

THE ANAPHORA OF ST. GREGORY II⁽¹⁾

1. The Anaphora of St. Gregory II (2) ; may his prayer and blessing be with our (*head of state: King, Queen, President . . .*), unto the ages of ages.

2. *Priest* : The Lord be with all of you.

People : And with your spirit.

Priest : Give ye thanks unto our God.

People : It is right, it is just.

Priest : Lift up your hearts.

People : We have lifted them up unto the Lord our God.

3. *Priest* : We thank Thee, Lord, we glorify Thee and praise Thee.

Thy name is blessed, and we bless Thee.

Thy name is praised, and we praise Thee.

(1) This is celebrated during the period from Christmas to the Fast of Nineveh, and at Hosenna (Palm Sunday).

(2) He was born in 233 at Neo-Caesarea in Pontus, the same city of which he was later bishop. While he was quite young he began the study of law. Arriving at Caesareea, in Palestine, on the way to Berytus, where he and his brother Athenodorus were to attend a school of law, they met Origen, and were so impressed that they remained in Caesareea five years and studied logic, physics, mathematics, ethics, Greek philosophy and theology with him. Then, the brothers returned to Pontus, and afterwards were made bishops, Gregory of Neo-Caesarea, his native place; Athenodorus of some unknown city. Gregory is called 'Thaumaturgus' (worker of miracles) because of the many miracles God did at his hands. He died on 21st Hedar (November 30) 270 A. D.

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4. Thou art more terrible than the terrible, Thy greatness is unspeakable, Thou art glorious and we glorify Thee.

5. Thou art above the saints, Thy glory is wonderful, thousand thousands of angels hallow Thee, the watchful who do not sleep glorify Thee.

6. The eight terrible ones (1) who desire to draw near unto Thee flee away because of the flame of fire for they may not draw near unto Thee. They fear and are afraid because of the coal of fire which goes out from Thy mouth. All of them together sanctify and praise Thee with one voice.

7. And we also, thy humble servants, do also like them, stretching forth our hands, raising them up in the sign of the cross, and glorify Thee and praise Thee. But those, the seraphim and cherubim, have wings, each has six wings.

8. *Deacon* : Ye that are sitting, stand up.

9. *Priest* : All of them together hallow Thee and praise Thee with one voice, one with the other, this with that, the other with the other, and say Holy, holy, holy, perfect Lord of hosts.

10. *Deacon* : Answer ye.

11. *People* : Holy, holy, holy, perfect Lord of hosts, heaven and earth are full of the holiness of Thy glory.

12. *Priest* : He is covered with the curtain of clouds. The Saviour was born from a holy virgin. The Lord appeared and the true Sun of righteousness arose.

(1) Eight unidentified angels appeared to St. Gregory .

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13. We believe in the Father Who sent, and in the Son Who was sent, and we believe in the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

14. And we say that He Who destroyed death and broke the iron chains rose from the dead and raised the dead and, descending into Hades, He loosened the prisoners and preached liberty to them.

15. *Deacon* : Look to the east.

16. *Priest* : We thank Thee and glorify Thee, Thou who removes darkness and gives light and art the true Saviour, because through Thy Son's love and Thy love He gave His body in that night.

17. *Deacon* : Let us give heed.

18. *Priest* : Though He was God, all this came upon Him; when they seized Him, He Himself bore the spitting of the unclean and bore all the woes of the prison house.

19. All these things He carried though He was Lord and God, He carried all on our behalf: on behalf of the poor and needy, on behalf of the prophets and apostles, on behalf of the martyrs and faithful,

20. On behalf of the bishops and priests, on behalf of the deacons and anagnosts, on behalf of the widows and orphans, on behalf of the virgins, monks and young men,

21. On behalf of the sinners and the scattered; so that He may gather the scattered, justify the sinners, bring back the wicked and declare His resurrection.

22. O Lord, we speak of those whose names we know, but Thou knows those whose names we do not

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know and Thou understands them, and everything is naked before Thee.

23. *Deacon* : For the sake of the blessed (*Anaphora of the Apostles*, # 6-9: p. 43)

24. *Asst. Priest* : *Prayer of Benediction.* (*Anaphora of the Apostles*, # 10-21: pp. 43, 44.)

25. *Asst. Deacon* : Lord, pity and have mercy upon the patriarchs, archbishops, bishops, priests, deacons and all the Christian people.

26. *Priest* : (We speak) of these and all through our Lord and our Saviour Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son Whom Thou has loved and Whom Thou did send before.

27. As Thou has gathered this bread which had been scattered on the mountains and the little hills, and being gathered together it became one whole bread, so also gather us, through Thy divinity, from all evil thoughts into perfect faith (1).

28. And as Thou did unite water with wine, and wine was united with water, and after having been united and mixed it is impossible for the one to be separated from the other, so also gather us, through Thy divinity, from all evil thoughts into perfect faith.

29. *At this time he shall offer incense.*

People : Remember us, Lord, in Thy kingdom (*Anaphora of the Apostles*, # 34: p. 45)

30. *Priest* : And unite, O Lord, our humanity with Thy divinity,

(1) Anaphora of St. John, son of Thunder, # 91, and Anaphora of St. Jacob of Serough, #68.

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Thy greatness with our humility, and our humility with Thy greatness

31. *Deacon* : Priests, raise up your hands.

32. *Priest* : That we may offer unto Thee this (*pointing*) offering which Thou did grant unto Thy disciples.

33. *People* : We believe that this is He, truly we believe.

34. *Priest* : Saying, Take, eat, this (*pointing*) bread is My body which will be broken for you *and* given for the remission of sin and for eternal life. Amen. (+ *three times*).

35. *People* : Amen. Amen. Amen. We believe and confess, we glorify Thee, O our Lord and our God ; that this is He we truly believe.

36. *Priest* : Likewise Thou spoke to them over the cup saying, Take, drink, this (*pointing*) cup is My blood which will be shed for you and given for the remission of sin and for eternal life. Amen. (+ *three times*)

Then he shall move the cup with his right hand in the sign of the cross.

37. *People* : Amen. Amen. Amen.

38. *Priest* : And Thou said unto them, Whenever you eat of this bread and drink of this cup do this in remembrance of Me : (+ *once over the Bread, once over the Cup, and once more over Both*) proclaim My death believing in My resurrection.

39. *People* : Amen. Lord pity us, Lord spare us, Lord have mercy upon us.

40. *Priest* : And keep My remembrance.

41. *People* : We proclaim Thy death, Lord, and Thy holy resurrection;

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we believe thy ascension and Thy second advent. We glorify thee and confess Thee, we offer our prayer unto Thee and supplicate Thee, O our Lord and our God.

42. *Deacon* : With all the heart let us beseech the Lord our God that He grant unto us the good communion of the Holy Spirit.

43. *People* : As it was, is and shall be unto generations of generations, unto endless ages.

44. *Priest* : We offer it unto Thee in glory and praise, in thanksgiving and greatness, that it may be to all who take of it for rejoicing and happiness, for healing and help, for the renewal of the body and cure of the spirit and soul; and all of them together give thanks unto Thee with one voice, unto the ages of ages.

45. *Priest* Grant us to be united through thy Holy Spirit, and heal us by this oblation that we may live in thee for ever.

The people shall repeat his words.

46. *Priest* : Blessed be the name of the Lord, and blessed be He that comes in the name of the Lord, and let the name of His glory be blessed. So be it. So be it. So be it blessed.

The people shall repeat his words.

47. *Priest* : Send the grace of the Holy Spirit upon us.

The people shall repeat his words.

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48. *Deacon* : Arise for prayer.

People : Lord have mercy upon us.

Priest : Peace be unto all of you.

People : And with your spirit.

49. *Priest* : *Prayer of Fraction.*

We give thanks unto Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of powers, the Lord of authorities, and the Lord of mercies

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50. Because Thou has made us worthy of this Thy holy and pure mystery that we may glorify and praise Thee Who dwells with the saints, and Whose glory is wonderful for ever, Lord almighty, Lord our God.

51. *Deacon* : Pray ye.

People : Our Father who art in heaven . .

(see *Anaphora* #2, #69 : p. 62)

52. *Priest* : O almighty God, we offer our prayer unto Thee and supplicate Thee, because Thou has made us worthy of this pure and holy mystery.

53. Through Thy divinity Thou dwells in this bread which we receive, so let it be to those who receive of it for rejoicing and gladness, for healing and help and everlasting life, for the renewal of the body and cure of the spirit and soul. Add them to Thine inheritance in Thy heavenly kingdom.

54. Through Thine only - begotten Son, through Whom to Thee with Him and with the Holy Spirit be glory and dominion, both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

55. *People* : According to Thy mercy, our God, and not according to our sins. (to be repeated thrice)

(Again) The hosts of the angels of the Saviour of the world stand before the Saviour of the world and encircle the Saviour of the world, even the body and the blood of the Saviour of the world.

Let us draw near the face of the Saviour of the world. In the faith which is of Him we believe in the birth of Christ.

56. *Asst. Deacon* : Open ye the gates, princes.

57. *Deacon* : Ye who are standing, bow

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58. *Priest* O Creator of great lights, it is Jesus Christ alone Who divided the light from darkness. Keep Thy people who have bowed their head unto Thee and who wait for blessing and good hope from Thee, so that Thou may keep and bless them and cause their children to grow ; and as often as they receive the holy communion, grant it to be to them for blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord, through Whom to Thee with Him and with the Holy Spirit be glory and dominion, both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

59. *Deacon* : Worship the Lord with fear.

People : Before Thee, Lord, we worship, and Thee do we glorify.

60. *Priest* : *Prayer of Penitence.* (*Anaphora of the Apostles* 72-88: pp. 47, 48)

61. *Deacon* : Give heed.

Priest : Holy things for the holy.

People : One is the holy Father, one is the holy Son, one is the Holy Spirit.

62. *Priest* : The Lord be with all of you.

People : And with your spirit.

63. *At this time the priest shall lift up the whole Host with his hand and say:*

Lord, have compassion upon us,
O Christ. (*three times in a loud chant and fifteen times in a low chant*)

The people shall repeat his words.

Then he shall repeat them three times and the people twice.

64. *Deacon* : Ye that are penitent, bow your heads.

65. *Then he shall turn to the people and say:*

Priest : Lord our God (*Anaphora of the Apostles*, # 95 - 103: pp. 49, 50, and again # 104 - 138: pp. 50 - 53.)

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66. *After receiving the Holy Communion.*

Priest : Pilot of the Soul.

Again we supplicate the almighty Lord our God, Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Thou art eternal God and Thy name is great and holy.

67. Thou art glorified by the high ones, and the humble praise Thee. We thank and glorify Thee because Thou has made us worthy of this holy communion which we have received.

68. Fulfill it to us through Thy faith, to be for life and salvation, so that we may thank and glorify Thee at every time and at every hour, O almighty Lord our God.

69. *Deacon :* Pray ye.

70. *Priest :* O almighty God, we pray Thee and beseech Thee to sanctify us by the Holy Spirit. O Lord, make this to be to us for blessing that we may thank and glorify Thee at every time and at every hour.

71. Through Thine only-begotten Son, through Whom to Thee with Him and with the Holy Spirit be glory and dominion, both now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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72. *Priest : The Laying on of the Hand.*

Our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ, bless us and sanctify us ; make us worthy to go back to our homes joyfully without sin or blemish.

73. Let Thy body and Thy blood

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which we have received from Thine honourable table be for our life.

74. O Lord, send Thy Holy Spirit unto us that He may guide us in purity and faith.

The Son of God prepared His body and blood in the world that we may receive them and live with Him.

75. He has brought us near to Him, towards His holy altar through His mercy that we may be called servants of God and the dwelling-place of the most high.

Let us all draw near Him before His face in supplication, worship, purity, and faith.

76. May His holy body and His precious blood which we have received at the hands of the priests who offer prayer, be to us for life, remission of sin, resurrection from the dead and the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven, unto the ages of ages. Amen.

THE END.