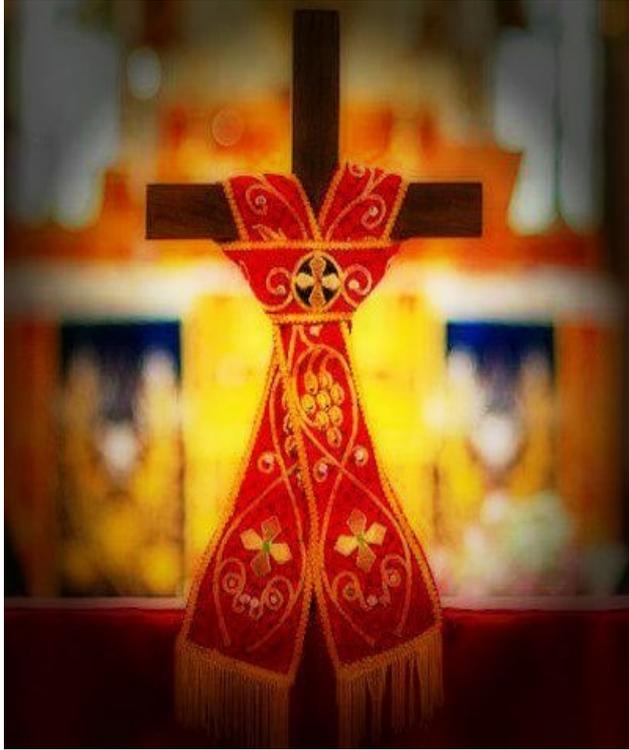


The Service of Mid-Lent

English Service Booklet



Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

Draft Version - 2021

By the grace of God, this work was completed for the benefit of the English-speaking faithful by St. Gregorios Mission Parish, Spokane WA.

The work is adapted from prose translations from the original Syriac by Rev. Fr. Baby Varghese found in *The Order of the Prayers of the Major Feasts* (Malankara Orthodox Church Publications, 2013)

The Order of the Exaltation of the Cross at Mid-Lent

HYMN

Sung during the procession

Quqoyo
(Tone 8)

From Rome, the city of kings, - to Jerusalem
Helena the Queen arrived - to adore the Cross.
 She asked the Jews – to lead her to it;
 They answered her, – “Go seek the rabbi.”
If you take hold of him, he – will show you the place,
Where the cross which you have been – seeking is buried,”
 Halleluyah – the Cross of our Lord

Our God, Imman`u`el, was - hung upon the wood;
The Son of the Almighty - bowed His head and died;
 Upon the wood – His spirit left him
 But His essence – left not His body
Our Lord left His earthly life, - *not his* eternal one.
For having crucified Him, the Jews will repent
 Halleluyah – O Lord have mercy

THE EAST

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Shub'ho...

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds forever and ever. Amin.

Priest: By You, O Christ our God, the mystery of the staff of Moses, the head of the prophets, was prefigured; for, when lifted up in the midst of the Israelite camp, it foreshadowed the sign of Your redemptive Cross. And now, in Holy Mid-Lent, Your Holy Church adores Your life-giving Cross, and she supplicates You for the preservation of her children, for the blessing of the year, for the abundance of fruits, and for the removal of rods of wrath from us. To You we will offer praise and thanksgiving with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amin

Maze'qonutho

Through you we shall pierce our enemies. Through your name we shall trample on our foes (Ps. 44:5)

Looking on the brass serpent
 Healed all manner of sickness;
 Looking with faith on the Cross
 Shall heal us from our sickness.
 O Most Compassionate Lord,
 On account of this we say:

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

THE WEST

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds forever and ever. Amin.

Priest: Make us worthy, O Christ our God, as we become free from all manners of pride and arrogance, to perform virtuously the commemoration of Your Holy Mysteries which were foreshadowed by Your holy prophets. We pray, imprint the sign of Your life-giving Cross on our hearts, so when our minds are seasoned with its sight and our thoughts sanctified by its adoration, the hosts of wickedness shall flee from us. By the same sign of the Cross, we beseech You, give us power and strength against the spirits of falsehood. To You, O Lord, we offer praise and exaltation with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amin

Maze'qonutho

Look toward Him and trust in Him, and you shall not be disappointed
(Ps. 34:5)

How wondrous and merciful
Is our Lord's dispensation
For in Mid-Lent He has raised
The sign of His living Cross.
O Most Compassionate Lord,
On account of this we say:

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

THE NORTH

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds forever and ever. Amin.

Priest: O God, who was prefigured by the prophets of ancient times, and whose Cross Moses typified by the brass serpent which was lifted up in the midst of the Israelites; and when You were lifted up upon the Cross, You drew the whole creation to Your worship; protect us, O Lord, under the arms of Your Cross and as You granted the request of Abgar the Black and healed him of his ailments and sickness, likewise, our Lord, be pleased with the fasting and prayer of Your weak and sinful servants; heal our wounds by Your Cross; and forgive our debts and sins by Your loving kindness, our Lord and our God, now and forever.

People: Amin

Maze'qonutho

You have saved us from those who hate us, and have put to shame our enemies
(Ps. 44:7)

Because of mankind's weakness
To withstand and fight evil,
The Lord gave fasting to us
Along with the living Cross.

O Most Compassionate Lord,
On account of this we say:

Kurieleison, Kurieleison, Kurieleison

THE SOUTH

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful, in both worlds forever and ever. Amin.

Priest: O Christ our God, who was prefigured and typified by the serpent of brass, we pray and beseech You to put away from us the deadly bitterness of sin. Heal our souls and bodies from the stings of Satan, even as those who looked at the serpent of brass and were healed. In like manner, O Lord, heal our sickness and infirmities because our minds are fixed on Your Cross. Our eyes our lifted up to You. Our hope and trust are in You always. We acknowledge You as the Redeemer and Deliverer of our life, and to You we offer up glory and thanksgiving with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and always and forever.

People: Amin

Maze'qonutho

You have given me the shield of Your salvation, and Your right hand shall hold me up and Your discipline shall teach me (Ps. 18:35)

In Mid-Lent our Savior
 Set for us the sign of life
 To conquer the evil one
 And obtain eternal life.
 O Most Compassionate Lord,
 On account of this we say:

Kurieieison, Kurieieison, Kurieieison

THE BLESSING OF THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD
--

Turning to the East, the priest shall say:

Priest: To the One – angels serve,
Response: Holy are – You, O God!__

Priest: To the One – cherubim bless,
Response: Holy are – You, Almighty!

Priest: To the One - seraphim hallow,
Response: Holy are – You, Immortal

Priest: O Sinners, with repentance, entreat say`ing:__
Response: O Christ, who was crucified for us sinners,__
have mercy on us!

(Turning to the west)

Priest: To the One – fiery hosts praise,
Response: Holy are – You, O God!__

Priest: To the One – spiritual beings exalt,
Response: Holy are – You, Almighty!

Priest: To the One – mortals worship,
Response: Holy are – You, Immortal

Priest: Children of the faithful Church, entreat say`ing:__
Response: O Christ, who was crucified for us sinners,__
have mercy on us!

(Turning to the North)

Priest: To the One – whom the heavens praise,

Response: Holy are – You, O God!__

Priest: To the One - those between exalt,

Response: Holy are – You, Almighty!

Priest: To the One - praised below on earth,

Response: Holy are – You, Immortal

Priest: O Sinners, with repentance, entreat saying:__

Response: O Christ, who was crucified for us sinners,__
have mercy on us!

(Turning to the south)

Priest: Lord, have mercy – upon us

Response: Lord, be kind – and have mercy

Priest: Lord, accept our service and our entreaties;__
Have mercy on us

Response: Glory to – You, O God

Priest: Glory to - You, Creator

Response: Glory to You, Christ the King, Who has mercy__
upon us sinners...*Barekmor.*

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

SERVICE TO THE CROSS

Through you we shall strike down our enemies, Halleluyah
 In your name we shall trample - on our foes

You have saved us from our foes, Halleluyah
 And have put to shame all our - enemies ...*Barekmor*

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

The Cross conquered and conquers;
 The Cross has conquered Satan;
 May the Cross be a stronghold
 To all who confess the Cross!

Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO

(d'Traiypoos Olme)

We fear not the evil one
 Because the Lord is with us;
 We are clothed in His armor
 And in it we all glory...*Barekmor*

Shub'bo...Men'olam...

May He, who carried the Cross
 On His shoulder from Zion,
 Sprinkle His dew of mercy
 Upon the bones of the dead.

Moriyo...

BO'UTHO

(Mor Ephrem)

May the Cross which reigns in heav'n,
The same Cross which reigns on earth,
Be a stronghold for all the
Churches and monasteries

(The Service of Mid-Lent is ended)

