



## *Orthodox Prayers C*

### *Prayer of Philaret, Metropolitan of Moscow*

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My Lord, I know not what I ought to ask of Thee.  
Thou and Thou alone knowest my needs.  
Thou lovest me more than I am able to love Thee.  
O Father, grant unto me, Thy servant, all which I cannot ask.  
For a cross I dare not ask, nor for consolation;  
I dare only to stand in Thy presence.  
My heart is open to Thee.  
Thou seest my needs of which I myself am unaware.  
Behold and lift me up!  
In Thy presence I stand,  
awed and silenced by Thy will and Thy judgments,  
into which my mind cannot penetrate.  
To Thee I offer myself as a sacrifice.  
No other desire is mine but to fulfill Thy will.  
Teach me how to pray.  
Do Thyself pray within me.  
Amen.

### *Prayer of Saint Ephraim*

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O Lord and Master of my life,  
Grant not unto me a spirit of idleness,  
of discouragement,  
of lust for power,  
and of vain speaking.

But bestow upon me, Thy servant,  
the spirit of chastity,  
of meekness,  
of patience,  
and of love.

Yea, O Lord and King,  
grant that I may perceive  
my own transgressions,  
and judge not my brother,  
for blessed art Thou  
unto ages of ages.  
Amen.

## ***Prayer of Saint Basil the Great***

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O God and Lord of the Powers, and Maker of all creation, Who, because of Thy clemency and incomparable mercy, didst send Thine Only-Begotten Son and our Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of mankind, and with His venerable Cross didst tear asunder the record of our sins, and thereby didst conquer the rulers and powers of darkness; receive from us sinful people, O merciful Master, these prayers of gratitude and supplication, and deliver us from every destructive and gloomy transgression, and from all visible and invisible enemies who seek to injure us. Nail down our flesh with fear of Thee, and let not our hearts be inclined to words or thoughts of evil, but pierce our souls with Thy love, that ever contemplating Thee, being enlightened by Thee, and discerning Thee, the unapproachable and everlasting Light, we may unceasingly render confession and gratitude to Thee: The eternal Father, with Thine Only-Begotten Son, and with Thine All-Holy, Gracious, and Life-Giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## ***Prayer of Saint John Chrysostom***

### ***According to the Hours of the Day and Night***

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1. O Lord, deprive me not of Thy heavenly blessings;
2. O Lord, deliver me from eternal torment;
3. O Lord, if I have sinned in my mind or thought, in word deed, forgive me.
4. O Lord, deliver me from every ignorance and heedlessness, from pettiness of the soul and stony hardness of heart;
5. O Lord, deliver me from every temptation;
6. O Lord, enlighten my heart darkened by evil desires;
7. O Lord, I, being a human being, have sinned; do Thou, being God, forgive me in Thy

lovingkindness, for Thou knowest the weakness of my soul.

8. O Lord, send down Thy grace to help me, that I may glorify Thy holy Name;

9. O Lord Jesus Christ, inscribe me, Thy servant, in the Book of Life, and grant me a blessed end;

10. O Lord my God, even if I have done nothing good in Thy sight, yet grant me, according to Thy grace, that I may make a start in doing good.

11. O Lord, sprinkle on my heart the dew of Thy grace;

12. O Lord of heaven and earth, remember me, Thy sinful servant, cold of heart and impure, in Thy Kingdom.

13. O Lord, receive me in repentance;

14. O Lord, leave me not;

15. O Lord, save me from temptation;

16. O Lord, grant me pure thoughts;

17. O Lord, grant me tears of repentance, remembrance of death, and the sense of peace;

18. O Lord, grant me mindfulness to confess my sins;

19. O Lord, grant me humility, charity, and obedience;

20. O Lord, grant me tolerance, magnanimity, and gentleness;

21. O Lord, implant in me the root of all blessings: the fear of Thee in my heart;

22. O Lord, vouchsafe that I may love Thee with all my heart and soul, and that I may obey in all things Thy will;

23. O Lord, shield me from evil persons and devils and passions and all other lawless matters;

24. O Lord, Who knowest Thy creation and that which Thou hast willed for it; may Thy will also be fulfilled in me, a sinner, for Thou art blessed forevermore. Amen.

## ***Prayer at Daybreak - Archimandrite Sophronios***

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O Lord Eternal and Creator of all things,

Who of Thy inscrutable goodness called me to this life;

Who bestowed on me the grace of Baptism

and the Seal of the Holy Spirit; Who imbued me with the desire to seek Thee,  
the one true God: hear my prayer.

I have no life, no light, no joy or wisdom;

no strength except in Thee, O God.

Because of my unrighteousness I dare not raise my eyes to Thee.

But Thou said to Thy disciples, 'Whatsoever you shall ask in prayer believing, you shall receive.'  
and 'Whatsoever you shall ask in my name, that will I do.'

Wherefore I dare to invoke Thee. Purify me from all taint of flesh and spirit.

Teach me to pray aright.

Bless this day which Thee give unto me, Thy unworthy servant.

By the power of Thy blessing enable me at all times to speak  
and act to Thy glory with a pure spirit, with humility, patience,

love, gentleness, peace, courage and wisdom:  
aware always of Thy presence.  
Of Thy immense goodness, O Lord God, show me the path of Thy will,  
and grant me to walk in Thy sight without sin.  
O Lord, unto Whom all hearts be open,  
Thee know what things I have need of.  
Thee are acquainted with my blindness and my ignorance,  
Thee know my infirmity and my soul's corruption;  
but neither are my pain and anguish hid from Thee.  
Wherefore I beseech Thee, hear my prayer and by Thy Holy Spirit  
teach me the way wherein I should walk;  
and when my perverted will would lead me down other paths  
spare me not O Lord, but force me back to Thee.  
By the power of Thy love, grant me to hold fast to that which is good.  
Preserve me from every word or deed that corrupts the soul;  
from every impulse displeasing in Thy sight and hurtful to my brother-man.  
Teach me what I should say and how I should speak.  
If it be Thy will that I make no answer, inspire me to keep silent in a spirit of peace  
that causes neither sorrow nor hurt to my fellow man.  
Establish me in the path of Thy commandments  
and to my last breath let me not stray from the light of Thy ordinances,  
that Thy commandments may become the sole law  
of my being on this earth and all eternity. Yea, Lord, I pray to Thee, have pity on me.  
Spare me in my affliction and my misery and hide not the way of salvation from me.  
In my foolishness, O God, I plead with Thee for many and great things.  
Yet am I ever mindful of my wickedness, my baseness, my vileness.  
Have mercy upon me. Cast me not away from your presence because of my presumption.  
Do Thee rather increase in me this presumption,  
and grant unto me, the worst of men, to love Thee as Thee have commanded, with all my heart, and  
with all my soul, and with all my mind, and with all my strength:  
with my whole being. Yea, O Lord, by Thy Holy Spirit, teach me good judgment and knowledge.  
Grant me to know Thy truth before I go down into the grave.  
Maintain my life in this world until I may offer unto Thee worthy repentance.  
Take me not away in the midst of my days, nor while my mind is still blind.  
When Thee shall be pleased to bring my life to an end,  
forewarn me that I may prepare my soul to come before Thee.  
Be with me, O Lord, at that dread hour and grant me the joy of salvation.  
Cleanse me from secret faults, from all iniquity that is hidden in me;  
and give me a right answer before Thy judgment-seat.  
Yea, Lord, of Thy great mercy and immeasurable love for mankind.

## *Prayer of the Optina Elders*

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Grant unto me, O Lord, that with peace of mind I may face all that this new day is to bring.  
Grant unto me to dedicate myself completely to Thy Holy Will.  
For every hour of this day, instruct and support me in all things.  
Whatsoever tidings I may receive during the day, do Thou teach me to accept tranquilly, in the firm

conviction that all eventualities fulfill Thy Holy Will.

Govern Thou my thoughts and feelings in all I do and say.

When things unforeseen occur , let me not forget that all cometh down from Thee.

Teach me to behave sincerely and rationally toward every member of my family, that I may bring confusion and sorrow to none.

Bestow upon me, my Lord, strength to endure the fatigue of the day, and to bear my part in all its passing events.

Guide Thou my will and teach me to pray, to believe, to hope, to suffer, to forgive, and to love.

Amen

## *Prayers to the Mother of God*

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Rejoice Mary, Mother of God, Virgin, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls. Meet it is in truth, to glorify thee, O Birth-giver of God, ever blessed, and all undefiled, the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, thou who without stain didst bear God the word, true Birth-giver of God, we magnify thee.

O gracious Mother of the gracious God, O most pure and blessed Mary, the Mother of God, pour the mercy of thy Son and our God upon my impassionate soul, and with thine intercessions set me unto good deeds, that I may pass the rest of my life without blemish and, with thine aid, attain heaven. O Virgin mother of God, the only one who art pure and blessed. O Queen of the Heavenly Host, Defender of our souls: being delivered from evil, as thy servants, O Mother of God, we offer unto thee the hymns of thanks and victory; but as thou hast power invincible, deliver us from all calamity, that we may cry unto thee: Rejoice, O ever-Virgin Bride!

O virgin, spotless, undefiled, unstained, all-chaste and Pure Lady, Bride of God, who by the glorious birth-giving hast united God the Word with Man and linked our fallen nature with Heavenly Things; who art the hope of the hopeless, the helper of the oppressed, the ready protection of those who haste unto thee, and the refuge of Christians; despise me not, who am defiled and sinful, who by my wicked thoughts, words and deeds, have become an unworthy servant, and by my slothfulness have turned into a slave to evil affections. O Mother of the God of Love, have mercy and compassion upon me, a sinner and a prodigal. Accept this prayer which is offered to thee from my impure lips; and putting forward thy maternal influence with thy Son, my Lord and Master, beseech Him to open unto me the lovingkindness of His grace; beseech Him to overlook my countless transgressions, to give me true repentance and to make me to be a zealous doer of His commandments. And thou, being gracious and compassionate and tender-hearted, be thou ever present with me in this life as my defender and helper, so that I may turn aside the assault of my enemies, and guide me into salvation; help my poor soul at the hour of my death, and drive far from it all the dark forms of the evil ones. And in the dreadful Judgement Day, deliver me from everlasting punishment, and present me as an inheritor of the ineffable glory of the son, our God.

O may I obtain this, most-holy Lady and Birth-giver of God, through thine intercessions and mediations, by the grace and exceeding great love of thine Only-Begotten son, my Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, to Whom is due, with the eternal Father and the All-Holy, Good and Life-Giving Spirit, all honor and glory and worship, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most glorious Ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of Christ our God, accept our prayers and present them

to thy son and our God, that He may, for thy sake, enlighten and save our souls.

## *Prayers of Thanksgiving*

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O Lord my Savior and my Master, I, Thine unprofitable servant, with fear and trembling give thanks unto Thy loving goodness for all Thy benefits which Thou hast poured so abundantly upon me, Thy servant. I fall down in adoration before Thee and offer Thee, O God, my praises; with fervor I cry to Thee: O God, deliver me henceforth from all adversities and mercifully fulfill in me such of my desires as may be expedient for me. Hear me, I entreat Thee, and have mercy, for Thou art the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and unto Thee, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I praise Thee, O God of our Fathers, I hymn Thee, I bless Thee, I give thanks unto thee for Thy great and tender mercy. To Thee I flee, O merciful and mighty God. Shine into my heart with the True Sun of Thy righteousness. Enlighten my mind and keep all my senses, that henceforth I may walk uprightly and keep Thy commandments, and may finally attain unto eternal life, even to Thee, Who art the source of life, and be admitted to the glorious fruition of Thy inaccessible Light. For Thou art my God, and unto Thee, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## *Prayer for Enemies*

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Lord Jesus Christ, Who didst command us to love our enemies, and those who defame and injure us, and to pray for them and forgive them; Who Thyself didst pray for Thine enemies, who crucified thee: grant us, we pray, the spirit of Christian reconciliation and meekness, that we may heartily forgive every injury and be reconciled with our enemies. Grant us to overcome the malevolence and offences of people with Christian meekness and true love of our neighbor. We further beseech Thee, O Lord, to grant to our enemies true peace and forgiveness of sins; and do not allow them to leave this life without true faith and sincere conversion. And help us repay evil with goodness, and to remain safe from the temptations of the devil and from all the perils which threaten us, in the form of visible and invisible enemies. Amen.