

Shubqono

The Service of Reconciliation

English Service Booklet



Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

DRAFT VERSION – 2022
Liturgical Resource Development

By the grace of God, this work was completed for the benefit of the English-speaking faithful by Rev. Fr. Jake Kurian, Rev. Fr. Samuel Varghese, and 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 SERVICE of RECONCILIATION

*The Order of Shubqono is celebrated on the first Monday of Great Lent,
after the canonical office of the 6th Hour¹*

† **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

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

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER

Priest: May your peace and concord and the love pleasing to Your divinity dwell always in our souls, O Lord. May it bind us always and join us indissolubly, and may we glorify unceasingly You, Your Father, and Your Living and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amin

¹ According to the Syriac text, Shubqono is celebrated after the 3rd Hour.

Psalm of Repentance

[Psalm 51] Have mercy upon 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.

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

ENIYONO

(Hith Lokh)

O Lord, - Merciful One, I sinned against You.
Hear my petition;
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

I am - defiled with a multitude of sins.
Therefore, I beg you,
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

O Lord - where shall we knock if not at Your door,
Compassionate One?
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

I beg - like the publican and cry out like
The sinful woman;
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

O Lord, - who pities sinners, have compassion
And forgive our faults;
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

O Lord, - may all of our hearts be filled with love
Free from wrath and strife;
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

Christ, Who - for the sake of sinners was offered
On top of the Cross,
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

Christ, Who - by His great love absolved the thief and
The sinful woman,
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

Christ, Who - consoled His apostles by His peace
In the Upper Room,
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

Christ, Who – gladdened His disciples by His peace
In the Upper Room,
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!...*Barekmor*

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

Praise to – the Father and worship to the Son
And Holy Spirit
O Lord, - have mercy upon us all!

Staumen Kalos, Kurielaison

PRUMIYON

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 all hours, may we ascribe unto You, O Lord.

Glory be to You, O Father, the Tranquility of Heaven; Praise be to You, O Son, Peace of the earth; adoration be to You, O Holy Spirit, Who perfects all divine gifts. Glory to the Father, Who gave His Only Begotten Son to death for our salvation; to the Son whose love constrained Him to die for us; and to the Holy Spirit who rejoices in our works and by whom our requests are granted. Glory to You, O Triune God, in three consubstantial persons of the Holy, Glorious, and Adorable Trinity. Grant to us, O Lord, that in purity, we may give peace to one another. May Your peace keep us in divine concord with You and strengthen us with the girdle of Your imperishable loving-kindness, that we may glorify You on the joyous day of your miraculous resurrection, and in all festivals, seasons, times, hours, and all the days of our life, now and forever.

People: Amin

SEDRO

Priest: O Christ our God, the eternal Tranquility of creation and the true peace of the uttermost parts of the world; Who is love, and is called love, and delights in this title more than all other titles; Who pays honor to those who hold to this love; by Your love for us, You offered Yourself as an acceptable sacrifice and sweet fragrance. By Your crucifixion, You broke down the barrier of enmity and by Your blood, You reconciled the dwellers of heaven and earth and removed the enmity from the idle and united them to become one. By the indivisible unity of your Godhead from eternity and Your human nature in time, You called all those who were far and those who were near; and You joined them together with the concord of Your divine love. By this same love You counted them among the household of Your eternal kingdom and brought to the whole world the good tidings of peace and tranquility. Your birth in the flesh was declared to Your Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary by the Archangel's greeting of peace. With the salutation of peace, Your blessed mother was met by Elizabeth, the mother of Your forerunner John, who leaped in his mother's womb with joy like a servant in the presence of his master. At Your birth, the heavenly hosts proclaimed peace to the shepherds. You gave peace to the women, who went and announced Your glorious resurrection. In peace, You entered into the Upper Room where the holy disciples were gathered, and You assured them of Your resurrection. When You ascended to Your Father, You gave Your peace to Your disciples, saying to them: "My peace I leave with you, not as the world gives, do I give it to you. This is my commandment that you should love one another, just as I have loved you." Keep this love entrusted to us, our Savior, and by it confirm our minds. By Your love may we be bound together. By Your love, drive out from among us divisions and controversies. By Your love, make us to keep Your life-giving commandments. By Your love, hold us back from afflictions and sufferings. By Your love, hold us back from afflictions and sufferings. By Your love, make us children of peace and tranquility. By peace, unite the shepherds and their flocks. By Your peace, make the priests to rejoice in

their offerings. By Your peace, perfect Your Church and her children. By Your peace and tranquility, guide and adorn her. By Your peace and tranquility, lead her congregations and make glad her children. In tranquility, keep those who are near her, and in peace, purify her deacons. In tranquility, unite her leaders. In peace, regulate her ranks. In tranquility, let her feasts continue. In peace, reconcile the wrathful. In tranquility, unite those who are divided. In peace, fill bitter souls with your joy. In tranquility, keep Your flock. In peace, deliver us from the merciless rulers, and in tranquility, adorn us in all Your festivals. In peace, accept our fasting and prayers. In tranquility, grant us mercy and forgiveness. In peace, loosen from us the bonds of wickedness. In tranquility, break from us the yoke of the adversary. May Your peace be with us and may Your tranquility reign among us. Bind our minds with your love and establish Your loving-kindness in our hearts that we may offer you thanks, O Lord of Tranquility, and to Your Father, the Giver of peace, and to Your Holy Spirit, the Perfector of True Love, now and always, forever and ever.

People: Amin

QOLO
(*Quqoyo*)

O bless`ed Tree, wherever you are peace abounds;
By you our Lord entered the house of Abraham;²
 By you the priests – approached the altar;
 And by you Paul – cried aloud, saying:
“Neither hardships, nor tortures and persecutions
Shall separate me from the love of the Lord God.”³
 Halleluyah w’ Halleluyah

Christ taught us to forgive “seven times seventy;
If your brother offends you, forgive him his fault.”
 Remember that – you also have sinned
 And are in need – of His forgiveness.
Go, therefore, and with your brother be reconciled
That you may cry together: “Glory to You, Lord!”
 Halleluyah w’ Halleluyah...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Paul wrote of love that nothing can compare with it;
Bless`d is he who attains it for he shall see God.
 By love, Moses – saw Him on Sinai;
 By love, Martyrs – saw Him in the court;
And by love, the Holy Church saw Him on the cross.
Behold, she offers Him glory by day and night!
 Halleluyah w’ Halleluyah

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

² The tree is occasionally used in hymnography to refer to the Cross of our Lord, which was, of course, made of wood. The tree in the account of Abraham’s hospitality (Gen 18:4) is one of the Old Testament’s many ‘prefigurations’ or ‘types’ of the Cross which is revealed fully to us in the New Testament. In Gen 18, the tree was offered as a means of shade and refreshment, just as the Cross (the “Tree”) offers refuge and new life to us. (See also, Deut 21:23/Gal 3:13)

³ Romans 8:35

Let us be diligent in fasting, my brethren.
Those who fast gain vic'try and perfection in Christ.
 With it they fight – against Satan and
 By it Moses – shone on Mount Sinai;
By it Elijah was lifted up to heaven;
By it the just triumphed and the martyrs were crowned.
 Halleluyah w' Halleluyah

Lord, have mercy upon us and help us

'ETRO

Priest: Make, O Lord, our hearts habitations of tranquility and our minds havens of peace. Implant in our souls the deeds of true love for You and for one another. Impress in us Your love with unity, concord, and piety so that, with modesty, we may give peace to one another and receive it with sincerity. May our deeds be pleasing to Your will, like a chosen incense, a pleasant savor and a reconciling censer for You, Who delights all in His peace and gladdens all in His tranquility. To you belongs glory and honor along with Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amin

QOLO
(b' *Safro Hzawuy*)

Let us love one another;
Love completes the commandments.
 There are those who fast from bread
And yet are filled with hatred,
Like those who fast from wine and
 Kill their brethren secretly.

Lord, who hir-ed laborers
At the eleventh ho`ur,
 Receive the eleventh crown
I plaited for your honor;
By them, forgive all my sins
 That I may give thanks to You...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

O Church, may peace dwell in you;
May concord be your fortress.
 Let all schisms and disputes
Burn up in the fire of love
And may the feasts of the Lord
 Be celebrated always.

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

O God have mercy on us,
As is fitting to your grace.
 Banish from us Satan who
Always lays his snares for us;
May Your cross be protection;
 May we take refuge in it.

Our God who is merciful,
Answer those who call on You,
 For we knock upon the door
Of your abundant mercies.
Grant us forgiveness of debts,
 Lord, from your rich treasure house.

Lord have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO of MOR JACOB

O Lord, our Lord, we call to You, come to - our - aid
Hear our requests and have mercy upon - our souls
O Lord, our Lord, Lord of the watchers and - an-gels
Hear our requests and have mercy upon - our souls

O wrathful ones, reconcile with one a-no-ther
For the Lord has reconciled with us by - His love
Let no one say, "My brother has sinned a-against - me
It is an insult to be reconciled - with him."

Love each other -as the members of the - bo-dy
For One is the Lord, Christ, the head of the - body
One who has hate against his neighbor hates - the - Lord
Let him love his brother lest he enter - judgment

Look at God and imitate Him, you wrath-ful - ones
And with wisdom be reconciled with your - neighbor
Keep away from all strife, anger, and jeal-ou-sy
Let God's love dwell within you as in the - Kingdom

Glory to the Father, the peace for the - wrath-ful
Praise be to the Son who has reconciled -the world
Thanksgiving to the Holy Spirit who - for-gives
May we attain mercy always and for-ever

O Lord God, who hears all those who call up-on -You
Hear our requests and have mercy upon - our souls

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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!”

I John 4:11-21

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.

I Cor 13:4-10

GOSPEL

(Incense is placed)

PETHGOMO

Halleluyah, Halleluyah
Bless`ed is he whose transgression is forgiv-en
And whose sins have been hidden
Halleluyah (Psalm 32:1)

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: † Peace be unto you all.

PEOPLE: May the Lord God make us worthy, / with your spirit.

PRIEST: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the life-giving proclamation from St. John the Apostle, who preaches the good news of life and salvation to the world.

PEOPLE: Blessed is He who has come / and is to come. Glory be to Him, / who sent Him for our salvation, / and may His mercy be upon us all, forever.

PRIEST: Now, in the time of the Dispensation of our Lord and our God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Word of Life, † God who took flesh of the Holy Virgin Mary, these things thus came to pass.

PEOPLE: We believe and confess.

(The priest reads from the Gospel of St. Matthew 18:18-35)

PRIEST: † Peace be unto you all.

QOLO
(Btar'okh Moran)

O Lord, I knock on your door to seek mercy
From your treasury
I, a sinner, have turned aside from Your way
Grant me, Lord, to confess and renounce my sin,
To live by Your grace

O Lord, where shall we knock if not at Your door,
Compassionate One?
O Merciful King, whose honor kings worship
Who is there to intercede with you for us
If not your mercy?...*Barekmor*

† Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit may you
Be a high fortress
Which guards us from Satan and all his forces
Protect us under the wings of your mercy
On the judgment day

Unto the ages of ages and forevermore

May the voice of our pray`er be a key to
The doors of heaven
And may the archangels in their ranks proclaim
"How sweet is the voice of those upon the earth
That God answers them!"

Lord have mercy upon us and help us

Bo'utho of St. Jacob of Sarug

O Lord, our Lord, we call to You, come to - our - aid
Hear our requests and have mercy upon - our souls
O Lord, our Lord, Lord of the watchers and - an-gels
Hear our requests and have mercy upon - our souls

Lord, I crave for your forgiveness to a-pproach -me
Grant me tears to beg while there is time to - repent
I thirst for Your mercies I cannot live - with-out
O Sea of Mercies, sprinkle me with your - kindness

The night has come. The shadows of death sur-round - me
Lord, be to me the sun that I might see - your light
Do not leave me outside Your vineyard when - I - die
Lord, may You receive the moment of re-pentance

I spend my time in the worship of van-i-ty
Accept me on the eve of life and make - me Yours
To destroy me, the king of deceit *fired* - arrows
Lord, anoint me with your medicine to - heal me

Answer, O Lord, answer O Lord and have -mer-cy
Turn the hearts of the sons of men to re-pentance

Qaumo

The Priest preaches on love, repentance, and forgiveness. He then asks the forgiveness of all those who are present in the church. The priest prostrates three times in front of the people and begs for forgiveness. The people also prostrate before the priest and ask forgiveness.

As he kneels down to prostrate, the priest says:

Priest: My brethren and beloved ones, forgive me for the sake of Christ. I have sinned against you. In spiritual concord and paternal love, as a watchful pastor, I exhort you and prostrate myself before you.

All prostrate, saying:

People: Barekmor. We ask forgiveness.

A second time, the priest shall say:

Priest: I pray and beseech your true love, O brethren and beloved ones, let us be reconciled to one another that God may be reconciled to us.

As he kneels down to prostrate, the priest says:

Priest: For the honor of the Holy Trinity, I prostrate myself before you

All prostrate, saying:

People: Barekmor. We ask forgiveness.

A third time, the priest shall say:

Priest: In your presence, with a contrite heart and perfect conscience, I cry out in a loud voice, beseeching your love, saying: Come my beloved brethren, let us be reconciled to one another and pardon the transgressions and faults that we all have committed against one another that God may be reconciled to us and forgive us our debts and sins as He said, "For if you forgive the debts and faults of one another, you will also be forgiven."

As he kneels down to prostrate, the priest says:

Priest: May the Lord God be the One who forgives and absolves my sins and yours.

All prostrate, saying:

People: Barekmor. We ask forgiveness.

Priest: May the beginning and end of this Holy Lent be blessed, and may God help and assist you all to observe it to the end, according to His will. May He break the snares of the visible and invisible enemies, of Satan who is the adversary of the faithful Christians, and may He deliver you from the evil one's temptations, as our Lord Jesus Christ defeated him at the end of His fast, saying: "Be gone from Me, Satan." Through the prayers of Mary, the Mother of God, and of all the saints, may you be preserved and supported by the power of the victorious Cross. Amin.

After the Creed, forty prostrations, and the Quqlia of the Mother of God and the Saints, the priests, deacons, and all of the people present shall ask forgiveness and give peace to one another.

The Nicene Creed

Deacon: Barekmor. Divine Wisdom, let us attend. Let us all stand well in prayer as the reverend priest (*'most reverend holy father'* or *'great highpriest'*) responds and says:

Priest: We believe in One True God,

People: The Father Almighty / Maker of heaven and earth / and of all things visible and invisible.

And in One Lord Jesus Christ / the Only-Begotten Son of God / begotten of the Father before all worlds / Light of Light / True God of True God / begotten, not made / being of one essence with the Father / and by Whom all things were made;

† Who for us men and for our salvation / came down from heaven

† And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin Mary / Mother of God/and became man,

† And was crucified for us / in the days of Pontius Pilate / and suffered, and died, and was buried,

† And on the third day He rose again/ according to His Will / and ascended into heaven / and sits on the right hand of His Father / and shall come again in His great glory / to judge both the living and the dead / whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the one Living Holy Spirit / the life-giving Lord of all / Who proceeds from the Father / and Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified/ and Who spoke through the prophets and the apostles.

And in One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church / and we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins / and look for the resurrection of the dead /and the new life in the world to come. Amin.
Barekmor, Stoumen Kalos, Kurieleison

(*Forty Prostrations*)

SERVICE TO THE MOTHER OF GOD

The King's daughter stands in glory
Halleluyah w Halleluyah
And the Queen at - Your right hand

Leave your people and your father's house
Halleluyah w Halleluyah
For the King will desire your beauty...*Barekmor*

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

EOBO

(Mor Ephrem)

O Pride of the faithful ones
Offer prayers on our behalf
To the Only Begotten
That He have mercy on us
Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO

(d'al Etro d'Besme)

May the remembrance
And pray'rs of Mary
Be a blessing and
Fortress for our souls...*Barekmor*

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

Behold, sweet fragrance
Rises in the air
For Virgin Mary
The Theotokos

Lord have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO

(Mor Ephrem)

By Your Cross, our Lord Jesus
And the pray'r of Your Mother
Keep from us all afflictions,
Punishments, and rods of wrath.

<p>SERVICE TO THE SAINTS</p>

The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, Halleluyah
Like cedars of Lebanon – they shall grow.

They shall flourish and be great in old age, Halleluyah
They shall be fruitful – and fragrant...*Barekmor*

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

EQBO

(Mor Ephrem)

Your mem'ry O St. (Thomas)
be kept here and in Heaven
May your prayer be a help to
Those who honor your mem'ry
Stoumenkalos, Kurielaison

QOLO

(d'al Etro d'Besme)

Bless'd are the Prophets,
and the Apostles.
Bless'd are the Martyrs
At Resurrection...*Barekmor*

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

Martyrs who desired
To behold the Christ
By the sword, gained wings
And flew to the heights

Lord have mercy upon us and help us

BO'UTHO

(Mor Ephrem)

Pray for us, O Holy Saints
to Him Whose will you fulfilled,
Keep from us all afflictions,
Punishments, and rods of wrath.

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison
Lord have mercy upon us
Lord be kind, and have mercy
Answer Lord, and have mercy

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.
Glory be to Thee, O Lord;
Glory be to Thee, our hope forever *Barekmor*

All of the people present shall ask forgiveness and give peace to one another.

The Service of Reconciliation is ended.

