

# The Trisagion Prayers

**CALLING UPON THE HOLY SPIRIT TO DWELL WITHIN**

*“THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD’S PRESENCE IN ALL PLACES AND AT ALL TIMES....WITHOUT EXPERIENCING THIS PRESENCE OF THE INVISIBLE YET PERCEPTIBLE GOD, GOD FOR US WOULD ONLY BE AN IDEA...THE EXPERIENCE OF HIS SPIRITUAL PRESENCE REQUIRES NO PROOF...AND WAS DESCRIBED ONCE AND FOR ALL BY THE APOSTLE PAUL AS ‘JOY AN PEACE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.’”*

*SCHMEMANN, CELEBRATION OF FAITH, PG. 109*

## **Trisagion (thrice-holy) Prayers**

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who are present everywhere filling all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life, come and dwell in us. Cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, gracious Lord.

**Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us (3).**

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

**All holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. 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 the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Lord's Prayer:** Our Father, who are in heaven...

## PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT BY WHICH WE ARE SEALED

“The gift of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit as gift!...are we still able to comprehend...the impossible uniqueness of this personal Pentecost is that we receive as gift Him Whom Christ and only Christ has by nature: the Holy Spirit...we receive as gift the Spirit Who belongs to Christ, Who abides in Christ as His Life? ...having been baptized into Christ, we have put on Christ. Christ is the Anointed and we receive His anointment; Christ is the Son and we are adopted as sons; Christ has the Spirit as His Life in Himself and we are given participation in His Life. (Schmemmann, Of Water and Spirit, p. 79).”

“For they that are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh, but they that are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the spirit is life and peace. 7Because the mind of the flesh is enmity toward God; for it is not subject to the law of God, for neither can it be. 8And they that are in the flesh are not able to please God. 9But you are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwell in you. Rom. 8:5-9].”

We are “sealed” with the Holy Spirit at Chrismation: “...the term *seal*...as revealed in the anointment of Holy Chrism, is clear, it is the imprint on us of the One Who owns us; it is the seal that preserves and defends in us the precious content of its fragrance; it is the sign of our high and unique calling. (Schmemmann, *Water and Spirit*, p. 80)

# The first act in prayer must be to invoke the Holy Spirit. (Fr. Hopko, Class Notes)

❖ St. Paul teaches we become one spirit with the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 6)

<sup>17</sup>But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit....<sup>19</sup>Or know you not that your body is a temple of *the* Holy Spirit *Who is in you, Whom you have from God, and you are not your own?* [1 Cor. 6:17-19]

❖ Our Lord teaches where the Holy Spirit dwells, so are the Son and the Father (John 17).

“...for those who shall believe on Me through their word; <sup>21</sup>“in order that all may be one, even as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You, that they also may be one in Us...” [Jn. 17:20,21]

❖ We can only pray acceptably to God when praying in the Holy Spirit, Who prays in us and gives us the words to pray.

❖ By authentically invoking the Holy Spirit, there is proof that the Holy Spirit does abide in us



## Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,

*O Heavenly King – Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit*

St. Athanasius: “You have the Lord God who reigns, the *Basilevs* (GK), the King of God’s Kingdom is Christ; and the Kingship itself is the power of the Holy Spirit.” ... and the power His Kingship is the very Spirit of God, Who is the power of truth, the power of life, the power of beauty and the power of God Himself (Hopko, *The Names of Jesus*, pg. 132).”

*“Comforter” – Advocate, Consoler*

“The Holy Spirit even advocates on our behalf before Jesus. When we sin, when we fall short, then the Holy Spirit can come to us; He can cleanse us from all impurity; He can illumine us; He can guide us; He can pray within us, as St. Paul says. (Hopko, *The Names of Jesus*, pg. 263).”

*Spirit of Truth* - <sup>13</sup>“But whenever that One, **the Spirit of the truth**, should come, He will guide you into all the truth; for He shall not speak from Himself, but whatsoever He shall hear He shall speak; and He shall announce the coming things to you. <sup>14</sup>“That One shall glorify Me, for He shall receive of Mine and shall announce *it* to you. <sup>15</sup>“All things whatsoever the Father has are Mine; on this account I said that He shall receive of Mine and shall announce *it* to you. [Jn. 16:13-15]

## PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT – CALLING UPON THE HOLY SPIRIT TO ABIDE WITHIN US

### **Who *are* everywhere present and *fills* all things**

*“Everywhere present and filling all things”:*

“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Hades, behold, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.” (Psalm 139)

*“Treasury of blessings”:* St. Paul, in Galatians 5:22&23, says, When the Holy Spirit abides within us, He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” In 1 Corinthians 12, the Holy Apostle Paul asserts that “there are many kinds of spiritual gifts, but it is the same Holy Spirit who is the Source of them all.”

*“Giver of Life”* <sup>11</sup>But if the Spirit of the *One* Who raised Jesus from *the* dead dwell in you, the *One* Who raised Christ from *the* dead shall also make alive your mortal bodies on account of the indwelling of His Spirit in you. [Rom. 8:11]

***Come and dwell in us, - ἐλθὲ (come) καὶ σκηνώσον ( dwell – cohabitate, to pitch a tent, tabernacle within us)***

***The communion of the Holy Spirit***

“However good prayer, fasting, vigil and all other Christian practices may be, they do not constitute the aim of our Christian life. Although it is true that they serve as the indispensable means of reaching this end, the true aim of our Christian life consists in the acquisition of the Holy Spirit of God.” (St. Seraphim of Sarov, 1833)

“No one has beheld God at any time. If we be loving one another, God abides in us, and His love is made perfect in us. <sup>13</sup>In this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. [1 Jn. 4:12,13]

***Cleanse us of every stain***

***The presence of the Spirit of God brings purification which leads to illumination and sanctification***

<sup>21</sup>If therefore one should cleanse himself from these, he shall be a vessel to honor, which has been sanctified, and *made* useful to the master, having been prepared for every good work. [2 Tim. 2:21]

<sup>8</sup>“And God, the Knower of hearts, bore witness to them, giving them the Holy Spirit, even as also to us; <sup>9</sup>“and He made no distinction between both us and them, having purified their hearts by faith. [Acts 15:8,9]

## *And save our souls, O Good One. – Salvation is the crown*

<sup>13</sup>But we are bound to give thanks to God always concerning you, brethren beloved by *the* Lord, because God chose you for Himself from *the* beginning to salvation in sanctification of *the* Spirit and belief of *the* truth <sup>14</sup>to which He called you through our Gospel, to acquisition of *the* glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. [2 Thess. 2:13,14]

<sup>22</sup>But now having been freed from sin, and having been made slaves to God, you have your fruit to sanctification, and the end everlasting life. [Rom. 6:22]

<sup>3</sup>For this is *the* will of God, your sanctification: *for* you to be abstaining from fornication, <sup>4</sup>*for* each of you to know *how* to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor...<sup>7</sup>For God called us not for uncleanness, but in sanctification. <sup>8</sup>The *one* therefore who refuses, refuses not man, but God, Who also gave His Holy Spirit to you. [1 Thess. 4:3-8]

“The Holy Spirit is the cause of all salvation. Should He breath upon any who are worthy, they are swiftly raised from the earth, given wings, and ranked in heaven.” (Hymn, Anavathmi)