SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

The Priest enters the Sanctuary and vests in white vestments and the cuffs. While all the candles are being lit he takes the censer, goes to the Font and censes it in a circle. He hands the censer away and makes a bow.

[Deacon: Bless, master.]

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Litany

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God, and the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this holy temple, and for them that with faith, reverence, and the fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our Great Lord and father, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill; and for our lord the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan

ПОСЛЕДОВАНИЕ СВЯТАГО КРЕЩЕНИЯ

Входит священник и облачается в священническую одежду белую, и нарукавницы: и вжиgapаемым всем свещам, взем кадильницу, отходит к купели, и кадит окрест, и отдав кадильницу, покланяется.

[Диакон: Благослови, владыко.]

Иерей: Благослове́мо Ца́рство Отца́ и Сы́на, и Свята́го Ду́ха, ны́не и пры́сно, и во ве́ки веко́в.

Лик: Ами́нь.

Ектения

Диакон: Миром Господу помо́лимся.

Лик: Господи, помилуй.

Диакон: О свы́шнем ми́ре и спасе́нии душ на́ших, Господу помо́лимся.

Лик: Господи, помилуй.

Диакон: О ми́ре всего́ ми́ра, благо́стоя́нии свя́тых Божи́х церкве́й и соедине́нии всех, Господу помо́лимся.

Лик: Господи, помилуй.

Диакон: О свя́тём хра́ме сем и с ве́рою, благо́гове́нием и стра́хом Божи́м входящих в онь, Господу помо́лимся.

Лик: Господи, помилуй.

Диакон: О Вели́ком Господи́не и отце́ на́шем, Святе́йшем Патриа́рхе Кирилле, и о господи́не на́шем
Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; and our lord the Very Most Reverend Archbishop Alypy; and our lord the most Reverend Bishop Peter, for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** For this land [of the United States], its authorities and armed forces; for the God-preserved Russian land and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and in the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That this water may be sanctified by the power, operation and descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That there may be sent down upon it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That there may come down upon these waters the cleansing operation of the Trinity beyond being, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That we may be enlightened with the enlightenment of knowledge and true religion through the descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.
That this water may shown to be a protection against every assault of visible and invisible enemies, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That the one to be baptized in it may become worthy of the incorruptible Kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

For the one who now draws near for holy Enlightenment and for his/her safety and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That he/she may be shown to be a child of light and heir of eternal blessings, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That he/she may be rooted in, and be a partaker in the death and resurrection of Christ our God, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That he/she may preserve the garment of Baptism and the pledge of the Holy Spirit unsullied and undefiled on the dread Day of Christ our God, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That this water may become for him/her a washing of rebirth for forgiveness of sins
and a garment of incorruption, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord God would hearken to the voice of our supplication, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and constraint, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Calling to remembrance our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and all our life unto Christ our God.

**Choir:** To Thee O Lord.

While the Deacon is saying this the Priest says this prayer quietly:

Compassionate and merciful God, you test minds and hearts and alone know the secrets of mortals, for no deed is hidden in your sight, but everything is naked and exposed to your eyes. You know all about me; do not then despise me or turn your face from me, but overlook my offences at this hour, you who overlook the sins of mortals for their repentance. Wash away the filth of my body and the defilement of my soul by the power of your invisible and spiritual right hand, lest, as I proclaim грехо́в и оде́жди нетле́ния, Го́споду помо́лимся.

**Лик:** Го́споди, поми́луй.

**Диакон:** О еже услышати Го́споду Бóгу глас моления на́шего, Го́споду помо́лимся.

**Лик:** Го́споди, поми́луй.

**Диакон:** О еже избáвитися емú же [или ей же] [или им же] и нам от всякия скóрби, гнёва и ну́жды Го́споду помо́лимся.

**Лик:** Го́споди, поми́луй.

**Диакон:** Заступí, спасí, поми́луй и сохра́ни нас, Бóже, Твоéю благоáтию.

**Лик:** Го́споди, поми́луй.

**Диакон:** Пресвятáю, пречíстую, преблагословéнную, слáвную Влады́чицу на́шу Бого́родицу и Приснóдеву Мáрию со всéми святýми помяну́ве, сáми себе́ и друг дру́га, и весь живóт наш Христó Бóгу преда́дýм.

**Лик:** Тебé, Го́споди.

И диакону глаголющу сия, священник глаголет в себе молитву сию, тайно:

Благоутро́бный и милостивый Бóже, истязáуий сердцá и утро́бы, и тайная человéческая вédый еди́н, не бо есть вещь неявленна пред Тóбою, но вся нáга и обнажéнна пред очýма Тво́йма: вédый яже о мне, да не омерзэ́йши мя, нижé лица́ Твоего отврати́ши от менé, но прéрзи мо́й прегрешéния в час сей, презира́й человéков гре́х в покая́ние, и омýй мо́й сквéруну телéсную и сквéру душéвную, и всéго мя освятí всесовершéнною сíлою Твоéю невýдимою и деснице́ю ду́хóвною,
freedom to others and grant it by the perfect faith of your ineffable love for mankind, I myself, as a slave of sin, become unworthy of it. May I not, Master, alone good and lover of mankind, may I not be turned away humiliated and put to shame, but from on high send power out to me and give me strength for your great and heavenly Mystery which lies before me, and through my miserable person form your Christ in the one who is about to be reborn. Build him/her up on the foundation of your Apostles and Prophets, and do not pull him/her out, but plant him/her as a plant of truth in your holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, and do not pull him/her out. So that by his/her progressing in true religion, your all-holy name, of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may be glorified also through him/her, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

It is to be noted that the Priest says none of this out loud, but he even says the Amen to himself.

Then he says the following prayer in a loud voice:

Great are you, O Lord, and wonderful are your works; and no word will be adequate to sing the praise of your wonders (thrice).

Priest: For as by your will you brought the universe from non-existence into being, by your might you uphold creation and by your providence you direct the world. From four elements you composed the world, with four seasons you crowned the circle of the year. All the spiritual Powers tremble before you. The sun sings your praise, the moon glorifies you, the stars entreat you, the light obeys you, the deeps tremble before you, the springs are your servants.
You stretched out the heaven like a curtain; you established the earth on the waters; you walled in the sea with sand; you poured out the air for breathing. Angelic Powers minister to you, the many-eyed Cherubim and the six-winged Seraphim, as they stand and fly around you, veil themselves in fear of your unapproachable glory. For you, God uncircumscribed, without beginning and ineffable, came upon earth taking the form of a slave, being found in the likeness of mortals. For through the compassion of your mercy, Master, you could not endure to watch the human race being tyrannized by the devil, but you came and saved us. We confess your grace, we proclaim your mercy, we do not conceal your benevolence. You set at liberty the generations of our nature, you sanctified a virgin womb by your birth. All creation sang your praise when you appeared. For you, our God, were seen on earth and lived among mortals. You also sanctified the streams of Jordan by sending down to them from heaven your all-holy Spirit, and you crushed the heads of the dragons that lurked their.

Therefore, O King, lover of mankind, be present now too, through the visitation of your Holy Spirit, and sanctify this water (thrice).

Priest: Give it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan. Make it a source of incorruption, a gift of sanctification, an deliverance from sins, a destruction of demons. Make it unapproachable by hostile powers and filled with angelic strength. Let those that conspire against your creature flee from it, because I, Lord, have called upon your Name, which is wondrous and glorious and fearful to adversaries.

Иерей: Ты убо, Человеколюбче Царю, прииди и ныне найди Святаго Твоего Духа, и освяти вольу сию. [Трижды.]
And breathing on the water three times, with two fingers he makes the sign of the Cross in it three times and prays over it, saying:

Let all adverse powers be crushed beneath the sign of the image of your Cross (thrice).

We pray you, Lord, let all airy and invisible spectres withdraw from us, and do not let a demon of darkness hide itself in this water, and do not let an evil spirit, bringing darkening of thoughts and disturbance of mind, go down into it with the one who is being baptized. But do you, Master of all things, declare this water to be water of redemption, water of sanctification, cleansing of flesh and spirit, untying of bonds, forgiveness of offences, enlightenment of soul, washing of rebirth, renewal of spirit, gift of adoption, garment of incorruption, source of life. For it was you, Lord, who said, ‘Wash and be made clean, and put away evils from your souls’. It is you who have given us the grace of rebirth from on high through water and Spirit. Manifest yourself, Lord, in this water, and grant that the one being baptized may be transformed for the putting off of the old self that is corrupted after the desires of deception, and may put on the new that is renewed after the image of the One who created him/her. So that, planted in the likeness of your death through Baptism, he/she may also become a partaker in your Resurrection, and having guarded the gift of the Holy Spirit and increased the deposit of grace, may receive the prize of his/her high calling and be numbered with the firstborn, whose names are inscribed in heaven, in you our God and Lord, Jesus Christ. Because to you belong
glory, might, honour and worship, together with your Father who is without beginning and your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.  
**Priest:** Peace be unto all.  
**Choir:** And to thy spirit.  
**Deacon:** Bow your heads unto the Lord.  
**Choir:** (slowly) To Thee, O Lord.  

The Priest breathes on the container of oil three times and signs the oil three times as it held by the Deacon [Godparent].  

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord.  

The Priest says the following prayer quietly:

Master, Lord God of our fathers, who sent out a dove to those in Noë’s ark, with a branch of olive in its beak as sign of reconciliation and salvation from the flood, and through these things prefigured the Mystery of grace; who have given the fruit of the olive for the completion of your holy Mysteries; who through it both filled those under the Law with the Holy Spirit, and make perfect those under grace; do you yourself bless this olive oil also by the power, operation and descent of your Holy Spirit, so that it may become an anointing of incorruption, a weapon of righteousness, renewal of soul and body, a driving away of every operation of the devil, for the removal of all evils from those who are anointed with it in faith, or who partake of it to your glory and that of your Only-Begotten Son and your all-holy, good, and

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choir: Amen.</th>
<th>Лик: Ами́нь.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priest: Peace be unto all.</td>
<td>Иере́й: Мир всем.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choir: And to thy spirit.</td>
<td>Лик: И д́ухови твоему.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.</td>
<td>Диакон: Главы ва́ша Го́сподеви приклони́те.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choir: (slowly) To Thee, O Lord.</td>
<td>Лик: (медленно) Тебе́, Гóсподи.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Priest breathes on the container of oil three times and signs the oil three times as it held by the Deacon [Godparent].</td>
<td>И вдунет трижды в сосуд елея, и знаменает трижды сей, сиесть елей держимый от диакона, и реку ему:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.</td>
<td>Диакон: Гóсподу помо́лимся.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Priest says the following prayer quietly:</td>
<td>Священник же глаголет молитву:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master, Lord God of our fathers, who sent out a dove to those in Noë’s ark, with a branch of olive in its beak as sign of reconciliation and salvation from the flood, and through these things prefigured the Mystery of grace; who have given the fruit of the olive for the completion of your holy Mysteries; who through it both filled those under the Law with the Holy Spirit, and make perfect those under grace; do you yourself bless this olive oil also by the power, operation and descent of your Holy Spirit, so that it may become an anointing of incorruption, a weapon of righteousness, renewal of soul and body, a driving away of every operation of the devil, for the removal of all evils from those who are anointed with it in faith, or who partake of it to your glory and that of your Only-Begotten Son and your all-holy, good, and</td>
<td>Влады́ко Гóсподи́ Бóже оте́ц на́ших, сúщим в ковче́зе Но́ёве голу́бицу посла́вый, суче́ц ма́сличный иму́щую во устэ́х, примире́ния знàмение, спасе́ния же от потóпа и благода́ти та́инство о́ными предобра́звый, и ма́сличный плод, во исполне́нне святых Тво́йх та́ин пода́вный: тем и бывших в зако́нне Д́у́ха Святáго испóлнивый, и сúщих в благода́ти соверша́й: Сам благослови́ и сей еле́й, сíлою и де́йством, и найтим Святáго Твоего́ Д́у́ха, яко́же бýти томú помáзанию нетлéния, орúжию прáвды, обновле́нию ду́шy и тéла, всéкаго диа́вольского де́йства отгна́нню, во измене́нне всех зол, позамáзующимся вéрою, или вкуша́ющим от него́ в слáву Твою́ и едино́роднаго Твоегó С́ына, и Пресвятáго, и Благáго, и Животворя́щаго Твоегó Д́у́ха, нýне и при́сно, и во вéки векóв.</td>
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8
life-giving Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Priest, chanting Alleluia three times with the People, makes three Crosses with the oil in the water.

Then he proclaims: Blessed is God, who enlightens and sanctifies everyone who comes into the world, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The one to be baptized is brought forward. The Priest takes some of the oil and makes the sign of the Cross on the forehead, breast and back of the candidate, saying:

The servant of God, N., is anointed with the oil of gladness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

As he signs their breast and back he says:

For healing of soul and body.

On the ears: For the hearing of faith.

On the hands: Your hands made me and fashioned me.

On the feet: For your feet to walk.

And when the whole body has been anointed the Priest baptizes the person, holding them upright and facing East, as he says:

At each invocation the Priest immerses them and raises them again. After the baptism the Priest washes, as he and the People chant (thrice):

Psalm 31
Blessed are those whose iniquities have been forgiven and whose sins have been covered (x3). Blessed is the one to whom the Lord imputes no sin and in whose mouth there is no guile. Because I kept silent my bones grew old from my crying out all day long. Because night and day your hand was heavy upon me; I was turned to wretchedness by a thorn's being fastened in me. I acknowledged my sin and did not hide my iniquity. I said, ‘Against myself I will admit my iniquity to the Lord’, and you forgave the ungodliness of my heart. For this every holy one will pray to you at a fitting moment. Except in a flood of many waters they will not come near him. For you are my refuge from the affliction which surrounds me, my joy to deliver me from those who have surrounded me. ‘I will make you understand and guide you in the way in which you should go. I will fix my eyes upon you. Do not become like horse and mule, who have no understanding. With bit and bridle you must constrain their cheeks so that they do not come near you.’ Many are the scourges of the sinner, but mercy will surround the one who hopes in the Lord. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad you righteous, and boast all you upright in heart.

And as he clothes the newly baptized, the Priest says:

Крещается раб Божий [или раба Божия] имярек, во имя Отца, амьнь. И Сына, амьнь. И Святаго Духа, амьнь.

На коемждо приглашении низводя его и возводя. По крещении же умывает священник руце, пояс с людьми:

Псалом 31
Блаженны, иже осташися беззакония и иже прикрышася греха. Блажен муж, емуже не вменит Господь греха, ниже есть во устях его лесть. Яко умолчах, обеташа кости моей, от же звах ми весь день. Яко день и нош отяготе на мне рука Твой, возвратяся на страже, егда узезд ми терн. Беззаконие моё познах и греха моего не покрых, рех: исповедам на мя беззаконие моё Господеви, и Ты оставил еси нечестие сёрда моего. За то помолимся к Тебе всякий преподобный во время благопотребно: обаче в потопе вод многих к нему не приближатся. Ты еси прибежище моё от скорби обдержащя мя: радосте мой, избай мя от обышедшых мя. Вразумлю тя и наставлю тя на путь сей, вонжье пойдеш, утвержу на тя очи Мой. Не будите яко конь и меск, имже несть рымума: броздами и уздою члени их востягнеш, не приближающихся к тебе. Многи ра́ны грешному, уповавающего же на Господа милость обыдеть. Веселитесь о Господе, и радуйтеся, праведнии, и хвалитесь все правии сердцем.

Сей же псалом глаголется весь, трижды.

And as he clothes the newly baptized, the Priest says:

Psalm 31
Blessed are those whose iniquities have been forgiven and whose sins have been covered (x3). Blessed is the one to whom the Lord imputes no sin and in whose mouth there is no guile. Because I kept silent my bones grew old from my crying out all day long. Because night and day your hand was heavy upon me; I was turned to wretchedness by a thorn's being fastened in me. I acknowledged my sin and did not hide my iniquity. I said, ‘Against myself I will admit my iniquity to the Lord’, and you forgave the ungodliness of my heart. For this every holy one will pray to you at a fitting moment. Except in a flood of many waters they will not come near him. For you are my refuge from the affliction which surrounds me, my joy to deliver me from those who have surrounded me. ‘I will make you understand and guide you in the way in which you should go. I will fix my eyes upon you. Do not become like horse and mule, who have no understanding. With bit and bridle you must constrain their cheeks so that they do not come near you.’ Many are the scourges of the sinner, but mercy will surround the one who hopes in the Lord. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad you righteous, and boast all you upright in heart.
Priest says:

The servant of God N. is clothed with a tunic of righteousness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then the following is chanted in Tone 8:

Grant me a tunic of light, O most merciful, Christ our God, who wrap yourself in light as in a garment.

the newly-baptized is clothed

Obлача́ётся раб Бóжий, [или раба Бóжия] имяре́к, в ри́зу пра́вды, во имя Отца́, и Сы́на, и Святáго Ду́ха, ами́нь.

И поется тропарь, во глас 8:

Ри́зу мне пода́ждь све́тлу, / оде́йся све́том, я́ко ри́зою, / многоми́лостиве Христé Бóже наш.