

Sunday of the Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

October 15, 2023



Prayer before Liturgy

THROUGH THE PRAYERS OF OUR HOLY FATHERS, O LORD
JESUS CHRIST OUR GOD, HAVE MERCY ON US.

AMEN.

GLORY TO YOU, OUR GOD, GLORY TO YOU.

HEAVENLY KING, COMFORTER, SPIRIT OF TRUTH,

EVERYWHERE PRESENT AND FILLING ALL THINGS, TREASURY
OF

BLESSINGS AND GIVER OF LIFE, COME AND DWELL WITHIN US,
CLEANSE US OF ALL STAIN, AND SAVE OUR SOULS, O
GRACIOUS ONE.

*THROUGHOUT PASCHA, THE FOLLOWING IS SAID IN PLACE OF
"GLORY TO YOU" AND "HEAVENLY KING."*

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! BY DEATH HE TRAMPLED
DEATH;**

AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS HE GRANTED LIFE. (THREE TIMES)

**HOLY GOD, HOLY AND MIGHTY, HOLY AND IMMORTAL, HAVE
MERCY ON US. (THREE TIMES)**

**GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY
SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND FOREVER. AMEN.**

**MOST HOLY TRINITY, HAVE MERCY ON US; LORD, CLEANSE US
OF OUR SINS; MASTER, FORGIVE OUR TRANSGRESSIONS;
HOLY ONE, COME TO US AND HEAL OUR INFIRMITIES FOR
YOUR NAME'S SAKE.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY. (THREE TIMES)

**GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY
SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND FOREVER. AMEN.**

Galatians 1: 11-19

PAUL CALLED BY GOD

I WANT YOU TO KNOW, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, THAT THE GOSPEL I PREACHED IS NOT OF HUMAN ORIGIN. I DID NOT RECEIVE IT FROM ANY MAN, NOR WAS I TAUGHT IT; RATHER, I RECEIVED IT BY REVELATION FROM JESUS CHRIST.

FOR YOU HAVE HEARD OF MY PREVIOUS WAY OF LIFE IN JUDAISM, HOW INTENSELY I PERSECUTED THE CHURCH OF GOD AND TRIED TO DESTROY IT. I WAS ADVANCING IN JUDAISM BEYOND MANY OF MY OWN AGE AMONG MY PEOPLE AND WAS EXTREMELY ZEALOUS FOR THE TRADITIONS OF MY FATHERS. BUT WHEN GOD, WHO SET ME APART FROM MY MOTHER'S WOMB AND CALLED ME BY HIS GRACE, WAS PLEASED TO REVEAL HIS SON IN ME SO THAT I MIGHT PREACH HIM AMONG THE GENTILES, MY IMMEDIATE RESPONSE WAS NOT TO CONSULT ANY HUMAN BEING. I DID NOT GO UP TO JERUSALEM TO SEE THOSE WHO WERE APOSTLES BEFORE I WAS, BUT I WENT INTO ARABIA. LATER I RETURNED TO DAMASCUS.

THEN AFTER THREE YEARS, I WENT UP TO JERUSALEM TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH CEPHAS AND STAYED WITH HIM FIFTEEN DAYS. I SAW NONE OF THE OTHER APOSTLES—ONLY JAMES, THE LORD'S BROTHER.

Luke 8: 5-15

"A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. AS HE WAS SCATTERING THE SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH; IT WAS TRAMPLED ON, AND THE BIRDS ATE IT UP. SOME FELL ON ROCKY GROUND, AND WHEN IT CAME UP, THE PLANTS WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO MOISTURE. OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP WITH IT AND CHOKED THE PLANTS. STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. IT CAME UP AND YIELDED A CROP, A HUNDRED TIMES MORE THAN WAS SOWN."

WHEN HE SAID THIS, HE CALLED OUT, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."

HIS DISCIPLES ASKED HIM WHAT THIS PARABLE MEANT. HE SAID, "THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SECRETS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO OTHERS I SPEAK IN PARABLES, SO THAT,

"THOUGH SEEING, THEY MAY NOT SEE;

THOUGH HEARING, THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND.'

"THIS IS THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE: THE SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD. THOSE ALONG THE PATH ARE THE ONES WHO HEAR, AND THEN THE DEVIL COMES AND TAKES AWAY THE WORD FROM THEIR HEARTS, SO THAT THEY MAY NOT BELIEVE AND BE SAVED. THOSE ON THE ROCKY GROUND ARE THE ONES WHO RECEIVE THE WORD WITH JOY WHEN THEY HEAR IT, BUT THEY HAVE NO ROOT. THEY BELIEVE FOR A WHILE, BUT IN THE TIME OF TESTING THEY FALL AWAY. THE SEED THAT FELL AMONG THORNS STANDS FOR THOSE WHO HEAR, BUT AS THEY GO ON THEIR WAY THEY ARE CHOKED BY LIFE'S WORRIES, RICHES AND PLEASURES, AND THEY DO NOT MATURE. BUT THE SEED ON GOOD SOIL STANDS FOR THOSE WITH A NOBLE AND GOOD HEART, WHO HEAR THE WORD, RETAIN IT, AND BY PERSEVERING PRODUCE A CROP.

Hebrews 13: 7-16

REMEMBER YOUR LEADERS, WHO SPOKE THE WORD OF GOD TO YOU. CONSIDER THE OUTCOME OF THEIR WAY OF LIFE AND IMITATE THEIR FAITH. JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAME YESTERDAY AND TODAY AND FOREVER.

DO NOT BE CARRIED AWAY BY ALL KINDS OF STRANGE TEACHINGS. IT IS GOOD FOR OUR HEARTS TO BE STRENGTHENED BY GRACE, NOT BY EATING CEREMONIAL FOODS, WHICH IS OF NO BENEFIT TO THOSE WHO DO SO. WE HAVE AN ALTAR FROM WHICH THOSE WHO MINISTER AT THE TABERNACLE HAVE NO RIGHT TO EAT.

THE HIGH PRIEST CARRIES THE BLOOD OF ANIMALS INTO THE MOST HOLY PLACE AS A SIN OFFERING, BUT THE BODIES ARE BURNED OUTSIDE THE CAMP. AND SO JESUS ALSO SUFFERED OUTSIDE THE CITY GATE TO MAKE THE PEOPLE HOLY THROUGH HIS OWN BLOOD. LET US, THEN, GO TO HIM OUTSIDE THE CAMP, BEARING THE DISGRACE HE BORE. FOR HERE WE DO NOT HAVE AN ENDURING CITY, BUT WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE CITY THAT IS TO COME.

THROUGH JESUS, THEREFORE, LET US CONTINUALLY OFFER TO GOD A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE—THE FRUIT OF LIPS THAT OPENLY PROFESS HIS NAME. AND DO NOT FORGET TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE WITH OTHERS, FOR WITH SUCH SACRIFICES GOD IS PLEASED.

John 17: 1-13

JESUS PRAYS TO BE GLORIFIED

AFTER JESUS SAID THIS, HE LOOKED TOWARD HEAVEN AND PRAYED: "FATHER, THE HOUR HAS COME. GLORIFY YOUR SON, THAT YOUR SON MAY GLORIFY YOU. FOR YOU GRANTED HIM AUTHORITY OVER ALL PEOPLE THAT HE MIGHT GIVE ETERNAL LIFE TO ALL THOSE YOU HAVE GIVEN HIM. NOW THIS IS ETERNAL LIFE: THAT THEY KNOW YOU, THE ONLY TRUE GOD, AND JESUS CHRIST, WHOM YOU HAVE SENT. I HAVE BROUGHT YOU GLORY ON EARTH BY FINISHING THE WORK YOU GAVE ME TO DO. AND NOW, FATHER, GLORIFY ME IN YOUR PRESENCE WITH THE GLORY I HAD WITH YOU BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN.

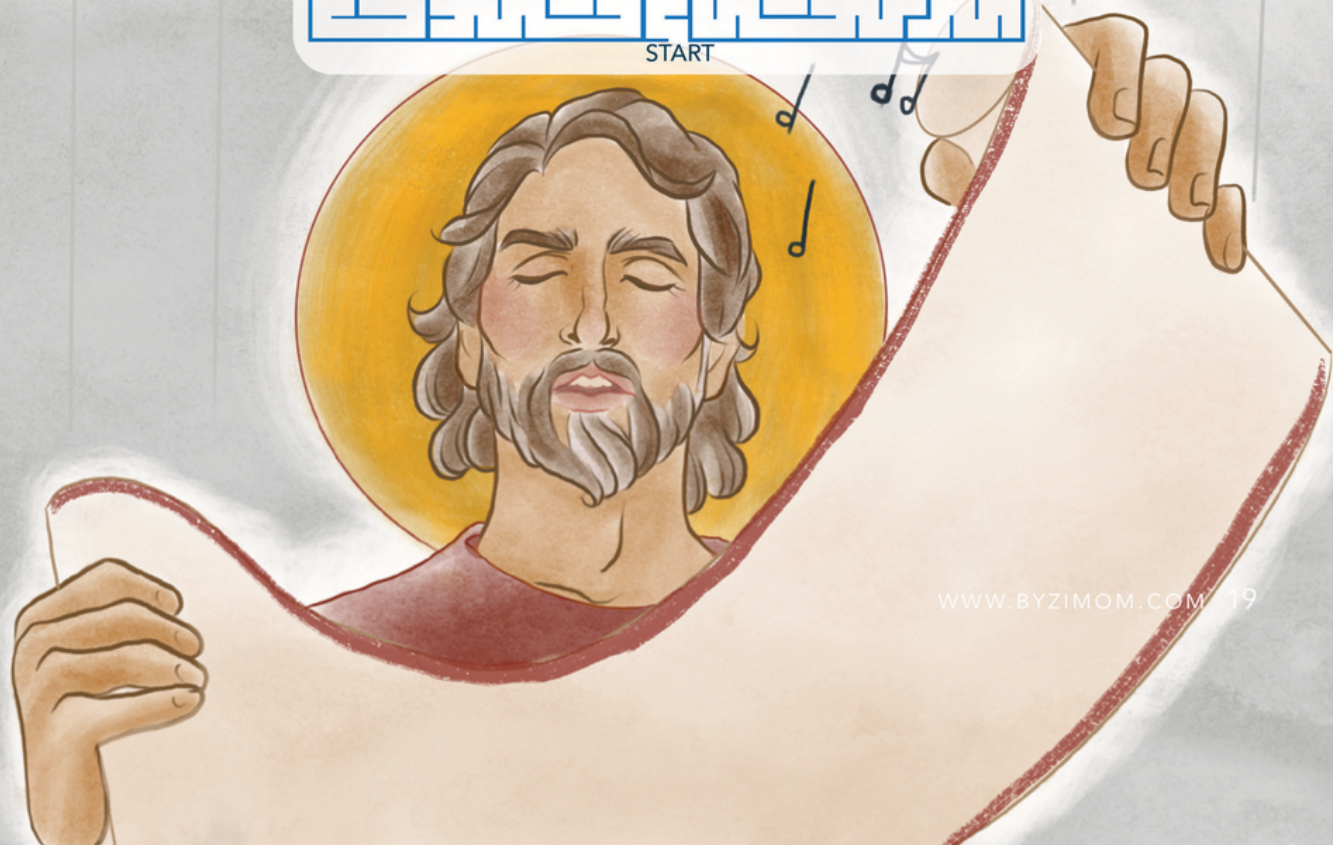
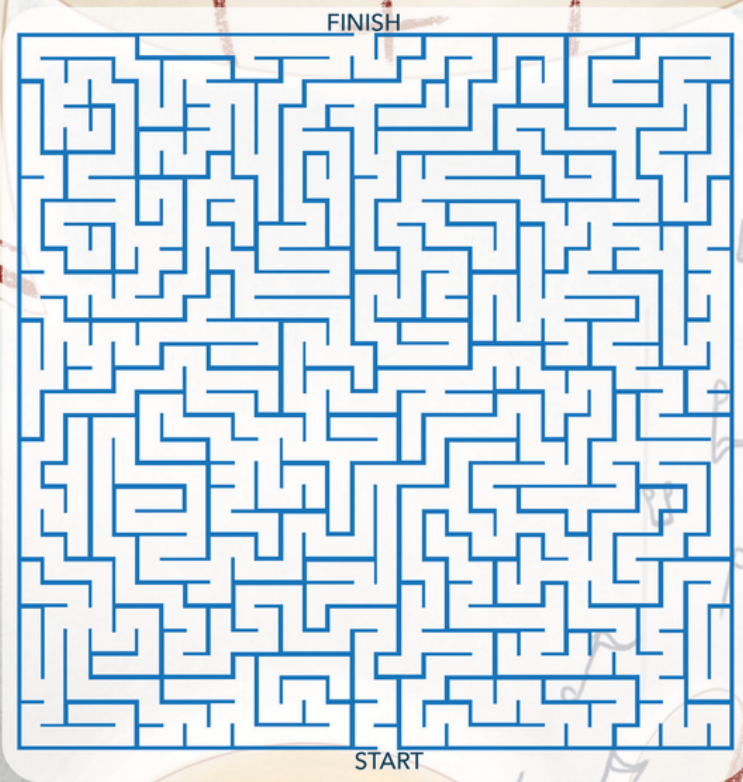
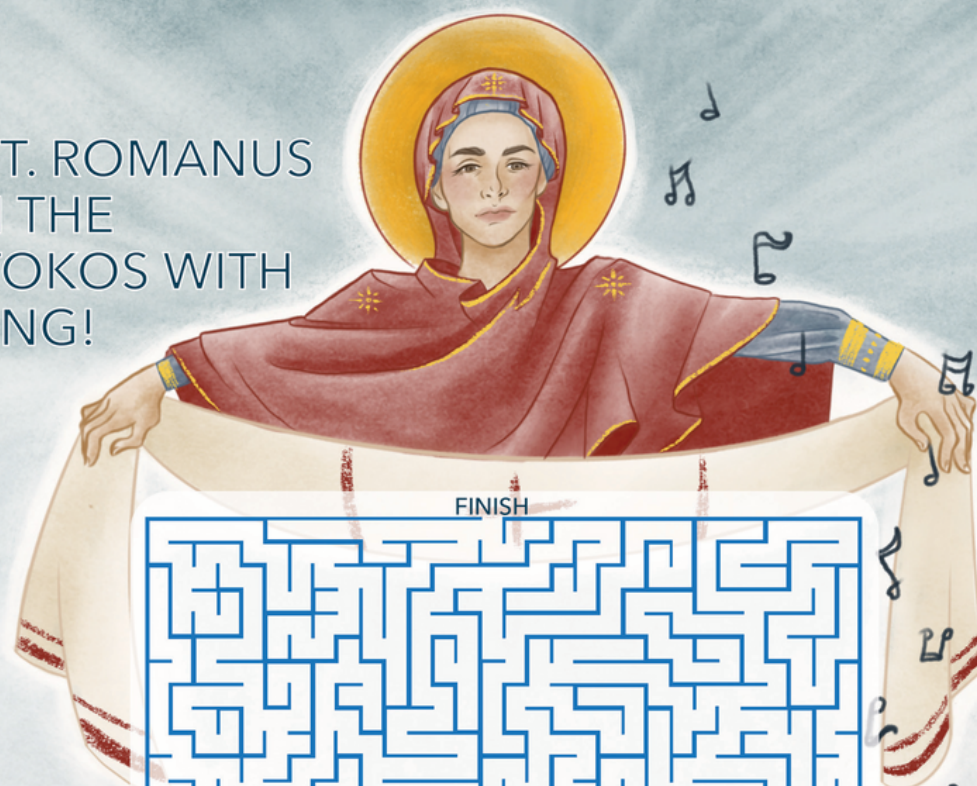
JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS DISCIPLES

"I HAVE REVEALED YOU TO THOSE WHOM YOU GAVE ME OUT OF THE WORLD. THEY WERE YOURS; YOU GAVE THEM TO ME AND THEY HAVE OBEYED YOUR WORD. NOW THEY KNOW THAT EVERYTHING YOU HAVE GIVEN ME COMES FROM YOU. FOR I GAVE THEM THE WORDS YOU GAVE ME AND THEY ACCEPTED THEM. THEY KNEW WITH CERTAINTY THAT I CAME FROM YOU, AND THEY BELIEVED THAT YOU SENT ME. I PRAY FOR THEM. I AM NOT PRAYING FOR THE WORLD, BUT FOR THOSE YOU HAVE GIVEN ME, FOR THEY ARE YOURS. ALL I HAVE IS YOURS, AND ALL YOU HAVE IS MINE. AND GLORY HAS COME TO ME THROUGH THEM. I WILL REMAIN IN THE WORLD NO LONGER, BUT THEY ARE STILL IN THE WORLD, AND I AM COMING TO YOU. HOLY FATHER, PROTECT THEM BY THE POWER OF YOUR NAME, THE NAME YOU GAVE ME, SO THAT THEY MAY BE ONE AS WE ARE ONE. WHILE I WAS WITH THEM, I PROTECTED THEM AND KEPT THEM SAFE BY THAT NAME YOU GAVE ME. NONE HAS BEEN LOST EXCEPT THE ONE DOOMED TO DESTRUCTION SO THAT SCRIPTURE WOULD BE FULFILLED.

"I AM COMING TO YOU NOW, BUT I SAY THESE THINGS WHILE I AM STILL IN THE WORLD, SO THAT THEY MAY HAVE THE FULL MEASURE OF MY JOY WITHIN THEM.

What do you hear
God saying?

HELP ST. ROMANUS
REACH THE
THEOTOKOS WITH
HIS SONG!



Prayer before Communion

O LORD, I BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT YOU ARE TRULY CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, WHO CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS OF WHOM I AM THE FIRST.

ACCEPT ME TODAY AS A PARTAKER OF YOUR MYSTICAL SUPPER, O SON OF GOD, FOR I WILL NOT REVEAL YOUR MYSTERY TO YOUR ENEMIES, NOR WILL I GIVE YOU A KISS AS DID JUDAS, BUT LIKE THE THIEF I PROFESS YOU: REMEMBER ME, O LORD, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O MASTER, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O HOLY ONE, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

MAY THE PARTAKING OF YOUR HOLY MYSTERIES, O LORD, BE NOT FOR MY JUDGMENT OR CONDEMNATION BUT FOR THE HEALING OF SOUL AND BODY.

O LORD, I ALSO BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT THIS, WHICH I AM ABOUT TO RECEIVE, IS TRULY YOUR MOST PRECIOUS BODY AND YOUR LIFE-GIVING BLOOD, WHICH, I PRAY, MAKE ME WORTHY TO RECEIVE FOR THE REMISSION OF ALL MY SINS AND FOR LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN. O GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER. O GOD, CLEANSE ME OF MY SINS AND HAVE MERCY ON ME. O LORD, FORGIVE ME FOR I HAVE SINNED WITHOUT NUMBER.

Prayer for Vocations

**O GOD, GREAT IN MIGHT AND INSCRUTABLE IN WISDOM, MARVELOUS IN COUNSEL ABOVE THE SONS OF MEN, FATHER OF ALL PERFECT GIFTS: YOU THE SAME LORD, ENLIGHTEN WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT THE HEARTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND CALL THEM TO FOLLOW YOUR ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AND OUR SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD! GIVE THEM THE COURAGE AND GENEROSITY NECESSARY TO OVERCOME ALL OBSTACLES TO THEIR VOCATION, FOR YOU COMPLETE WHAT IS LACKING! GIVE TO THE PARENTS THAT FAITH, LOVE AND SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WHICH WILL INSPIRE THEM TO OFFER THEIR CHILDREN TO YOUR SERVICE AND REJOICE WHENEVER ONE OF THEIR CHILDREN IS CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN A SPECIAL WAY OF PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS CONSECRATION. WE IMPLORE YOU THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF THE MOST PURE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY!
AMEN!**