

# MALANKARA ORTHODOX SYRIAN CHURCH



## THE SERVICE BOOK FOR THE ORDINATION OF A PRIEST

TRANSLATED, COMPOSED, AND COMPILED BY THE GRACE OF GOD THROUGH  
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&

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## **THE ORDER OF LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR PRIESTS**

*After the Creed during the Eucharistic Liturgy, the candidate to the priesthood kneels (on both knees\*) with proper vestments of a deacon at the foot of the sanctuary in the middle of the nave. After the communion of the Mother of God and Saints, the bishop sits in his throne and conducts the examination (Omologia), and then clips the candidate's hair in the manner of a cross.*

### **OMOLOGIA PROFESSION OF FAITH**

#### **DOCTRINAL AND MORAL EXHORTATION**

Beloved, who are our brother through our Lord Jesus, and communicant and spiritual son through the precepts of the Holy Apostles and the sacred synods, listen and comprehend: You have desired to experience the sacred mysteries of our Lord, and to receive this most respectful and invaluable gift from the hands of us who do not deserve this office, and approach this most sublime and unparalleled divine service and this spotless office. Blessed and beloved son! We will demonstrate to you how you can live without stain and conflict in a manner followed by the faithful who gaze at the mysteries of our Lord, after you have received this noble office.

Blessed son, you will have to primarily adhere to the Orthodox faith taught to the Holy Apostles by our Lord, and recorded in the Holy Gospel. The Apostles had entrusted this faith to the Holy Fathers of the Church and to the Orthodox doctors and to the children of the church. Following the Apostles, they also had confirmed and taught this faith. Primarily, it is the faith in the one true God, who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You must keep this faith in your public and private life, and in your heart and tongue. The Word, one among the Trinity, by the will of the Father and the Holy Spirit, came down from heaven and dwelt in the womb of St. Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, and, because of His love for mankind, became incarnate.

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\* Standing on both knees symbolizes the candidate's function of enlightening and purifying his people.

When He was in the womb of His mother, He still was existing with His Father in His heavenly throne; glory to His mercy! He is true God and true Man. You are to follow this faith according to what the Church teaches, not according to what the other sects believe.

You should be a follower of St. Peter the chief apostle, of St. Thomas our most eminent apostle, and of their fellow-apostles, and of the seventy two evangelists, and of Saints Ignatius the fiery one, Dionysius, Julius, Athanasius, Basil, Gregory, John Chrysostom, Cyril of Alexandria, Severus of Antioch, and of all the Orthodox fathers and doctors.

Again, observe all the canons, traditions and customs of the Holy Church. You must be obedient to the Supreme Head of our Church, His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Paulose II, Catholicos of the East, and to our weak self, the Metropolitan of the Southwest American Diocese, as long as you live. Follow us and walk in the righteous way. You shall keep away from the faith of the Gentiles, Gnostics, Jews, and all those who do not have the true faith.

Bishop:        Whatever we renounce and condemn,  
                  you must renounce and condemn.

Ordinand:     Whatever Your Grace renounces and condemns,  
                  I renounce and condemn

*(Repeat both declarations three times.)*

Bishop:        Whatever we believe and confess,  
                  you have to believe and confess.

Ordinand:     Whatever Your Grace believes and confesses,  
                  I believe and confess.

*(Repeat both declarations three times.)*

Beloved, spiritual son! Again I ask you: You shall do the service of God properly. Do not be lazy and idle. Run away from carnality, alcoholism, wasteful extravagance, falsehood, avarice, adultery, theft, jealousy, and slander. These vices detach men from the presence of God. St. Paul says “Now, a priest (of God) must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sensible, dignified, hospitable, and an apt teacher, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and no lover of money” (1 Tim. 3:2-3). Let him also stay away from the corruption of interest and compound interest which steal the wealth of the world. These are in every way contemptible before God. If a cleric happens to get engaged in such things he will be detached from God and his priesthood.

Therefore, you shall be meek and humble. Pray and prostrate, and fast in the presence of God with tears and repentance for you and for the people entrusted to your spiritual care. Offer supplications always before God so that He may help you and your people, and He may deliver you from temptations. You shall love guests, the destitute, and the poor. Treat all people with humility and meekness so that they may glorify the heavenly Father because of your virtuous acts. If you do so, you will be worthy of the service of His Holy Church, and you and your flock will receive mercy and favor when the Lord Jesus Christ will come to judge the living and the departed.

Dear son, as I am the mediator in this ordination, you shall never be a cause for my sorrow. On the other hand, if you lead an exemplary life, you and we will have confidence and rejoice before God; we will together be blessed to glorify the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit eternally in heaven.

*(The Bishop hands a pen to the ordinand and he makes four dots in the manner of the cross)*

Our beloved son, you have made this sign in the manner of a cross. This will be a witness for you before God, His holy angels and before this holy sanctuary. Observe the Orthodox faith that was commanded, and entrusted to you without corruption and change. Lead a proper life which is the mark of true disciples so that you and we may have confidence at the second coming of our Lord.

*(Now the four dots are connected cross-wise.)*

Beloved son, as a pledge that you will observe everything commanded to you, you have completed the sign of the cross. If you do not observe our exhortations, on the day of the just judgment, God will be the judge in between you and us.

*(The bishop now stands up and raises his hands.)*

As we are the mediator in this affair, we stand up and raise our hands in order for the Holy Spirit to descend upon you. We remind you again that you shall not forget any of my commands since we have selected you for this noble office.

*(The bishop sits in his throne.)*

You shall be obedient, meek and humble. Do not become a prey to the wrath of God by violating any commandments. You must give up pride.

*(The bishop stands up again, and raising his hands.)*

Again for a second time, we stand up and raise our hands before God, His angels, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and souls. Let them be witnesses in between you and us that you will not forget any of my exhortations.

*(The bishop sits in his throne.)*

If you become proud and happen to violate even an insignificant command, you will be rejected and detached from the office that you receive now, and will be alienated from everything you have received.

If you happen to disobey and rebel against the Supreme head of this Church, His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Paulose II, and us, the head of this diocese, and our brothers, the venerable bishops and metropolitans; you shall be (an) anathema(s), and shall be excommunicated, rejected and detached by the Holy Church from the mysteries you have received. All those who cooperate with your arrogance and hostility shall also be anathemas.

*(The bishop stands up again, and raising his hands.)*

Again, for the third time, we stand up and extend our hands before God. Let Him be a witness for your promises that you will keep the canons of the apostles and the Holy Synods, and the holy traditions, and the Orthodox faith of the Church.

*(The bishop sits in his throne.)*

### **TONSURING**

*(Bishop clips the candidate's hair in the manner of a cross saying the following:)*

Bishop: *(While holding the pair of scissors)* Zachariah is tonsured and sealed to signify his rejection of carnal habits by the clipping of his lifeless hair off his head: Barekmor

*(Clipping)* In the name of the Father +, Amen

And of the Son +, Amen.

And of the Holy Spirit +

for life eternal. Amen.

Again, beloved son, the sign of the cross is a witness between you and us and therefore we pray to our Lord Jesus Christ in order for us and you to be protected from errors and evil conducts. Also, do not stand against us or His Holiness the Catholicos, lest you be stripped of the holy priesthood. We pray to the Lord God through the intercessions of the Mother of God and the Saints so that you may rejoice of the profits made out of your spiritual operations and that you and we may be worthy of listening to the joyful voice uttered to us: “O you, blessed by my Father, come and inherit the beatitude prepared for you from the beginning of the world”.

Blessed son, you shall not forget whatever we commanded you so far. We again exhort you: we must enter the holy sanctuary of God only with fear and trembling. Do not enter the house of the awe-inspiring God with pride, conceit, jealousy, hatred and animosity. Enter there with purity and humility of heart which are virtues of a good priest of God. Many had rebelled against the divine decision and functioned improperly in the sacred ministry: two hundred and fifty men including Korah and Dathan rebelled against Moses and Aaron, and made 250 censers and offered incense at the holy place sanctimoniously. There were devoured by earth and their followers were consumed in fire. Nadab, and Abihu, the son of Aaron, offered unholy fire before the Lord against the commandment of God, and therefore they were consumed by the fire that had come from the altar. Osio, the King of Judea, rebelled against the priesthood and offered incense at the altar without authorization; and was punished with leprosy and was outcast from the society. Therefore I ask you: You shall not enter the sanctuary with arrogance lest the wrath of God be upon you. You shall not enter the holy place without the skull cap proper to your office. You shall not eat or drink anything in the church or in the sanctuary but the Body and Blood of our Lord, and the blessed bread. Priests have to wear a black cassock, and a stole, and a girdle inside the sanctuary.

Similarly, deacons have to wear the alb and stole when they attend divine service in the sanctuary. Priests shall not eat in a market place or in a street. They shall not either eat while they walk. They shall not participate in alcohol serving parties, and shall not become drunkards. A priest should not become a secular administrator or leader. He should not prescribe penance to anyone beyond his ability.

He should do justice without being bribed. In the spiritual court there is no bribery. You are called to be righteous. Bribery blinds even the eyes of the wise. If a blind man leads another blind man both of them will fall into the ditch.

The sacrificial lamb should be blameless and spotless; and therefore the leavened bread that is used for Divine Liturgy should be well-shaped, not burned and not excessively fermented. The bread mystically takes the place of our Lord Jesus Christ and is offered as a sacrifice before God. You should not pour wine into the chalice inattentively and gluttonously.

If you administer all the divine services with proper piety and carefulness, as we have exhorted you, they will bear blessings for you. You should arrange and organize altar linens and corporals, and the altar cross and candle sticks if they are not properly placed. Negligence in their proper arrangement would always indicate laziness in the service of God. Always realize that Christ our Lord is constantly watching you and your deeds, and that He will reward you for your good deeds and bad deeds.

You should not leave your church of appointment for another church and celebrate services there without permission of your bishop, lest you be a tool of conflicts there. Do not shake off altar linens and corporals; this will protect the particles of the sacred body from falling on the floor. The Holy Spirit dwells in those particles.



If you observe all that I commanded, you will be made worthy of all that you have received, and you will be known as priest(s) of God, and His proper minister(s) or else you will be responsible before the Lord Jesus Christ on the day of His great judgment. If you will then be guilty, I shall have no part in it. If you lead a life in accordance with what I have exhorted you, you will prove that you are (a) good priest(s) and minister(s).

I shall continue my prayer for you to the Lord our God. May He deliver you from all punishments and rods of wrath. May He help you and strengthen you in order to maintain worthy services. May the priesthood you receive today become a blessing to you. May you be strengthened to be free from all errors and imperfections which might destroy you, through the prayers of the Mother of God, and Saint \_\_\_\_\_, and all the Saints.

*(For all ordinations the Bishop gives the following exhortation to the congregation.)*

Beloved brethren, you should pray to God Almighty so that this ordinand who is going to receive priesthood may be sanctified and blessed. Through his prayers may you be blessed, and obedient to the commandments, and dependent on God. May God protect you and your children, may He help them to grow properly. May blameless deacons, holy priests, zealous evangelists, powerful leaders and a variety of other workers of the church rise from them. May the compassionate Lord grant you mercy, blessing, happiness and prosperity. May He bless you with love, unity, and peace. May He dismantle the snares of Satan for you. May He deliver you from temptations, and sorrows of difficult times. May He guide your life in proper direction. May He give rest to the souls of your departed in heaven along with the Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. May He gladden you in paradise. May you and your departed ones hear the joyful voice uttered to you on the last day by our Lord; which is, “O you blessed by my Father, come and inherit the beatitude

prepared for you from the beginning of the world.” May the prayers of Saint Mary, the Mother of God, and all the Saints particularly of Saint \_\_\_\_\_ be a fortress for all of us. Amen.

Bishop:       *(Holding his right hand says:)* The Holy Spirit calls you to be a priest in the Holy Church.

People:               *(Tubaihun l’abde...)*  
Blessed are those servants good  
Whom their Lord shall find  
Wakeful, working when He comes  
To His Vine-yard good  
Girding up His-loins He serves them all  
They who worked with-Him from morn till eve,  
God the Father makes them sit,  
And the Son serves them  
Lo, the Holy Paraclete  
Plaits them victor’s crown  
Halleluiah-setting on their heads.

*(The bishop leads him to the front of the altar; and the ordinand stays on his both knees behind the bishop during the ordination liturgy)*

## INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

Bishop: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
People: May His grace and mercy be upon us, weak and sinful servants, in both worlds,  
forever and ever. Amen  
Bishop: O Lord, protect Your church which You ransomed by Your precious  
blood, under the care of Your mighty right hand. Banish all heresies  
and false teachings from her. Enable the church to keep her hope and  
expectation in You, and to enjoy and rejoice in Your salvation. We  
offer praise to You and to Your Father and to your Holy Spirit, now  
and forever and ever. Amen.

## HYMN: KUK'LIYON (PSALM 15)

### *(Tone 2)*

O Lord, who shall dwell in Your tabernacle?

Halleluiah - Halleluiah

Who shall live on Your holy mountain?

He who walks blamelessly and does what is right.

Halleluiah - Halleluiah

And speaks truth in his heart.

Who does not deceive with his tongue

Halleluiah - Halleluiah

Neither does evil to his friend

Nor finds fault with his neighbor,

Halleluiah - Halleluiah

In whose eyes evil is despised

But who honors those who fear the Lord,

Halleluiah - Halleluiah

And never sets aside his oath

Who does not lend his money at interest

Halleluiah - Halleluiah

Nor takes a bribe against the innocent.

He who does these things shall never be shaken  
Halleluiah - Halleluiah  
Praise be to You, O God, forever

**(Tone 7)**

Moses and Aaron were among his priests  
Halleluiah - Halleluiah - Halleluiah  
Samuel was among those who - called on Him (*Psalm 99:6*)

In righteousness Your priests be clothed and Your saints in glory  
Halleluiah - Halleluiah - Halleluiah  
For Your servant, David's sake  
Turn not away from the face of Your anointed (*Psalm 132:9*)

I will always sing of the Lord's mercy  
With my tongue I shall declare His truth  
Halleluiah - Halleluiah  
Halleluiah – Halleluiah (*Psalm 89:1*)

From the Lord He will receive a blessing  
And righteousness from God our Savior  
Halleluiah - Halleluiah  
Halleluiah - Halleluiah (*Psalm 24:5*)

Bishop: Shubaho...

Let our souls be anointed  
Of that o-il meant for Christ  
Let us cry out with one voice  
So that we may obtain help  
On that day of last judgment  
We proclaim and cry aloud  
"O you servants of the Lord  
Bless our Lord, eternal God.                      Men olam...

Isaiah was filled with grace  
Given from the God of peace  
That grace is brought to us now  
We understand that You are  
Christ-God who came down to earth,  
And shed blood for Salvation,  
Reconciling *the* en-mity  
That we had with - the Fa-ther.                      Moriyo rahem...

## PRAYER

Bishop: Lord our God, grant this your servant Your divine grace because he has approached You for Your gift. Decorate him with the ornament of priesthood. Fill him with the indwelling of Your Holy Spirit. Make him rich in Your divine strength. May he be sanctified by Your holiness. Make him worthy to serve Your holy name with fear and piety, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and always forever and ever. Amen.

## PSALM 51

**Have mercy on me, O God, in Your loving kindness; in the abundance of Your mercy blot out my sin.**

Wash me thoroughly from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my fault and my sins are before me always.

**Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight, that You may be justified in Your words and vindicated in Your judgment. For I was born in guilt and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

But You take pleasure in truth and You have made known to me the secrets of Your wisdom. Sprinkle me with Your hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**Give me the comfort of Your joy and gladness, and the bones which have been humbled shall rejoice. Turn away Your face from my sins and blot out all my faults.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew Your steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

**But restore to me Your joy and Your salvation and let Your glorious spirit sustain me; that I may teach the wicked Your way and sinners may return to You.**

Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue shall praise Your justice. Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall sing Your praise.

**For You do not take pleasure in sacrifices; by burnt offerings You are not appeased. The sacrifice of God is a humble spirit, a heart that is contrite God will not despise.**

Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion and build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then shall You be satisfied with sacrifices of truth and with whole burnt-offerings; then shall they offer bullocks upon Your altar.  
And to you belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor

**HYMN: ENIONO**

**Bishop:** Shubaho...

People: Men olam...

O Absolver  
You alone are the source of – mercy Lord  
Accept him like the  
Prodigal Son, O Lord have - mercy

Holy Father  
Who does grant holiness by – Your mercy  
Cleanse him, - this servant  
who longs for the gift of pur-ity

Son of God Who  
By Your gift, made the Apo-stles so wise  
Send forth Your wisdom  
To this servant who longs for – wisdom

God the Spirit  
Who through *fiery* tongues made A-postles wise  
Send forth holiness  
To this servant who longs to be – holy

Open, Lord God,  
The door of heaven by Your – compassion  
Stretch forth Your right hand  
On Your servant who awaits Your – blessing

Lord adorn him  
Who bows his head before Your - majesty  
For Your sacred robe,  
Adorn him Lord with the Holy - Spirit.

By the service  
Of Your servant, those on high— rejoice, Lord  
Those below sing praise  
For including him in— their ranks

The *fiery* ones  
Are amazed, seeing the Spi-rit descend  
From Hea-ven to grant  
Gifts through the hands of priests to those – who seek

By indwelling  
of the Holy Spirit, You – purge out sin  
Cleanse and sanctify  
This servant who longs for Your in-dwelling

You are boundless  
Yet You are indeed bound by - priestly hands  
The priests receive grace  
for their service along with - Aaron **Barekmor**

Bishop: Shubaho...

Glory to God  
Great is the three in one and – one in three  
Glory be to the  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one – true God

Men olam...

O Lord, You are beyond sight,  
Greatest among all beings;  
The angels serve You indeed,  
With all honor and glory  
O you children lift up praise  
O you priests offer worship  
O you nations, praise his name  
Now and always, forever

Deacon: Stoumen Kalos

People: Kurie eleison.

### **PROEMION**

Bishop: Let us pray and beseech the Lord for mercy and compassion.

People: O merciful Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

Bishop: Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and unceasing exaltation, truly at all times and hours, may we ascribe unto thee, O Lord:

Glory be to the King of King and the Lord of Lords, who grants heavenly gifts, and renders indescribable grace; and who perfected the apostles by His Spirit and taught the disciples His wisdom. To him be glory, honor and adoration at this time of the celebration of this divine service when we beseech compassion and mercy for this your servant a candidate for priesthood, and at all times and hours and seasons and festivals, now and forever and ever. B'kulhoon.....Amen.

### **SEDRO**

O God great in might and inscrutable in wisdom, marvelous in counsel above the sons of men, who art compassionate and loves humankind; the whole universe is inadequate to glorify You. The angels worship You. The archangels glorify You. The Seraphim sing "Holy" to You. The incorporeal and spiritual groups praise You with fear and trembling. Lord, You gladden our human nature with spiritual and heavenly glory because of Your unlimited mercy. You have entrusted heavenly ministry to the earthly through the mediation of apostles. You demonstrated to Peter, the first of the apostles, and his comrades the reality (of the priesthood), which was introduced as archetype through Moses, the first of the prophets. This is being continued in the holy church. Lord our God, accept this first fruit, which we offer before Your majesty from us weak and unworthy. O God, who crowns those You deem worthy to serve the world of Your truth in the divine ministry of this degree: Lord preserve in purity of life and in unswerving faith this Your servant, You graciously are pleased to lay hands upon. Grant him the great grace of Your Holy Spirit, and make him Your servant, in all things



acceptable unto You. May he worthily exercise the great honor of the priesthood, which You have conferred upon him by Your mighty power. Make him a minister and steward of Your mysteries, a priest of truth, a good administrator and a spiritual pillar. Grant him spiritual maturity and enable him to be a diligent pastor to Your spiritual flock. Make him an alert and zealous priest who holds the keys of the kingdom of heaven and opens the door of repentance for those who return to You. Make him a minister of Your treasury who binds sinners according to Your will and looses those who come to You in repentance. Confirm him in Your love and adorn him with Your hope. Make him an ideal priest who is brightened with the ornaments of holiness, and shines with purity, and who works properly in Your spiritual vineyard. Enable him to be an enlightened presbyter, and a devotee who is eager and zealous for good deeds. Make him a priest who multiplies his talent thirty, sixty and a hundred fold. Make him a priest who is diligent to obey and observe Your divine commandments. Lord, cast away from him all impure attractions, which are caused by sins of the flesh. Accept him in divine love and blessed hope. Accept him and confirm him in the purity of body, soul and mind. Make him permanent in true faith. May he not be defiled by heresies and by evil deeds which destroy righteous life. Make him worthy to approach the divine mysteries and this heavenly ministry, which even the angels are eager to gaze at. May he be brightened by good deeds, with all virtues and humility of heart. Lord, anoint Your servant with the gift of Your Holy Spirit so that he may advance to the priesthood, that he may be worthy to stand in innocence before Your Altar, to proclaim the Gospel of Your Kingdom, to minister the word of Your truth, to offer unto You spiritual gifts and sacrifices and to renew Your people through the laver of regeneration. Through Your mercy make him and the spiritual flock entrusted to his care worthy of receiving perfect salvation, true redemption of life, remission of debts, and forgiveness of sins. That when he shall go to meet You, at the Second Coming of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, Thine Only-begotten Son, he

may receive the reward of a good steward in the degree committed unto him, through the plenitude of Your goodness. For blessed and glorified is Thine all-holy and majestic Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

From God may we receive remission of debts and forgiveness of sins, in both worlds, now and forever and ever. Amen.

**HYMN: (ENONO NUHRO – TONE 7)**

***Come, listen to - what I say:***

The Lord of - Shepherds entrusted – the keys of heaven and earth  
To Simon - the son of Jonah - and commanded cogently:

Be steadfast in my commands

I've entrusted sheep to you

Pastor my entire flock

You will have - to account for them – at judgment before my Throne

***You have commanded me to observe Your precepts***

When Christ en-trusted His sheep to - Simon, the Son of Jonah  
He comma-nded him cogently; - pastor my entire flock,

If you love me above all,

Watchfully shepherd my lambs

Tending them in true justice;

With love and - deep humility - rule them without arrogance. Barekmor.

**Bishop:** Shubaho...

O you priests – how will you maintain - the priesthood God gave to you  
So that you - might be endowed with - strength for loosing and binding?

The keys of heaven and earth

Were given by the Savior,

Being blest you will enter

The chamber - along with the Lord, - if you follow divine will.

**People:** Men olam...

Fear not O - faithful Holy Church - Bride of the Heavenly Groom  
If you re-main faithful in love, - I will always cling to you,  
Earth and skies will pass away  
On that day of re-*surre*-ction  
Yet, you need not be afraid  
For Your Ta-ble of Life stands in – between the earth and heaven

**Moriyo rahem...**

**PRAYER OF INCENSE (ETHRO)**

Bishop: O Lord, accept this incense we have offered to You with sincerity of heart and purity of soul. Send forth Your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this Your servant who kneels before You in order to receive Your indwelling and grace through the mediation of our prayers. We offer praise and glory, honor and adoration to You Jesus Christ who art the true high priest, to Your Father who is the fountain of all blessings and to Your Holy Spirit who perfects all gifts and purifies all the saints, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

**ZUMORO (CHANTING BEFORE SCRIPTURE READINGS)**

**(Traditional Tone)**

Thus proclaimed the Lord our God  
Who is our eternal hope  
To the saints of Israel,  
Those from the old covenant:  
“I selected the worthy  
One from among all nations  
And anointed my beloved  
With chrism, holy and pure  
The Lord, your God, will give you  
More joy than those around you  
For he has anoi-nted you.”

**HYMN**

Those Apostles  
Chosen sent by God, they went  
To ev'ry place,  
Throughout all the world,  
Gentiles heard from them the news,  
The Gospel grace.  
They proclaimed the kingdom,  
Heav'n's rule-of freedom,  
For the faithful bliss.

Reader: Brethren; A lesson from the book of the Acts of the Holy Apostles;  
Barekmor.

People: Glory be to the Lord of the Apostles, and may his mercy be upon us,  
forever.  
(Acts 2:14-21)

**HYMN**

Paul the Blessed  
Saints, the Lord's Apostle, said  
If one comes to preach to you  
Other doctrines than we knew,  
Be he man or angel bright,  
Cursd' be he in Church's sight;  
Doctrines all diverse arise,  
Shooting up with many lies;  
Blest is he who first and last  
Trusts God's truth and holds it fast.

Reader: Brethren, the lesson from the epistle of St. Paul to Timothy,  
Barekmor.

People: Glory be to the Lord of the Apostles, and may his mercy be upon us,  
forever.  
(I Timothy 1:18-20, 3:1-7)

**VERSES BEFORE THE GOSPEL (PETHGOMO)**

Halleluiah u Halleluiah  
In righteousness Your priests be clothed and Your saints in glo-ry,  
For Your servant, David's sake  
Turn not away - from the face of Your anoi-nted  
Halleluiah

Bishop: Peace be with you all!

People: May the Lord God make us worthy with Your Spirit.

Bishop: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving announcement from John, the herald who proclaims life and redemption to the world.

People: Blessed be he who has come and is to come, praise be to him who sent him for our salvation, and his mercy be upon us all, forever and ever.

Bishop: Now in the time of the incarnation of our Lord and our God and Saviour Jesus Christ, the Word of life, God incarnate of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things did thus come to pass.

People: We believe and confess.

Bishop: *(Gospel is placed over head of ordinand, St. John 20: 19-29)* On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. *(Now the bishop breathes over the face of the candidate who stands under the book of the gospel thrice in the manner of a cross, and continues:)* If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Peace be to you all.

*(The bishop keeps on facing the ordinand and the congregation, and blesses the candidate at the proper times during the Eniono).*

**HYMN: PSALM 150 & ENIONO**

*(Traditional Tone)*

***Praise the Lord! Praise God is his sanctuary;  
Praise him in his mighty firmament!***

Son of God Who sanctified  
Mount Sinai by Your dwelling  
Come and dwell on Your servant  
And sanctify by Your grace

***Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
Praise him according to his exceeding greatness!***

Lord came upon Mount Sinai  
And laid His hands on Moses  
Moses laid them on Aaron  
And it reached John the Baptist

***Praise him with trumpet sound;  
Praise him with lute and harp!***

May the Spirit who spoke through  
Prophets and dwelt in Apostles  
Come and dwell on this servant  
And sanctify with His grace

***Praise him with the timbrel and dance;  
Praise him with strings and pipe!***

May the Spirit *Who* like a dove  
Came upon His Only Son  
Come and dwell on this servant  
And sanctify with His grace

***Praise him with sounding cymbals;  
Praise him with loud clashing cymbals!  
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord!***

May the Spirit *Who* came upon  
Apostles in mansion great  
Come and dwell on this servant  
And sanctify with His grace    Barekmor

**Bishop:** Shubaho...

Glory to the Holy Father  
Who sent His Son down to earth  
Who dwelt in the holy womb  
And sanctified His righteous    Men olam...

May the Spirit Who hallowed  
Prophet Samuel - in the womb  
Come and dwell on this servant  
And sanctify with His grace

Deacon:     Let us attend to wisdom, and let us respond to the prayer of the most  
                 Reverend Father.

Bishop:     We believe in one true God...

Deacon:     Stoumen Kalos

People:     Kurielaison (*Congregation continues to chant Kurielaison*)

Bishop:     (*Gets over the step of the altar, and he sets aside the covers of the  
                 chalice and the paten in order to keep the holy mysteries open; and  
                 then says silently:)* O God, Lord of powers, who didst appoint us for  
                 ministry; thou dost know the minds of men, and examine their hearts  
                 and consciences. Because of thine abundant mercy, give heed to us,  
                 O Lord. Do away with all the stains of our bodies and souls. Like  
                 clouds take away our sins, and like smoke do away with our debts.  
                 Fill us with Your power, and with the grace of thine only begotten  
                 Son, and with the operation of the Holy Spirit. Make us worthy to be  
                 the ministers of Your new covenant. Enable us to perform our priestly  
                 duties and offices before thee in accordance with Your holy name.

Do not leave us to be partakers of the sins of others. But absolve and make reparation of our sins. Strengthen us not to commit anything wrong. Give us knowledge to select worthy ones and present them before thee.

Bishop: (Audibly): O Lord, accept this servant who has approached You for Your heavenly indwelling and make him a Priest because You are gracious, and compassionate on those who call upon You, and You reign in majesty; glory and adoration belong to You, Your only begotten Son, and to Your Holy Spirit, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

Bishop: Peace be unto you all

People: And with your Spirit.

### **1<sup>ST</sup> DECLARATION**

(Taibuthe d'...) Traditional Tone

Archdeacon (*carries the staff of the bishop and receives the paper/book containing following declaration. He then comes to the southwest corner of the sanctuary, and solemnly reads it facing the congregation*).

Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Comes on head of this servant,  
Who's approached in devotion,  
And bows his head in true faith,  
Before this holy altar;  
Who with inner eyes gazes,  
Watchfully at his presence,  
And who looks for heav'nly gift  
By Paternal will of God,  
And by strength of Holy Spirit.



## **APPELLATION\* (Hol D'Koryo)**

Bishop: *(Places his right hand over the forehead of the ordinand and declares:)*  
By this very grace he is called from the diaconate to priesthood in the presbyteral order.

Archdeacon: Through the prayers of Mary, the Mother of God, the twelve apostles, the forty noble martyrs, Saints Eugene, Matthew, Moses, Juliana and St. George the crown of the martyrs, and St. Bahanam the martyr, St. Thomas the Apostle of India, St. Gregorios and St. Dionysius of Malankara and all the saints of the church; within the jurisdiction of the Malankara Orthodox Apostolic Catholicate of the East, which loves Christ, and is loved by Him, in the altar dedicated to St. Gregorios, in the city of Bellwood, for the South-West Diocese of America, the God-loving Zachariah is called to be a priest.

### **2<sup>ND</sup> DECLARATION**

*(Traditional Tone)*

Archdeacon: *(Comes to the southwest corner of the sanctuary and chants the following declaration given by the bishop, from the altar:)*

Let us pray for this servant  
Who is trembling with fear,  
That Holy Ghost endow him  
With His grace and indwelling,  
Now and always, forever,  
Let us cry aloud and say  
Kurie-laison three times

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\* If there are more than one candidate, the appellation should be repeated for each one separately.

*(The people keep on chanting Kurie eleison while the bishop says the following prayer silently.)*

Bishop: (Silently) Accept, O Lord, on account of Your compassion towards mankind, this Your servant who has come to be enlightened by you; pour forth the gift of Your sanctifying Holy Spirit upon him. Enable him to understand that You are true God, and that You wish to attract everyone to You. May he serve You in purity and wisdom. Make him worthy to serve Your people who hope. Through his intercession shower forth Your grace on Your creation. Enable him to offer services and thanksgiving to You. Accept the prayers of Your people on his behalf. May Your people rejoice on account of the gift showered on him. Father, because of Your grace which perfects everything, protect him in Your name, and that of Your Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Bishop: (Audibly): And therefore, Lord, God, who blesses everything and reigns over all; make him worthy of the call to priesthood to perform the holy mysteries and to receive mercy before You. Because You are a compassionate and gracious God; glory, honor and adoration belongs to You, to Your Son and to Your Holy Spirit, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

## **MYSTERY-FILLED PART OF THE ORDINATION**

(INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT)

### Karokosham

*(The people keep on chanting Kurie eleison or the cantor solemnly sings the kathisma “May Holy Ghost come on him...”).*

May the Holy Spirit come  
And descend on this servant  
May stains of soul and body  
Be completely cleansed from him

*(Malayalam)*

Parakaleetha rooha vanethi  
Aavasum cheyettivanil  
Aathmashareera karrayellam  
Paadey neekum cheyatte

*(The bishop waves and exalts over the paten (sacred body) and the chalice (precious blood) three times each. He then collects grace from the top of the chalice folding his hands and carries it over the paten and holds grace from it and at that point the archdeacon envelopes his folded hands with the cover of the paten. The bishop then places the grace-filled (folded) hands over the head of the ordinand who is at his right side kneeling on the step of the altar within the enclosure made with the bishops cope. He leaves the paten cover over the head of the candidate. The bishop then lays his hand over the ordinand’s head, and waves and exalts over his head three times. Then he lays his right hand over this head and rubs over the ordinand’s chest, both sides and back with his left hand as far as he can reach. This entire liturgical procedure is performed three times. The bishop does this with the presence of the Holy Spirit who performs this part of the Sacrament.)*

### 3RD DECLARATION (KATHISMA)

Archdeacon (chants the following kathisma at the southwest corner of the sanctuary):

(Traditional Tone)

May Holy Spirit come on him  
As was promised by Savior,  
Lord, forbid not indwelling  
Of Holy Spirit upon him,  
We ask of You who does hear  
Supplication of Your weak;  
Holy Spirit the paraclete,  
Holy are You, most Holy;  
Indwelling of Holy Spirit,  
Is indeed of great myst'ry,  
Nor do we understand it,  
Nor can we explain it,  
Your wondrous deeds for us weak  
Are always indeed wondrous;  
Glory be to Lord our God,  
God of all the creations.

*(Immediately after this, the act of the imposition of hands (laying on of hands) takes place with the following invocation to the Holy Spirit, which should also be done with intense concentration and the presence of the Holy Spirit. Since this is the ordination prayer no part of this could be left out, every part should be intelligible, and be recited distinctly. A defective ordination prayer (form) may render the ordination invalid. Hence the need of the awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit and intense concentration.*

*During the invocation the bishop lays his right hand over the head of the ordinand with his hand-cross in between his hand and the head of the candidate, and with his left hand open. During this entire period of the descent of the Holy Spirit, people keep on chanting Kurie eleison or the cantor solemnly sings the above kathisma "May Holy Ghost come on him...")*

### INVOCATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Bishop (*Silently*): O great God, who performs innumerable, glorious and marvelous deeds, who art great in strength, inscrutable, intelligent, more admirable in understanding than mankind; You are our God who comprehends the secrets of hearts, gaze at thoughts, examine faculties; because nothing is hidden from Your eyes of justice of Your judgment. You understand the life of this Your servant, and understand everything past, and see those that exist, and foresee those that are going to happen. You select, from all generations, those who please You, for the ministry of Your mysteries. Select this Your servant for priesthood. Grant him blameless and flawless conducts, and unchanging faith in order for him to receive the great gift of Your Holy Spirit, so that he may become worthy to do priestly services for the gospel of Your kingdom, to stand before Your sanctuary and offer spiritual gifts and perfects sacrifices, and renew Your people through the baptism of regeneration. May he show everyone that he is the lighted torch of Your only begotten Son who is consubstantial with You; and may he enrich and adorn Your holy church and do good by the laying on of his hands; and thus, may the word of Your gospel be spread and Your holy name be glorified in all creations, and in the church entrusted to this Your servant.

Bishop: (*Turns to the altar and says audibly*): May he escort You at the second coming of our Lord, and great God Savior Jesus Christ from the line of good priests, and may he receive the proper reward for his good conducts by the abundant grace of Your only begotten Son. Through him, and with him, and with Your Spirit who is all holy, good, adorable, and life giving, and is consubstantial with You, glory, honor, and dominion belong to You, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

Bishop: Peace be unto you all.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads before the Lord.

People: We bow our head before thee, our Lord and our God.

*(People keep on chanting Kurielaison...)*

Bishop: *(Silently)*: Lord, look upon us and our ministry. Purify us from all stains. Send Your grace from heaven upon this servant. May he become worthy to serve thee and conduct priestly ministry for thee without blame because of thine indwelling, and may he receive mercy from thee. May he praise You with all the saints who pleased You from the beginning.

Bishop: *(Audibly)*: O Lord, God of all! All good gifts flows from You. This Your servant looks unto You in expectation. May Your gifts be always protected in him. May he rejoice by Your grace. May he enlighten and fill with Your grace in those who aspire for it. Because You are compassionate and gracious towards mankind; glory, honor, and adoration belong to You, Your Holy Son and Your Holy Spirit, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

#### **PROCLAMATION (ETHTHASRAH)**

**Bishop:** *(Turning to the new priest places his right hand over his head and says)*: In the Holy Church of God is Ordained.

**Archdeacon:** Through the prayers of Mary, the Mother of God, the twelve apostles, the forty noble martyrs, St. Thomas the Apostle of India, St. Gregorios and St. Dionysius and all the saints of the church; within the jurisdiction of the Malankara Orthodox Apostolic Catholicate of the East, which loves Christ, and is loved by Him, in the altar dedicated to St. Gregorios, in the city of Bellwood, for the South-West Diocese of America, God-loving Zachariah is called to be a priest.

**Bishop:** Zachariah as a priest in the presbyteral order to the already mentioned holy sanctuary of the Orthodox faithful.

**Archdeacon:** Barekmor.

Bishop: *(Making the sign of the cross thrice on the forehead of the candidate with the right thumb):*

In the name of the Father +,  
And of the Son +,  
And of the Holy Spirit +, for life Eternal

People: Amen.

*(People keep on chanting Kurie eleison...)*

Bishop: *(Turns to the east and says inaudibly):* Lord, who are almighty, for everything we thank You in every manner; we glorify and praise Your name. For, You have done many things for us; You have poured forth Your indwelling upon this servant. Lord, we pray and beseech You: Harken unto us because of Your abundant mercy. Be pleased with the priesthood which this Your servant has received by the descent of the Holy Spirit. Strengthen him to prosper in the talent he has received.

Bishop: *(Audibly):* O Lord, may he receive his reward along with all the saints who pleased You from the beginning, and with those wise and faithful stewards at the second coming from heaven of our Lord Jesus Christ, with whom and the Holy Spirit, glory and honor and dominion belong to You, both now and forever and ever. Amen.

*(The bishop then takes rear end of the stole which is handing over the new priest's left shoulder and brings it around his neck and hands it over his right shoulder so that both ends may hang in front of the new priest over his chest. During this time the following is chanted:)*

*(Thesbuto likoro...)*

For glory, honor, and praise  
Of the Trinity, one in essence  
And for *the* peace and building up  
of the Holy Church of God

*(The bishop then exalts the priestly vestments with the skull cap which were previously blessed, if new, three times each over the sacred mysteries and the head of the new priest. Then he gives all vestments except the skull cap to the new priest. The new priest at first time makes the sign of the cross over each of the vestments, and wears them. The archdeacon or another priest helps him in vesting. The bishop places the skull cap over the new priest's head. During the time of exaltation and vesting the choir and the congregation keep on singing the above hymn.*

*Then the bishop gives the new priest a thurible; and the new priest himself blesses the incense and places it inside the thurible. He incenses the altar, bishop, priests, and the congregation. The giving of the thurible, and the blessing and placing of the incense by the new priest are integral to the priestly ordination, and they together symbolize the primary duty of the priesthood, (offering sacrifices), which is granted to him through the authority of the church. During the latter part the following Manitha may be sung:)*

As we think of you, high priests  
Who are fathers of us weak,  
Enters thought of the last day  
Into hearts of us feeble,  
You will be known on that day  
As servants of God most high,  
You will be called on that day  
The priests of Lord, forever;  
When you become worthy of  
Receiving this blessing then,  
Pray for us that we may be  
The Sheep on Your right hand,  
worthy of Christ's Great mercies  
and filled with beatitudes.

*(During the communion time, the bishop asks the new priest to get over the step of the altar and receive communion)*

END OF ORDINATION OF PRIESTS