mary's memory **People:** Blessing for us be,

May her pray'rs for us

Be a fortress thus **Barekmor** 

**Priest:** Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

**People:** Fragrance sweet of smell

Through the air doth swell-

For Virgin Mary God's Mother holy

Moriyo rahem melain oo aa darein

#### **BOVOOSA**

(Tune: Nirtheedaruthe Parishudhe)

**Priest:** Cease not, O Ho-ly Mother!

**People:** From thy pray'rs on – our account

Unto Him Thine only Son That He may not mercy shun

## II. COMMUNION OF THE PATRON AND OTHER SAINTS

### **KUKLIYON**

(Tune: Nayavan panapole...)

**Priest:** Righteous shall prosper like palm trees - Halleluiah

And thrive like the cedars of - Lebanon

**People:** In age they shall thrive and be flourishing – Halleluiah

Yea, growing both fattened - and pleasing Barekmor

**Priest:** Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

**People:** Unto to the ages of ages and forever more.

#### **EKBO**

(Tune: Orupolingum...)

**Priest:** (O St. Thomas), as in heav'n

**People:** Keep we here thy memory;

Hear us as we honor thee,
Thy entreaties be our aid
Stoumen kalos Kurielaison

#### KOLO

(Tune: Bhag'yam Nibiyarkum...)

**Priest:** Bliss to the prophets, **People:** And the apostles,

And to the martyrs

At resurrection Barekmor

**Priest:** Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

**People:** Those martyrs who longed

For seeing the Christ By their death took wings, And fluttered to heights

Moriyo rahem melain oo aa darein

#### **BOVOOSA**

(Tune: Parishudhanmare Ningal...)

**Priest:** Plead for us, ye holy Saints,

**People:** Pray to Him whose will ye did,

That from anger we be spared-That from scourges we be hid.

# **BENEDICTION**

**Priest:** Blessed are you all by the Lord, the Creator of the heaven and earth. May God bless and sanctify all those who have participated in this spiritual service. May God our Lord grant forgiveness of sins to you and your faithful departed.

O Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, grant that our feeble and unworthy prayers be pleasing and acceptable before Thy exalted Throne, now and always for ever.

People: Amen