

Bell Ringer's Prayers

NB: The typikon appoints the parecclesiarch, who will toll the bells, to receive the main celebrant's blessing to begin reading prayers and to ring the bells. This blessing shows the celebrant's agreement to begin divine services, and the first toll of the *blagovest* is then the beginning of the service. It is the parecclesiarch's duty to be aware of the time and to approach the celebrant for the blessing at the right moment.

Explanatory Typikon by Prof. Michael Skaballanovich, Kiev, 1910

PRAYERS BEFORE BEGINNING TO RING:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, through the prayers of Thy Most-Pure Mother, our venerable and God-bearing fathers and all the saints, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life, come and abide in us, and cleanse of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *Thrice*

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

O Most-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; O Lord, blot out our sins; O Master, pardon our iniquities; O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *Thrice*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both 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.

If there be a priest present, the usual benediction. If not, then:

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Troparia:

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for laying aside all excuse, we sinners offer to Thee, as to our Master, this supplication: Have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

O Lord, have mercy on us, for in Thee have we put our trust. Be not angry with us, neither remember our iniquities, but look down on us even now, since Thou art compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies. For Thou art our God, and we are Thy people; we are all the work of Thy hands, and we call upon Thy name.

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O blessed Theotokos, open the doors of compassion to us whose hope is in Thee, that we may not perish but be delivered from adversity through Thee, who art the salvation of the Christian people.

Lord, have mercy. *Twelve times.*

PAYERS DURING THE RINGING OF THE BELLS:

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bears me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

The Symbol of Faith

1. I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
2. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-Begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made, of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made.
3. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit, and the Virgin Mary, and became man.
4. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried.
5. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures.
6. And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father.
7. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.
8. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
9. In one Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.
10. I confess one baptism for the remission of sins.
11. I look for the resurrection of the dead,
12. And the life of the age to come. Amen.

AFTER RINGING:

It is truly meet...

It is truly meet to bless Thee, 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, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, True Theotokos, we magnify thee!