A HYMN OF PRAISE FOR SATURDAY

Pure and shining, holy and praiseworthy art thou in everything, O thou who hast clasped the Lord in her hand. All creation rejoiceth with her, and crieth out, saying, "Rejoice, O full of grace, rejoice thou, for thou hast found favour; rejoice thou, for God is with thee."

We ascribe blessings to thy greatness, O awesome Virgin, and we send to thee joy with the angel GABRIEL, for the Fruit of thy womb hath become the salvation of our race, and hath brought us nigh unto God His Father. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.

As at a marriage undefiled the Holy Ghost took up His abode in thee, and the power of the Most High overshadowed thee. O MARY, verily thou hast brought forth for us the Word, the Son of the Father, Who dwelleth (or, existeth) for ever. He came and saved us from sin. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.

Thou art the young Shoot from the root of DAVID. Thou hast brought forth for us in the flesh our Savior JESUS CHRIST, the Only-begotten Word, Who was of the Father, Who was hidden before the world, and hiding Himself took from thee the form (or, appearance) of a slave. Rejoice thou. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.

Thou art the Second Heaven over the earth, O spotless God-bearer. From thee hath risen upon us the Sun of righteousness, and thou didst bring Him forth, according to the prophecy of the Prophets, without seed and without defilement. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and
Thou art that Tabernacle which was called "Holy of Holies", wherein was the ark (Tëbô) which was covered on all sides with plates of gold, and had therein the Table of the Covenant and the pot of gold of the hidden manna, that is to say, the Son of God. He came and dwelt with MARY, the Virgin without blemish. He was incarnate of her, and she brought forth in the world the KING of Glory. He came and delivered us. The Garden (i.e. Paradise) shall rejoice, for the Lamb that is endowed with reason, the Son of the Father, Who dwelleth for ever, hath come and delivered us from sin. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.

Thou art called the Mother of CHRIST, the KING. After thou didst bring Him forth, thou didst continue in thy spotless virginity through a marvelous mystery. Thou didst bring forth EMMANUEL, and because of this thou didst preserve thyself undefiled. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.

Thou art the Ladder on which JACOB saw the Son of God for thou hast carried in thy sealed womb Him Who could not be touched. Thou hast become for us an intercessor with our Lord JESUS CHRIST, Who became incarnate of thee for our salvation. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.

Behold, the Lord came forth from thee, O blessed Lady, thou undefiled Bride-chamber, to save the whole world which He had created in His abundant compassion and mercy. We glorify Him and we praise Him for He is the Beneficent One, the Lover of men. We beseech thee and lift our eyes to thee, so that we may find mercy and compassion with the Lover of Men.