SERVICE OF BETROTHAL

After the Divine Liturgy, while the Priest is standing in the sanctuary, those who desire to be affianced stand forth before the holy doors which enter into the temple, the man on the right side, the woman on the left. Two rings lie on the right-hand side of the holy table, the woman’s inclined toward the right, the man’s toward the left, near one to another. The priest maketh the sign of the Cross thrice over the heads of the newly affianced and giveth them lighted candles; and having led them into the church, he censeth in cross-wise fashion; whereupon the Deacon saith:

[Deacon: Bless, master.]

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Great Litany

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, and

POSLADOVANIE BYVAEMOE O OBURUCHENII.

После Божественной литургии, священнику стоящему в святилище, предстоят хотящие спрягаться пред святыми дверями: муж убо одесную, жена же ошуюю. Лежат же на десней стране святъя трапезы перстни их два, златый и сребреньяя, сребреньяя убо уклоняся к десным, златый же к левым, близ друг друга. Священник же назнаменует главы новоневестных трижды, и дает им свечи возжженны, и введ я внутрь храма, кадит крестовидно, и глаголется от диакона:

[И спрашивает их священник о их согласии: желает ли невеста жениха, также и жених невесту.]

[Диакон: Благословь, владыко.]
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 Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; and our lord the Most Reverend Archbishop 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 in the homeland and in the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** For the servant of God N. and the handmaid of God N., who are now being betrothed to one another, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.
Betrothal and Crowning

Draft as used at the Holy Protection of the Mother of God, Russian Orthodox Church, Austin, TX

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That they may be given children unto the continuation of their generation, and that all their petitions which conduce to salvation may be answered, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That perfect and peaceful love, and help, may be sent down upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That they may be preserved in oneness of mind and steadfast faith, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That they may be blessed with a blameless life, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That our Lord God may grant them an honorable marriage and a bed undefiled, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and necessity, 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.

Priest: Exclamation: For unto Thee is due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Priest: O eternal God, Who didst bring into unity those who are separate and hast appointed for them the bond of love, Who didst bless Isaac and Rebecca and show them to be heirs of Thy promise: do Thou Thyself bless also these Thy servants N and N, guiding them unto every good work.

For Thou art a merciful God Who loveth mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: (slowly) To Thee, O Lord.

Диакон: Пресвятую, пречистую, преблагословенную, славную Владычицу нашу Богородицу и Приснодеву Марие со всеми святыми помянуше, са́мы себé и друг друга, и весь живот наш Христу Бóгу предадим.

Лик: Тебе, Го́споди.

Иерей: Возглашение: Йа подоба́ет Тебе всякая слáва, честь и поклонение, Отцу, и Сыну, и Святому Дóху, ныне и прйсно, и во вёки веков.

Лик: Ами́нь.

Также глаголет молитву велегласно:

Иерей: Боже вéчный, разстоя́щаяся собра́вый в соединение, и сои́з любвей положи́вый им неразруши́мый: благослови́вый Исаа́ка и Реве́кку, и насле́дники Й Твоего обетовани́я показа́вый: Сам благослови́ и рабы́ Твоей си́я, имя́рек и имя́рек, наставля́ я на всéкое де́ло благое.

Йа милостивый и человеколю́бец Бог еси́, и Тебе́ слáву возсыла́ем, Отцу, и Сы́ну, и Святому Дóху, ныне и прйсно, и во вёки веков.

Лик: Ами́нь.

Иерей: Мир всем.

Чтец: И ду́хови твоему́.

Диакон: Главь ва́ша Го́сподеви приклоните.

Лик: (медленно) Тебе́, Го́споди.
Priest: O Lord our God, who didst betroth the Church as a pure virgin from among the nations, bless Thou this betrothal, and unite and preserve these Thy servants in peace and oneness of mind.

For unto Thee is due all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Then the Priest, having taken the rings on the dish, gives first to the man the gold one and says three times, as he makes the sign of the Cross with the ring on his forehead:

Priest:

The servant of God N is betrothed to the handmaid of God N, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (thrice)

Then he saith to the woman:

The handmaid of God N is betrothed to the servant of God N, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (thrice)

And when he saith this to each one thrice, he maketh the sign of the Cross with the ring on their heads; and he placeth them on the fingers of their right hands. Then the groom’s sponsor exchangeth the rings of the newly betrothed.

Священник: Господи Боже наш, от язык предобру́чный Церковь деву чистую, благослови обручение сие, и соединий, и сохрани рабы Твои сия в мире и единомыслии.

Тебе бо подоба́ет всякая слава, честь и поклонение, Отцу́, и Сыну́, и Святому Ду́ху, ныне и присно, и во веки веков.

Лик: Ам́нь.

Также взем священник перстни, дает первее мужу златый, такоже сребрный жене.

Священник глаголет мужу:

Обручается раб Божий, имярек, рабе Божий, имярек, во имя Отца́, и Сына, и Свято́го Ду́ха, амьнь. (трижды) И при этом [трижды] начертывает перстнем крест на голове его.

Священник глаголет жене:

Обручается раба́ Божия, имярек, рабу Божию, имярек, во имя Отца́, и Сына, и Свято́го Ду́ха, амьнь. (трижды)

И егда речет на едином коемждо трижды, творит крест перстнем на главах их: и налагает я на десных их перстех. Также изменяет перстни новоневестных восприемник. (И когда скажет каждому эти слова трижды, начертывая крест перстнем на главах их, он надевает им перстни
Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

 Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest says this Prayer:

O Lord our God, Who didst accompany the servant of the Patriarch Abraham into Mesopotamia, when he was sent to espouse a wife for his master Isaac, and Who by means of the water-pitcher didst reveal to him that he was to espouse Rebecca: do Thou Thyself bless the betrothal of Thy servants, this N and this N, and confirm the word spoken between them. Establish them in the holy unity which is from Thee; for in the beginning Thou didst create male and female, and by Thee is woman joined unto man, for the aid and continuation of the human race. Do Thou, therefore, Thyself, O our God, Who hast sent the truth as Thine inheritance, and Thy promise unto Thy servants, our fathers, Thy chosen ones, in every generation and generation: look down upon Thy servant N and upon Thy handmaid N, and establish their betrothal in faith, oneness of mind, truth and love; for Thou, O Lord, hast shown that a pledge of betrothal should be given and confirmed in all things. By a ring was authority given to Joseph in Egypt; by a ring was Daniel glorified in the land of Babylon; by a ring was the truth of Tamar revealed; by a ring did our heavenly Father show compassion for His son, for He saith: put a ring on his right hand and, having slain the fatted calf, let us eat and be merry. Thy right hand, O Lord, armed Moses in the
Betrothal and Crowning

Draft as used at the Holy Protection of the Mother of God. Russian Orthodox Church, Austin, TX

Red Sea; for by the word of Thy truth were the heavens established and the earth set upon its foundations; and the right hand of Thy servants is blessed by Thy mighty word and Thine upraised arm. Wherefore, O Master, do Thou Thyself now bless this putting on of rings with the blessing of heaven; and may Thine angel go before them all the days of their life.

For Thou art He Who blesseth and sanctifieth all things; and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Litany

Deacon: Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)

Deacon: Again we pray for our Great Lord and father, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill; and our lord the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; and our lord the Most Reverend Archbishop Peter; and all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)
Betrothal and Crowning

THE ORDER OF HOLY MATRIMONY WHICH IS CALLED THE CROWNING

If they desire to be crowned at the same time, they enter the church with lighted candles, preceding the Priest, who carrieth a censer and chanteth Psalm

Deacon: Again we pray for this land [of the United States], its authorities and armed forces; for the God-preserved Russian land and its Orthodox people in the homeland and in the diaspora, and for their salvation.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)

Deacon: Again we pray for the servants of God Names who are being betrothed.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)

Deacon: Again we pray for all bretheren and all Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)

Priest: For a merciful God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Dismissal.

If they desire to be crowned at the same time, they enter the church with lighted candles, preceding the Priest, who carrieth a censer and chanteth Psalm

Diakon: Ещё мо́лимся о стране сей [ёже живём], власте́х и во́инстве ё́, о Богохра́ни́мей стране́ Россійстей, и о правосла́вных лю́дех ё́ во от́ечестве и разъёняніи сущих, і о спасе́ніи их.

Лик: Господи, поми́люй. (трижды)

Diakon: Ещё мо́лимся о рабе́х Божих и́мяре́к, и и́мяре́к, обруча́ющихся друг другу́.

Лик: Господи, поми́люй. (трижды)

Diakon: Ещё мо́лимся за всю бра́тию и за вся христиа́ны.

Лик: Господи, поми́люй. (трижды)

Иерей: Йа́ко ми́лостив и челове́колю́бец Бог еси́, и Тебе́ сла́ву возсылае́м, Отцу́, и Сы́ну, и Свято́му Ду́ху, ны́не и присно, и во ве́ки веко́в.

Лик: Ами́нь.

Таже отпуст (если Венчание в этот день не совершается).

ПОСЛЕДОВАНИЕ ВЕНЧАНИЯ.

Аще убо хотят в тоже время венчатся, входят во храм со свещами возжженными, предыдушу священику с кадильницею, и поющу
Betrothal and Crowning

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127, to each verse of which the choir chanteth the refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Псалом 127, сице: люди же на кийдьо стих глаголют: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.

Если же сразу совершается и Венчание, все входят в храм: впереди священник с кадилом, за ним жених и невеста с зажженными свечами. При этом поется псалом 127 с припевом: «Слава Тебе Боже наш, слава Тебе» после каждого стиха.

Priest: Blessed are all they that fear the Lord.

Священник: Блажени вси бойщиися Господа.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Лик или люди: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.

Priest: That walk in His ways.

Священник: Ходящии в пути Его.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Лик или люди: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.

Priest: Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labours.

Священник: Труды плодов твоих снеси.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Лик или люди: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.

Priest: Blessed art thou, and well shall it be with thee.

Священник: Блажен еси, и добрó тебе бутет.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Лик или люди: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.

Priest: Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the sides of thy house.

Священник: Жена тво́й яко лоза́ плодовита, во странах дому твоего.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Лик или люди: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.

Priest: Thy sons like young olive trees round about thy table.

Священник: Сынове тво́й яко новосаждения маслична, окрест трапёзы твоей.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Лик или люди: Слава Тебе, Боже наш, слава Тебе.
Priest: Behold, so shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Priest: The Lord bless thee out of Sion, and mayest thou see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Priest: And mayest thou see thy children’s children; peace be upon Israel.

Choir or All: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Afterwards, the priest delivereth an instructive sermon, relating to them that marriage is a mystery (sacrament), and how they are to live in wedlock honorably and in a God-pleasing manner.

After the conclusion of the homily, the priest questioneth the bridegroom saying:

Priest: Hast thou, N, a good and unconstrained will and the firm intention to take to thyself this woman N, whom thou seest here before thee?

Groom: I have, honorable father.

Priest: Thou hast not promised thyself to any other bride?

Groom: I have not promised myself, honorable father.

Then straightway, directing his gaze at the bride, he questioneth her, saying:

Priest: Се та́ко благослови́ться челове́к бо́йся Госпо́да.

Лик или люди́е: Сла́ва Тебе́, Бо́же наш, сла́ва Тебе́.

Священник: Бла́гослови́ть тя Госпо́дь от Сио́на, и ўзриши блага́ Иерусали́ма вся дни живота́ твоего́.

Лик или люди́е: Сла́ва Тебе́, Бо́же наш, сла́ва Тебе́.

Священник: И ўзриши сы́ны сынóв тво́йх: мир на Изра́иля.

Лик или люди́е: Сла́ва Тебе́, Бо́же наш, сла́ва Тебе́.

Посем глаголет иерей поучительное слово, сказуя им, что есть супружества тайна: и како в супружестве богоугодно и честно жительствовати имут.

По скончании же слова, вопрошает иерей жениха глаголя:

Иерей жениху: Ёмаши ли, имярек, произволе́нние благо́е и непринуждённое, и крё́пкую мысль, по́йти себé в жену́ сио́, имярек, юже зде пред тобо́й видиши?

Жених: Ёмам, честнýй отче.

Иерей паки: Не обеща́лся ли еси´ ино́й неве́стве?

Жених: Не обеща́хся, честнýй отче.

И абие иерей, зря к невесте, вопрощает ю, глаголя:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Russian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priest: Hast thou, N, a good and unconstrained will and the firm intention to take to thyself this man Ṣ, whom thou seest here before thee?</td>
<td>Иерей невесте: Ымаши ли произволение благое и непринуждённое, и твёрдую мысль, пойти себе в мужа сего имярек, егоже пред тобою зде видиши?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bride: I have, honorable father.</td>
<td>Невеста: Ымам, честный отче.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priest: Thou hast not promised thyself to any other man?</td>
<td>Иерей паки: Не обеща́лась ли еси́ иному мужу?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bride: I have not promised myself, honorable father.</td>
<td>Невеста: Не обеща́хся, честный́ отче.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon: Bless, master.</td>
<td>Диакон: Благослови́й, влады́ко.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Иерей: Благословено Царство Отца́ и Сы́на, и Свята́го Ду́ха, ны́не и при́сно, и во ве́ки веко́в.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir: Amen.</td>
<td>Лик: Ам́и́нь.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Litany**

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<th>Russian</th>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.</td>
<td>Диакон: Ми́ром Го́споду помо́лимся.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir: Lord, have mercy.</td>
<td>Лик: Го́споди, поми́луй.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon: For the peace from above, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.</td>
<td>Диакон: О свы́шнем мире и спасе́нии душ на́ших, Го́споду помо́лимся.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir: Lord, have mercy.</td>
<td>Лик: Го́споди, поми́луй.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Диакон: О ми́ре всего́ ми́ра, благостоя́нии свя́тых Божиих церкве́й и соедине́ннии всех, Го́споду помо́лимся.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir: Lord, have mercy.</td>
<td>Лик: Го́споди, поми́луй.</td>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Диакон: О свя́тём хра́ме се́м и с ве́рою, благогове́ннием и стра́хо́м Божиим входящих в о́нь, Го́споду помо́лимся.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Betrothal and Crowning**

_Draft as used at the Holy Protection of the Mother of God. Russian Orthodox Church, Austin, TX_

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.  

**Deacon:** For our Great Lord and father, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill; and for our lord the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; and our lord the Most Reverend Archbishop Peter, for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.  

**Лик:** Господи, помилуй.  

**Диакон:** О Великом Господи и отце нашем, Святейшем Патриарше Кирилле, и о господине нашем Высокопреосвященнейшем Митрополите Иларione, Первосвященном Русском Зарубежной Церкве, и о Господине нашем Преосвященнейшем Архиепископе Петре, честнём пресвитерьстве, во Христе диаконстве, о всем пришее и людех, Господу помо́лимся.  

**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 in the homeland and in the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  

**Лик:** Господи, помилуй.  

**Диакон:** О стране сей [е́же живём], властях и воинстве ей, о Богохранной стране Российстей и о православных людех ей во отечествии и разседении сущих, и о спасении их, Господу помо́лимся.  

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.  

**Deacon:** For the servants of God N and N, who are now uniting themselves one to another in the union of matrimony, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  

**Лик:** Господи, помилуй.  

**Диакон:** О рабе́х Божиих, имя́рек и имя́рек, ныне сочета́вающихся друг другу́ в бра́ка общение, и о спасении их, Господу помо́лимся.  

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.  

**Deacon:** That this marriage may be blessed like that in Cana of Galilee, let us pray to the Lord.  

**Лик:** Господи, помилуй.  

**Диакон:** О еже благословитися бра́ку сему́, яко в Кане Галиле́йстей, Господу помо́лимся.  

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.  

**Deacon:** That they may be given chastity and the fruit of the womb, as is beneficial for them, let us pray to the Lord.  

**Лик:** Господи, помилуй.  

**Диакон:** О еже пода́тися им целому́дренно, и плоду́ чре́ва на по́льзу, Господу помо́лимся.
Deacon: That they may rejoice at the sight of sons and daughters, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That they may be granted to bring forth fair offspring and to enjoy a blameless life, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That all petitions which conduce to salvation may be answered for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and necessity, 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.

Priest: Exclamation: For unto Thee is due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.
Betrothal and Crowning
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Choir: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest says the following Prayer aloud:

O all-pure God, Maker of all creation,
Who in Thy love for mankind didst transform the rib of Adam our forefather into a woman, and didst bless them, saying: Increase and multiply, and exercise dominion over the earth; and didst show them both to be of one flesh in their union, for which cause a man shall leave his father and mother and cleave unto his wife, and the twain shall be one flesh; and what God hath joined together, let no man put asunder: Who didst bless Thy servant Abraham and didst open the womb of Sarah, and madest him to be the father of many nations: Who gavest Isaac to Rebecca and didst bless her child-bearing. Who joined Jacob to Rachel, and from him didst show forth the twelve patriarchs: Who didst unite Joseph and Asenath, giving them Ephraim and Manasses as the fruit of their procreation: Who didst accept Zachariah and Elizabeth and showed forth the Forerunner as their offspring: Who caused the Ever-virgin to spring forth in the flesh from the root of Jesse, and who becamest incarnate of her and wast born for the salvation of the human race: Who as Thine ineffable gift didst in Thy great goodness go to Cana of Galilee and didst bless the wedding there, that Thou mightest show that lawful matrimony is Thy will, as is the procreation of children therefrom: do Thou Thyself, O All-holy Master,
accept the entreaty of us, Thy servants, and coming hither, as Thou didst then, in Thine ineffable intercession, bless this marriage, and grant unto Thy servants N and N a peaceful life, length of days, chastity; love one for another in the union of peace, long-lived seed, the grace of children, and an imperishable crown of glory; Grant that they may see their childrens children; keep their bed unassailed; bestow upon them the dew of heaven from on high, and the fitness of the land. Fill their home with wheat, wine and oil, and eveiy good thing, that they may give in mm unto those who ask; and do Thou answer likewise petitions which conduce to sahration for those here with them.

For Thou art a God of mercy, compassion and love for mankind, and unto Thee, and Thine unoriginate Father, and Thine all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, do we send up glory; now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest says the following prayer out loud:

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, who art the Priest of mystical and pure matrimony, the Ordainer of the law of [marriage] of the body, the Preserver of incorruption, the good Arranger of the circumstances of life! O Master, Who in the beginning didst create man and set him as king of creation, and didst say: It is not good for man to be alone upon the earth; let Us fashion a helpmate for him;
and taking from him one of his ribs, Thou didst fashion a wife, of whom Adam, on seeing said: this is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, for she was taken from her husband: for this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave unto his wife, and the twain shall be one flesh; and what God hath joined together, let no man put asunder: Do Thou now, O master Lord our God, send down Thy heavenly grace upon these Thy servants N and N, and grant this Thy handmaid to be subject to her husband in all things, and to this Thy servant to be the head of his wife, that they may live according to Thy will. Bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Abraham and Sarah; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Isaac and Rebecca; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Jacob and all the patriarchs; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Joseph and Asenath; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Moses and Sepphora; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Joachim and Anna; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Zachariah and Elizabeth. Preserve them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst preserve Noah in the ark; preserve them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst preserve Jonah in the belly of the sea monster; preserve them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst preserve the three holy children from the fire, sending down upon them dew from heaven; and may that joy come upon them which the blessed Helen experienced when she found the precious Cross. Be mindful of them, O Lord our God, as Thou wast mindful of Enoch, Shem and Elijah; be mindful of them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst fashion a wife, of whom Adam, on seeing said: this is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, for she was taken from her husband: for this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave unto his wife, and the twain shall be one flesh; and what God hath joined together, let no man put asunder: Do Thou now, O master Lord our God, send down Thy heavenly grace upon these Thy servants N and N, and grant this Thy handmaid to be subject to her husband in all things, and to this Thy servant to be the head of his wife, that they may live according to Thy will. Bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Abraham and Sarah; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Isaac and Rebecca; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Jacob and all the patriarchs; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Joseph and Asenath; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Moses and Sepphora; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Joachim and Anna; bless them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst bless Zachariah and Elizabeth. Preserve them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst preserve Noah in the ark; preserve them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst preserve Jonah in the belly of the sea monster; preserve them, O Lord our God, as Thou didst preserve the three holy children from the fire, sending down upon them dew from heaven; and may that joy come upon them which the blessed Helen experienced when she found the precious Cross. Be mindful of them, O Lord our God, as Thou wast mindful of Enoch, Shem and Elijah; be mindful of them, O Lord our God,
Betrothal and Crowning

Thou wast mindful of Thy forty holy martyrs, sending crowns down upon them from heaven; be mindful, O God, of the parents who raised them, for the prayers of parents make steadfast the foundations of homes. Be mindful, O Lord our God, of Thy servants, the groomsmen and bridesmaids, who have entered into this joy. Be mindful, O Lord our God, of Thy servant N and Thy handmaid N, and bless them. Grant them the fruit of the womb, fair offspring, unity of soul and body. Exalt them like the cedars of Lebanon, like a luxuriant vine. Grant them seed like unto that of grain, that, possessing all plenitude, they may abound in every work good and pleasing unto Thee, and may see their children’s children, like newly planted olive trees around their table; and having been right pleasing unto Thee, may they shine in Thee, our Lord, like the stars of the sky. Glory, dominion, honor and worship be to Thee, and Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

And again the Priest says the following prayer aloud:

O holy God, Who hast created man out of the dust, and didst fashion woman of his rib, and didst yoke unto him a helpmate for him, in that it was thus pleasing unto Thy majesty that man not be alone on the earth: do Thou Thyself, O Master, send down Thy hand from
Thy holy dwelling-place, and unite this Thy servant N to this Thy handmaid N, for by Thee is woman joined to man. Bring them together in oneness of mind; wed them in one flesh; grant them the fruit of the womb, the procreation of fair children.

For Thine is the dominion, and Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

And the Priest, taking up the crowns, crowneth the bridegroom first, saying:

Priest: The servant of God N is crowned unto the handmaid of God N, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (thrice)

Then the Priest crowns the Bride, saying:

Priest: The handmaid of God N is crowned unto the servant of God N, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (thrice)

He says this three times as he makes the sign of the Cross on each of them.

Then he blesseth them thrice, saying each time:

Priest: O Lord our God, crown them with glory and honor! (thrice)

The Epistle

святаго жилища Твоего, и сочетай раба Твоего сего, имярек, и рабу Твою сию, имярек, зане от Тебе сочетается мужу жена. Сопрязи я в единомудрии, венча́й я в плоть еди́ну, даруй́ яма плод чре́ва, благоча́дия восприятие.

Я́ко Твои́ держа́ва и Тво́е есть Ца́рство, и си́ла, и сла́ва, Отцá, и Сы́на, и Святáго Д́уха, ны́не и прй́сно, и во ве́ки веко́в.

Лик: Ами́нь.

И по амине, прием священник венцы, венчает первее жениха, глаголя:

Затем священник, взяв венцы, венчает первым жениха, говоря:

Священник: Венча́ется раб Бóжий, имярек, рабé Бóжий, имярек, во йма Отцá, и Сы́на, и Святáго Д́уха, ами́нь. [Произносит же это трижды, начертывая образ Креста]

Также венчает и невесту, глаголя:

Священник: Венча́ется раба Бóжия, имярек, рабу Бóжию, имярек, во йма Отцá, и Сы́на, и Святáго Д́уха, ами́нь. [Произносит же это трижды, начертывая образ Креста]

Также благословляет я трижды, глаголя трижды:

Священник: Го́споди Бóже наш, сла́вою и че́стию венча́й я. (трижды)
Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The prokimenon in the 8th tone.

Reader: Thou hast set upon their heads crowns of precious stones; they asked life of Thee, and Thou gayest it them.

Choir: Thou hast set upon their heads crowns of precious stones; they asked life of Thee, and Thou gayest it them.

Reader: Stichos: For Thou shalt give them blessing forever and ever, Thou shalt gladden them in joy with Thy countenance.

Choir: They asked life of Thee, and Thou gayest it them.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Epistle to the Ephesians. [Chapter 5,20-33]

Brethren, give thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Wives, submit...
yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church: and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That He might present it to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nouriseth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the Church: For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the Church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Priest: Peace be unto thee.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: Alleluia in the 5th Tone.

Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and preserve us from this generation, and for evermore.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
At that time there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and His disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto Him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it. And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And He saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was (but the servants which drew the water knew), the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: 

Betrothal and Crowning
Draft as used at the Holy Protection of the Mother of God. Russian Orthodox Church, Austin, TX

Gospel

Priest: Wisdom, aright! Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to John.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest: Let us attend.

[Chapter 2,1-11]

At that time there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and His disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto Him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it. And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And He saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was (but the servants which drew the water knew), the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse:
but thou hast kept the good wine until now. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory; and His disciples believed on Him. After this He went down to Capernaum, He, and His mother, and His brethren, and His disciples: and they continued there not many days.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Litany

Deacon: Let us all say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord Almighty, God of our fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and the visitation of Thy servants N and N.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (thrice)

Priest: Exclamation: For a merciful God art Thou Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages

Liv: Слава Тебе, Господи, слава Тебе.

Ектения

Диакон: Рцем всй от всей душй, и от всего помышленя нашего рцем.

Лик: Господи, помлуй.

Диакон: Господи Вседержителю, Боже отец наших, молим Ти ся, услыши и помлуй.

Лик: Господи, помлуй.

Диакон: Помлуй нас, Боже, по велицей милости Твоей, молим Ти ся, услыши и помлуй.

Лик: Господи, помлуй. (трижды)

Диакон: Еще молимся о милости, жйзни, мире, здравии, спасении, посещении, прощении и оставлении грехов рабов Божих, имярек, и поминает иже хощет.

Лик: Господи, помлуй. (трижды)

Иерей: возглас: Яко милостив и человеколюбец Бог есй, и Тебе славу возсылаем, Отцу, и Сыну, и Святому Духу, нйне и прйсно, и во вкі веков.
Betrothal and Crowning
Draft as used at the Holy Protection of the Mother of God. Russian Orthodox Church, Austin, TX

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest says this prayer:

O Lord our God, Who in Thy saving dispensation didst by Thine attendance show forth the wedding in Cana of Galilee to be honorable: do Thou Thyself now preserve in peace and oneness of mind Thy servants N and N, whom it hath been Thy good pleasure to unite one to another. Show their marriage to be honorable; preserve their bed undefiled; be Thou well pleased that their life together may be blameless; and grant that they may attain unto profound old age, acting upon Thy commandments with a pure heart.

For Thou art our God, the God who exerciseth mercy and saveth, and we send up glory to Thee, to Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and
bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask of the Lord.

Deacon: Things good and profitable for our souls and bodies, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Having asked for the unity of the faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commit ourselves and one another, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: And vouchsafe us, O Master, with boldness and without condemnation to dare to call upon Thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:

**Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

**Молитва Господня**

И́ людие́: О́тче наш, І́же еси́ на небесех, да святі́ться І́ма Твоє, да прийдеть Ца́рствіе Твоє, да бу́дет воля Господня.
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: exclamation: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto 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.

Then the common cup is brought forth, and the Priest blesseth it

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God Who by Thy might hast created all things, hast established the universe, and hast adorned the crown of all the things Thou hast made: grant also this common cup unto those who are joining themselves in the communion of matrimony, and bless them with spiritual blessing.

Priest: exclamation: For Thy name hath been blessed, and Thy kingdom glorified: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.
Choir: Amen.

Then the priest, taking the common cup in his hand, presenteth it to them to drink thereof, thrice, first to the husband, then to the wife.

And the choir chanteth these troparia in the 1st Tone:

I will take the cup of salvation and I will call on the name of the Lord.

And immediately the priest, taking them by the hands, leadeth them about in a circle.

Meanwhile the Singers chant the following Troparia.

Choir: Tone 5: Dance, O Isaiah! The Virgin hath conceived in her womb and hath given birth unto Emmanuel, Who is both God and man. Orient is His name; and magnifying Him, we call the Virgin blessed.

Choir: tone 7: O holy martyrs, who have fought the good fight and received crowns: entreat ye the Lord, that He have mercy upon our souls.

Choir: tone 7: Glory to Thee, O Christ God, Thou boast of the apostles and joy of the martyrs, who preached the consubstantial Trinity!

Then, removing the crown from the bridegroom, the priest saith:

Priest: Be thou exalted, O bridegroom, like unto Abraham, and be thou blessed.

Лик: Ами́нь.

Таже взем священник в руку общую чашу, преподает им трижды: первее мужу, и потом жене.

и поет на глас 1й:

Чашу спасения приму и имя Господне призову.

И абие прием я священник, куму держащу созданны венцы, обращает яко образом круга. И поет священник, или людие настоящия тропари: (И тотчас священник берет их и трижды обводит вокруг аналоя, восприемник же сзади придерживает венцы. И поет священник или хор следующие тропари:)


Лик: глас 7: Святи́и мученицы, / дóбре страда́льчествовавшии, и венча́вшиися, / молитеся ко Господу, / помиловатися душам на́шим.

Таже взем венец жениха, глаголет (приподнимает венец):

Священник: Возвели́чись женише́ якоже Авраа́м, и благослови́ся якоже
Betrothal and Crowning

Draft as used at the Holy Protection of the Mother of God. Russian Orthodox Church, Austin, TX

like Isaac, and increase like unto Jacob, walking in peace and carrying out the commandments of God in righteousness.

And when he removeth the crown from the bride, he saith:

Priest: And be thou exalted, O bride, like unto Sarah, and be exalted like unto Rebecca, and increase like unto Rachel, delighting in thy husband and keeping the bounds of the law; for in such is God well pleased.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God, our God, Who went to Cana of Galilee and blessed the wedding there: bless Thou also these thy servants Who in Thy providence have come together in the communion of matrimony. Bless their goings out and their comings in. Make their life abundant in good things. Receive their crowns [Here the Priest takes the crowns from the heads of the couple and places them on the table] in Thy kingdom, keeping them unsullied, immaculate and irreproachable, for ever.

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.

Priest: May the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the all-holy, consubstantial and life-creating Trinity; the one
Godhead and Kingdom, bless you; and may He grant you length of days, fair children, prosperity of life, and faith; and may He provide you with all the good things of the earth; and may He vouchsafe you also to receive the good things He hath promised, through the supplications of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints.

Choir: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE UNTYING OF CROWNS ON THE EIGHTH DAY

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord our God, Who hast blessed the crown of the year and by the law of matrimony hast permitted crowns to be laid upon these who have joined themselves one to another, granting them chastity as a reward (for they are pure who have united themselves in the lawful matrimony which is from Thee): do Thou Thyself, in the laying aside of these crowns, bless those who have united themselves one to another, and preserve their union indissoluble, that they may continually give thanks unto Thine all-holy name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto 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.
Priest: These, Thy servants, O Lord, having attained unto concord and accomplished the order of matrimony as in Cana of Galilee, and carried out the vows therein, do send up glory unto Thee: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Dismissal.

Priest says to Deacon: Wisdom.

[Priest: O Most Holy Theotokos, save us. ]

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, / who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos: thee do we magnify.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ God our hope, glory to Thee.

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

Lord, have mercy. (thrice) Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, Who by His attendance in Cana of Galilee didst show marriage to be honorable, have mercy and save us, through the supplications of His all-pure Mother, of the holy, glorious and all-praised apostles, of the holy Sovereigns crowned by God and Equals of the Apostles, Constantine and Helen, of the

Священник: Согласная достигше раби Твои, Господи, и последование совершенше в Кане Галилейстей брака, и спрятавше яже в нем знамения, славу Тебе возсылают, Отцу, и Сыну, и Святому Духу, ныне и прысно, и во века веков.

Лик: Аминь.

Отпуст.

Рекшу диакону: Премудрость.

[Священник: Пресвятаа Богородице, спаси нас.]

Лик: Честнейшую Херувим и славнейшую без сравнения Серапим, / без истиения Божа Слова рождшую, сущую Богородицу Тя величааем.

Иерей: Слава Тебе, Христе Боже, упование наше, слава Тебе.

Лик: Слава Отцу и Сыну и Святому Духу, и ныне и прысно и во века веков. Аминь.

Господи, помилуй. (трижды) Благослови.

Священник:

Йже в Кане Галилейстей пришествием Своим честен брак показавый, Христос, истинный Бог наш, молитвами Пречистыя Своей Матере, святых славных и всехвалных Апостол, святых боговенчаных царей и равноапостолов, Константина и
holy great Martyr Prokopios, of (the patronal saint(s) of the temple), of (the saint(s) commemorated on the day), and of all the saints, in that He is good and loveth mankind.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: A prosperous and peaceful life, health and good success in all things, grant, O Lord, unto Thy newly-wed servants N and N, and preserve them for many years!

Choir: God grant them many years! (thrice)
Save them, 0 Christ God! (thrice)

Venerate together icon of Christ, then of Theotokos on solea. Then they kiss each other, then all present approach and congratulate them, kissing one another.