

The Washing of Feet

English Service Book



Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

Draft Version - 2021

Liturgical Resource Development

By the grace of God, this work was completed by the Liturgical Resource Development Committee of the Diocese of South-West America for the benefit of the English-speaking faithful.

The Order for the Washing of Feet is adapted from prose translations in *The Order of the Prayers of the Major Feasts* by Fr. Baby Varghese (Malankara Orthodox Church Publications, 2013).

***This booklet is a preliminary edition subject to future edits**

THE ORDER OF THE WASHING OF FEET

Celebrated on Holy Thursday

OPENING PRAYER

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 Lord God, that by washing with these waters we may become cleansed and purified from all the bitterness and wickedness of the adversary, as well as from the defilements and corruption of sin, and freed from the passions of envy, pride, wrath, and hatred throughout all the days of our life, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: *Amin*

[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. / O 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*

† Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

ENYONO

(Emo Dkhitho/Oliveenthal)

The One Whom – seraphim sanctify

Today has - washed

His disciples' – feet!

O God, have mercy on us

The One Whom – the cherubim carry

Bowed down be-fore

His twelve disci-ples!

O God, have mercy on us

The One Whom – fiery hosts of heaven

Fear to look – on

Washed the feet of – men!

O God, have mercy on us

He who is – hidden in the bosom

Of His Father

Washed the feet of – men!

O God, have mercy on us

The One Whom – angels serve in the heights
 Here on the – earth
 Washed the feet of – men!
 O God, have mercy on us

The One Who – is clad in fire and flame
 Wrapped cloth a-round
 His waist and washed – feet!
 O God, have mercy on us

He who poured – water in a basin
 Showed us the – way
 Of humili-ty.
 O God, have mercy on us

The One Who – showed how humility
 Is the way – to
 Ascend to hea-ven,
 O God, have mercy on us

He who cleansed – and sanctified the twelve
 And who made – them
 Preachers of His – Word,
 O God, have mercy on us...*Barekmor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

Glory be – to the Father who sent
 His Only – Son
 Who washed all their – feet!
 O God, have mercy on us

[Psalm 63] Kurielaison. My God, You are my God; / I will seek You.

My soul thirsts for You / and my flesh seeks for You / like the thirsty earth, which is parched and begging for water.

So have I looked for You in truth, / that I may see Your power and Your glory,

Because Your loving-kindness is better than life, / and my lips shall praise You.

So I will bless You while I live / and will lift up my hands in Your name.

My soul shall be enriched as with marrow and fat, / and my mouth shall praise You with lips of praise.

I have remembered You upon my bed, / and in the nighttime I have meditated on You.

For You have been my helper, / and in the shadow of Your wings is my protection.

My soul follows after You, / and Your right hand upholds me.

Those who seek to destroy my soul / shall enter into the lower parts of the earth.

They shall be delivered over to the sword / and shall be food for foxes, / but the king shall rejoice in God.

Everyone who swears by Him shall glory, / but the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

`ENYONO

(Bro Dashro b'Marb`o/Paathramathil Than)

Bless'd is He who poured water
And washed the disciples' feet,
 Saying, "Keep this example;
 Do likewise for each other."
 Bless`ed are - You, O Lord - our God!

He who is Lord of the heights
And whom angels minister
 Filled a basin with water
 To wash His disciples' feet!
 Bless`ed are - You, O Lord - our God!

Bless'd is Christ who in His Love
Tied a cloth around His waist,
 Washed his disciples' feet, and
 Gave them His Body and Blood!
 Bless`ed are - You, O Lord - our God!

Christ our Savior dealt humbly
With the twelve, and he told them,
 "Look at Me and learn from Me;
 "Be gentle and meek in heart."
 Bless`ed are - You, O Lord - our God!.....*Barekmor*

*† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
 Unto the ages of ages and forevermore*

Simon Peter said to Christ,
 "You will never wash my feet!"
 Christ said, "If you are not washed,
 You will have no share with Me."
 Bless`ed are - You, O Lord - our God!

[Psalm 19] Kurielaison. The heavens declare the glory of God;/ the firmament proclaims His handiwork. / Day to day brings forth speech;/ night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard. / Yet their good tidings go out through all the earth / and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens, He has set His tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber;/ it will rejoice like a strong man to run his course.

Its departure is from the end of the heavens, / while its repose is at the end of the heavens, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is flawless and it turns the soul. / The testimony of the Lord is trustworthy and makes infants wise. / The commandments of the Lord are right, and they make the heart rejoice. / The precepts of the Lord are chosen, and they illumine the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure and it endures forever. / The judgments of the Lord are true and are more righteous than all. / They are more desirable than gold and even than precious stones. / They are sweeter than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, Your servant will be warned by them;/ If he keeps them, he will be greatly rewarded, but who can discern his errors? / Clear me from hidden faults.

Keep Your servant away from iniquity, lest the evil doers have dominion over me, / and I shall be purified from my sins. / O Lord, my helper and Savior, / let the words of my mouth be according to Your will / and the meditation of my heart be acceptable before You.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

`ENYONO

(*Haw Dat`in Kul Beryotho/Akhilandatha Vahippone*)

Praise to Your humility,
 O Lord, whom all – angels serve!
 O Lord of all creation,
 Your love made You – to descend;
 You took – water in your hands
 And washed – Your disciples' feet.
 Praise to Your humility
 For the salvation of man!

The Living, Consuming Fire,
 The One who is – clothed in light,
 Tied a cloth around His waist
 And washed the feet – of the twelve!
 Angels – tremble before Him,
 Yet He – bowed before Simon
 Praise to His humility
 For the salvation of man!...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Our Lord anointed His Church
 With but little, – plain water.
 Behold, she and her children
 Sing praises to – Him always
 Bless`ed – be the Almighty
 Who bowed – to wash feet of men
 Praise to His humility
 For the salvation of man!

[Psalm 149] Praise the Lord with a new praise in the assembly of the just; / let Israel be glad in her Maker; / let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name with the timbrel and the drum; / let them sing to Him with the harp, / for the Lord takes pleasure in His people / and gives salvation to the poor.

Let the just exult in glory; / let them praise Him on their beds; / let the high praises of God be in their throats / and two-edged swords in their hands;

To execute vengeance on the nations, / and to rebuke the peoples; / to bind their kings with chains; / their nobles with fetters of iron; / to execute on them the judgment which is written; / that is the glory of the just.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. Barekmor

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

˘ENYONO

(Yaumono/Innal Nin Kabarinkal)

Today, earth – and heaven – and all therein were – astounded
As they witnessed the Lord of all
Wrapping a cloth around his waist
To wash the feet of – His servants

Today, Christ, – Lord of all, – dealt humbly with his – disciples:
He filled a basin with water
And wrapped a cloth around his waist
To wash the feet of – His servants

Today, Christ, – our Savior, – poured water into – a basin.
He blessed it and girded himself,
And in His love began to wash
The feet of His twelve - disciples

On this day - the angels - and hosts of heaven - stood in awe,
 As they witnessed the Fiery One
 Washing the feet of mortal men!
 Bless`ed be His hu-mility...*Barekmor*

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Simon said: - "No, my Lord - I will not let You - wash my feet,
 For I will be filled with great fear."
 But Christ said, "If I do not,
 You will not be My - disciple."

Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison

Priest: Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for mercy and compassion

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

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

PROMIYUN

Priest: Glory to Him who is exalted and most high in His nature, who humbled Himself voluntarily, accepting upon Himself and enduring all human grief by His compassion; who fulfilled His dispensation on our behalf by His grace. He washed the feet of His disciples in His humility, teaching them the hidden mystery of His humiliation, and delivered the true commandment to hand down to His Holy Church. To Him be glory, honor, and dominion at this time of the washing of feet and at all festivals, times, hours, and seasons, and through all the days of our lives, forever and ever.

People: Amin

SEDRO

Priest: Our Lord Jesus Christ, God the Word, the Lord of the heavenly hosts and the earthly beings, the Consuming Fire at the sight of whose glory the fiery powers stand in awe; who accepted incarnation upon Himself; to whom the heavenly beings minister with fear, covering their faces and trembling in His presence, You are the Supreme Cause of life and God of all, and yet by Your mercies You were willing to incline Your head before the earth which Your hands had formed to wash the feet of Your disciples! In so doing, You gave us the true example of Your humility, and You taught us to follow You by showing us the way that leads us to the pattern of Your redemptive humility. Grant us, Your servants who are gathered together in Your presence, that by washing one another's feet with this small amount of water we may thereby complete the example of Your humility, in order that our souls be purified from the defilement, filth, and foulness of sin; and make us worthy, as we consider Your meekness and humility with an enlightened intellect, to cast away from us all the pride, haughtiness, and base desires of the flesh, which the adversary brought upon our race by his bitter guile, and to instead put on meekness, kindness, and true love — such virtues as You taught us to perform with purity and holiness, as befits Your true disciples and faithful servants — so that we may fulfill the remembrance of Your redemptive Passion and Your life-giving death and celebrate the feast of Your glorious Resurrection. To You we offer praise, glory, and thanksgiving, with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever.

People: Amin

QOLO

(Quqoyo - Tone 4/Yerushalemerunnone)

How glorious was the evening on which - Christ our Lord
Ministered to His disciples as - they entered

The Fi`re stood - holding a basin

And took a cloth - to tie on his waist

How wondrous that Judas was not burnt - at that time
When our Lord approached him with water - to be washed

Halleluyah - w'Halleluyah

Christ our Savior laid aside his robe - and drew near;
He tied a cloth 'round his waist and washed - all their feet.

And Simon asked, - "What are you doing?"

Our Lord answered, - "Stay silent, Simon;

The prince of the pow`er of the air¹ - will see Me

And by this humility I will - humble him

Halleluyah - w'Halleluyah...*Barekmor*

† Glory to... Halleluyah

All the heavenly multitudes were - astonished
When they saw God, the Son of God and - the Great King,

Whom all creatures - bow their knees before,

Kneel on the floor - before a basin

As He humbly washed the feet of His - disciples!

And all those in heaven and on earth - were amazed!

Halleluyah - w'Halleluyah

Unto the ages...Halleluyah

¹ Ephesians 2:2

Christ our Savior filled a basin with – pure water
 And began to wash the feet of His – disciples.
 Simon told Him – “You shall not wash me!”
 But our Lord said, - “If you are not washed
 You will not be able to enter - the kingdom,
 Which is eternal and shall never – pass away.”
 Halleluyah – w’Halleluyah

Lord have mercy upon us and help us/Moriyo Rahem...

ETRO

Priest: Christ our God, who delivered to us the mystery of true and perfect love, the symbol which You Yourself performed in advance and thus taught us to be subject to one another and to serve as is divinely befitting, By Your grace accept, O Lord, this incense which we have offered unto You. Purify and cleanse us from the filth and stain of sin by the sprinkling of the hyssop of Your mercy, and make us worthy to fulfill and perform Your divine commandments with the love that is accompanied by the power of the Holy Spirit and a humble mind. May we not be found guilty on that fearful day of reward. To You we offer praise and thanksgiving, our Lord and our God, forever.

People: Amin

QOLO

(Btar`okh Moran Noqesh No/Snehathodu Vishwasathin)

If you are not filled with love and faith, do not
Come forth to be washed.

When the body is washed, love should fill the soul,
And all these three things shall be washed together:
Body, mind, and soul...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Disciples, do not despise the commandments
Of the gentle Lord,
Who instructed you to wash each other's feet.
Those who are not humble will not be worthy
To be disciples.

QOLO

(Sohde Phtah Gazaikun – Tone 4/~Shlomo d'Abo)²

If mast – and sail do not guide
A ship – it will not reach port
Likewise – without baptism
And Christ's – Body and His Blood
The soul – cannot inherit
The life – which is eternal, (*Halleluyah*)
Halleluy-Halleluyah
Praise You – for Your help, O Lord!...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

² Commonly sung in Tone 7

I saw - the disciples who
 Were washed - and did not question.
 But when - Christ came to Simon
 The Lord - held his feet to wash;
 Simon - cried aloud to Him,
 “My Lord - of all creation,” (*Halleluyah*)
 Halleluy-Halleluyah
 “You shall - never wash my feet!”

QOLO

(*Enono Nuhro Shareero - In the Holy Week Tone*)

All the - disciples were washed
 From the youngest to eldest.
When Christ - drew near to Simon,
 He said, “You shall not wash me!”
 And our Lord answered and said,
 “If you stand against My will,
 You will have no share with me”
Simon - was frightened and said,
 “Then wash my head and body” ... *Barekmor*

† *Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

When God - spoke to great Moses
 On the Mountain of Sinai,
Amidst - the cloud and dark mist,
 The Lord was clad in splendor.
 He who made Moses radiant
 When he saw the Lord’s glory,
 Today knelt down in meekness.
And He - washed His servants’ feet,
 God who willed to become man!

QOLO

(Tubayk `Idto - Tone 4/Paulos Shleeho)³

The apostles - gathered and came for the feast.
 Christ seated His beloved.
 And He - ministered to them,
 Filled the - basin with water,
 And bowed - his head to wash them.
 He took - a tow`el to dry
 The feet - of His cre-ation.
 Come, let us go together
 And see - this great wonder there!
Barekmor

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Do not draw near, - those who lack love and true faith!
 Those who doubt, do not come forth
 To wash - your feet with water
 Do not - come to wash body
 When sin - dwells within the soul.
 The soul, - body, and the mind
 Shall all - be washed together
 For this is the washing that
 Fulfills - the Lord's commandment.

³ Commonly sung in Tone 7

BOTHE D'HASHO
"Hymns of the Passion"

Bless`ed, O Lord, - is Your Passion
 And the shame You - suffered for us

Today, the Son - took a tow`el,
 And He tied it - around His waist.
 He washed the feet - of His servants!
 He purified - and He cleansed them
 And seated them - at His table

Our Lord said to - Simon Peter,
 If you will not - have your feet washed
 You cannot be - My minister
 You will not have - a share with me
 Nor of the a-postolic throne

Let us give thanks - to the Father
 and Son, who washed - His servants' feet
 and fulfilled His - dispensation;
 Let us offer - a crown of praise
 To the Living - Holy Spirit

When You judge those - who condemned You,
 Lord, spare us from - the tribunal

Lord have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR JACOB*(In the Holy Week Tone)*

Christ who came for Passion, crucifixion, and death,
Hear our requests and have mercy upon our souls

† O God, have mercy on us

O Lord, have mercy on us

If you do not remain silent and obey Me,
You cannot be My apostle as you have said.
If you wish to belong to Me, follow My will;
If you do not, how can you be My disciple?

† O God, have mercy on us

O Lord, have mercy on us

If you are not washed, you will have no part with me;
If you argue, you are standing against My will.
If you do not receive this teaching I give you,
Then you cannot become a teacher of mankind.

† O God, have mercy on us

O Lord, have mercy on us

If you do not obey these words that I give you,
I will elect another who will take your place.
Come and be washed; remain as one of My stewards,
Or you will be a stranger to your companions.

† O God, have mercy on us

O Lord, have mercy on us

Our Savior washed the feet of Simon as He willed,
And the rest drew near to our Savior one by one.
He bowed His head humbly before His disciples.
He exalted them by His great humility.

† O God, have mercy on us

O Lord, have mercy on us

Glory to the Father who chose the apostles,
to the Son whose humility exalted them,
and to the Spirit who filled them all with wisdom;
May mercy be on us through their pray'rs forever!

† **O God, have mercy on us**

O Lord, have mercy on us

O Lord, heaven and earth suffered in Your Passion;
Watchers and men marveled at Your humility

† **O God, have mercy on us**

O Lord, have mercy on us

MADROSHO

(Qum Paulos – Holy Week Tone/Arimathyanaattil)

O Lord, bless`ed is Your passion for us
And bless`ed is Your humility

The master gathered with His disciples
To fulfill all that was prophesied.
The Almighty One humbled His greatness;
His humility surpasses all

The Lord of all things

Who is glorified

By the living wheels

Wished to show - humility

The Lord showed this way to His disciples
That they might follow in His footsteps

The servants reclined in the Upper Room;
Their Master rose up and approached them.
Around His waist, the Lord tied a tow`el
In order to wash His servants' feet.

O Lord and Savior,

How much has Your love

For humanity

Made you to - humble yourself,

Even to wash him who would betray You!

Bless'd is Your love which endured so much!

He chose innocent, faithful, and pure sheep,
 And wished to exalt these disciples.
 The Lord, in His love for humanity,
Desired to make them shine like the sun.

 He granted to them
 Great works and healings,
 And He promised them
 Pow`er and - authority
 When the Lord comes in pow`er and glory,
 The disciples will become judges.

The living *Fire* whom fiery legions serve
 Bowed His head before sinful mortals
 He entreated them to wash all their feet,
 The One cherubim exalt and praise!

 The One glorified
 By the living wheels
 Knelt upon the floor
 And He bowed - before Simon!
 Glory be to Him, our Lord and Savior;
 See how greatly He humbled Himself!

“O Heavenly One, do not bow Your head
 Do not wash my feet - I am mortal!
 O Lord, I am but contemptible earth;
 How can You do this, O My Master?

 Adam’s Creator
 And Lord of all things,
 Do not shame my a-postleship - by washing me!
 O my Lord, though You, have asked this of me
 I am frightened to see You wash me!”

The God of all filled a pot with water
 And called the chief of the apostles:
 "Come, Simon, draw near, I shall wash your feet."
 Glory to the Lord's humility!

The Eternal One
 Who humbled Himself
 To wash the feet of
 His creatures, - Glory to Him!

Simon saw Christ and was greatly shaken,
 Say`ing, "My Lord how can this happen?"

He replied, "Simon, do not refuse Me;
 For you cannot stand against My will.
 I will show the way of humility;
 I ask you, Simon, to learn this path.

O Peter, draw near;
 I shall wash your feet.
 Throw away your pride
 For pride has - cast down angels."

Then the Lord bowed down, entreating Simon
 That He might wash His disciple's feet.

"Stop your arguments, O Simon Peter!
 Stand not against Me; obey My words,
 For I wish to show you this example
 Which will humble the prince of the air.

If you disobey
 And resist My will,
 You will have no share
 And are not - My disciple.

If you are not washed, you will not receive
 The throne promised to your companions."

Then Simon, the chief of the apostles
 Stretched out his feet for the Lord to wash.
 Who would not weep at seeing this wonder?
 The Almighty God, bowed down His head!

The Lord of all things,
 King of creation,
 Bowed before the dust
 In order – to wash his feet!

O you arrogant, proud, and haughty ones,
 See your Lord and make yourselves humble!

The Good One washed all His disciples' feet;
 He made them wise and showed them His way,
 That they might learn by His humility
 And would do likewise for each other.

The Good One made His
 Disciples recline,
 So that they might eat

The new Lamb – prepared for them,
 For the time had come for the former lamb
 To be removed from the sacrifice.

Oh my feeble mind, what is it you see?
 Do you see the Lord, your Creator?
 Is He carried on the Cherubs' Chariot,
 Or is He here with the disciples?

Do you see Him in
 His Father's bosom,
 Or do you see Him
 Here below – with His servants?

His love made Him to humble His greatness
 For the sake of all Adam's children

ZUMORO⁴

Mighty God humbled Himself
 And washed his disciples' feet.
 He cast down Satan's conceit
 And taught us humility.
 Bless'd be Your passion, O Lord,
 And humility for us

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 34:18-26

2 Kings 23:21-25

Isaiah 50:4-10

HYMN BEFORE THE CATHOLIC EPISTLE

The Apostles
 were chosen and sent out to preach the Good News
 by Christ, our God,
 To all nations and to the ends of the earth
 They proclaimed - The Kingdom
 Of Heaven - and announced:
 "Bless'd are the Faithful"

1 Peter 3:17-22

HYMN BEFORE THE PAULINE EPISTLE

I have heard Paul, the Bless'ed Apostle, say:
 "If any man or angel
 Teaches a gospel to you
 Other than what we had preached
 Let him be cut off - *from the Church.*"
 Behold how perverse doctrines
 Are springing forth from all sides;
 Bless'ed is He who begins
 and ends in the Lord's teachings

Hebrews 10:19-29

⁴ Adapted from a translation found in the *Ma`de`dono* published by Mor Athanasius
 Yeshue Samuel

GOSPEL

Pethgomo*(Psalm 26:6)*

Halleluyah, Halleluyah
I wash my hands in innocence
And go about your holy altar_
 Halleluyah

Deacon: *Barekmor.* With stillness, fear and purity, let us attend and listen to the Good News of the living words of God in the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ that is read to us.

Priest: Glory to the Lord! May His mercies be upon us and upon you forever!

People: Amin

Priest: The Holy Gospel according to the Apostles and Evangelists

People: Kurielaison

(Another priest or deacon shall read the Gospel of St. John 13:1-19)

Gospel Reader: Now before the feast of the Passover, Jesus knew the hour had come to depart from this world to His Father. He loved His own who were in this world, and He loved them to the end. During the supper, Satan put into the heart of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to deliver Him. But Jesus, because He knew that the Father had given everything into His hands and that He came from God and was going to God, **rose from supper⁵ and laid aside His robe⁶; and He took a cloth and tied it around his waist.⁷ Then He poured water into a basin...⁸**

⁵ The celebrant rises from his chair

⁶ The celebrant takes off his hat and his robe

⁷ The celebrant ties a towel around his waist

⁸ The celebrant pours water into a basin

Here, the reader of the Gospel ceases reading, and the celebrant says the following prayer over the water.

Celebrant [Audibly]: Make us worthy, O Lord God, to obey Your living words and, with humility, to work in Your vineyard the works of righteousness; and to be pleasing before You by performing Your example of washing one another in the manner that You showed us when You poured water into the basin and washed the feet of Your true disciples. Such example of humility has been handed down among all holy disciples. O Lord God, make us also worthy, by Your compassion, to follow the example of Your humility. May we be counted among Your followers and be cleansed from all the defilement of sin by these waters. To You we offer glory and thanksgiving with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and always, forever and ever. Amen.

People: Kurieleison (*repeatedly*)

Celebrant [Inaudibly]: O Lord God, Jesus Christ, the Son and Word of God the Father, who was born of the Holy Virgin Mary in an incomprehensible manner, You have performed the whole redemptive dispensation in Your own person, so that we, Your sinful servants, might be set free from the bondage of the adversary. Make these waters like the waters with which You washed the feet of Your disciples.

[Audibly]

You are indeed the Maker of the whole of creation, both the visible and the invisible, and in heaven You are glorified by myriads of angels with Your Father and the Holy Spirit. You came in search of the lost sheep, whom You carried on Your holy shoulders, and brought them into Your Father's house. Even now, O Lord, bless (†) all of us, Your servants, both those who wash and those who are washed, as well as those who approach these waters with faith, and may they cleanse us from all the foulness of sin and from all unrighteous acts, our Lord and our God, forever. Amen.

Now, the Gospel reader shall say the following verses.

Gospel Reader: ...and **began to wash**⁹ the feet of His disciples, **and to wipe them**¹⁰ with the cloth which was tied around his waist...

The people respond singing the following hymn

QOLO

*(Thar Gabriel – Tone 4)*¹¹

The – Arch-angel – Gabr`i`el was astounded;
 Michael was confounded and their ranks – were seized with great fear
When they – saw the Fiery One washing the feet
Of the apostles
 Fi`re – lay in the basin and men,
 Those mortals, sat and were washed – in this fire!
 Praise Him who told us to do likewise – unto each other...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

Christ – washed – the – feet of each of His disciples.
 They were washed in order by their rank: - youngest to eldest
 Simon – the head of the apostles cried out,
 “Lord, do not wash me!”
 Our Lord – replied to Simon Peter,
 “Then your portion with Me will – be no more.”
 Then Simon said, “Lord, wash and cleanse me – my head and body!”

⁹ The celebrant begins to wash the feet of the twelve, starting from the youngest and continuing to the eldest, who represents Simon Peter.

¹⁰ The celebrant dries their feet with the towel and anoints them with olive oil.

¹¹ In the Malayalam translation, this hymn has been changed to a *Quqoyo*. It's form in Syriac, however, is that of *Thar Gabriel*, a hymn with similarities to the tones for *Tubayk 'Idto*.

As the celebrant washes their feet, he shall say the following prayer for each one

Celebrant: May the Lord God wash away from you all the behavior of the old man, and renew you in spirit and in truth, and all of us with you.

The celebrant says the following prayer as he dries the feet of each one

Celebrant: May the Lord wipe away from you and from us all evil impulses, habits, and customs. May He adorn you and all of us with you with purity, holiness, and a life that is pleasing unto the will of Christ, our Lord and our God, forever.

When the celebrant reaches the twelfth, representing Simon Peter, the following dialogue is recited between him and the celebrant, and the reader of the Gospel joins them.

Simon Peter: Are you, My Lord, going to wash my feet?

Gospel Reader: Jesus answered him:

Celebrant: What I am doing, you do not now know, but you will later understand.

Gospel Reader: Then Simon Peter said to Him:

Simon Peter: You shall never wash my feet!

Gospel Reader: Then Jesus said to Him:

Celebrant: If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.

Gospel Reader: Simon Peter replied to Him:

Simon Peter: Then, my Lord, wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.

Gospel Reader: Jesus said to Him:

Celebrant: He who has bathed does not need except to wash his feet, for he is already clean. So you are all clean, but not every one of you.

The celebrant then washes the feet of the one who represents Simon Peter as the reader continues the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Reader: For Jesus knew who was to betray Him. Therefore, He said: Not everyone of you is clean. When He had washed their feet, he put on His robes and sat down.

Now the celebrant removes the towel and puts on his robe. He sits on the chair and the clergy raises him on his chair, facing the west. The celebrant continues to read the Gospel until the end of the nineteenth verse.

Celebrant: And He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and what you say is well, for I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, how much more should you wash one another's feet? For I have given you this as an example, so that just as I have done for you, you should also do. Truly, truly, I say to you, there is no servant who is greater than his master, and no apostle who is greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. I do not say this concerning all of you, for I know those whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture might be fulfilled, he who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me. I tell you now before it happens, that when it happens you may believe that I am He.

After the reading of the Gospel, the chair is lowered. The one who represents Simon Peter now washes the feet of the celebrant and says the following prayer.

Simon Peter: God, the Father Almighty, Your Only-Begotten Son, the Holy One who washed the feet of His blessed disciples, instructed them, saying: "Likewise, should you wash one another's feet with love as it befits the true disciples." Now that we, O Lord, have fulfilled the supreme command by washing one another's feet, may His love fill our hearts, our bodies and our souls. May His grace dwell among us. May we be perfected by His mercies and be pardoned by His compassion, now and always, forever and ever. Amen.

BO'UTHO of MOR JACOB

(In the Holy Week Tone)

Christ who came for Passion, crucifixion, and death,
Hear our requests and have mercy upon our souls
† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

Our Lord humbly poured water into the basin;
He called out to Simon, chief of the apostles.
Simon said, "No, my Lord, You shall never wash me!
I will be greatly moved if You do as You say.
Heavenly One, do not wash the feet of mortals;
You are the Creator, do not exalt the clay."
† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

Our Lord answered, "Enough, chief of the apostles!
You stand against My will by Your simplicity.
I wish to show this new example to you all,
What ev'ry teacher should do for his disciples.
Come and be washed, and if you refuse to be washed,
You shall become a stranger to your companions."
† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

Simon said, "My Lord, I *desire* to become Yours.
 Therefore, wash my hands, wash my feet, and wash my head.
 If I am Your disciple only after this,
 Then wash me ten thousand times, my Lord and my God!
 Wash my hands and my feet and wash me completely.
 May I not be a stranger to Your company!

† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

How frightening that Gabri`el and his company
 Hide their faces while You wash the feet of twelve men!
 If You were pleased, Lord, to minister to the pure,
 Why did You humble Yourself before the impure?
 O Son of God, see how Your love has inclined You
 Even to Judas who was set to betray You?

† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

Praise the Father whose compassion was moved t`ward us,
 And He sent His Son who became man for our sake;
 Praise the Son who in His love and humility
 Bowed His head and washed the feet of the apostles;
 Glory to Him, to His invisible Father,
 And to His Living and Holy Spirit. Amin!

† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

O Lord, heaven and earth suffered in Your Passion;
 Watchers and men marveled at Your humility

† **O God, have mercy on us**
O Lord, have mercy on us

The Service of the Washing of Feet is completed