



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Behind the scenes

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What is the Liturgy of the Word?

- Hymns of the Censer (Hitens)
- Pauline
- Catholic Epistle
- Praxis (Acts)
- Synaxarion (most of the time)
- Trisagion (Agios)
- Psalm & Gospel



But what is happening behind the scenes!?

- **Pauline Epistle Circuit**
 - Priest/Deacon pray for:
 - Church, Patriarch, Assemblies
 - Priest: Houses of Prayer
 - Priest censes around the *entire* Church
 - Priest returns to the door of the Sanctuary
“You who accepted the prayer of the thief, accept the confession of your people”
 - This is where the first church would have made public confessions
 - “O Lord of Knowledge”

● *O Lord of knowledge...*

During the reading of the Pauline Epistle, the fellow priest (or if there is no fellow priest, then the serving priest himself) says inaudibly the following prayer to the Son.

Priest:

O Lord of knowledge and provider of wisdom, who reveals the deep things out of darkness, and gives a word to those who preach with great power;

who of Your kindness has called upon Paul, who was for some time a persecutor, to be a chosen vessel;

and in this You were pleased that he should be called to be an apostle and a preacher of the Gospel of Your kingdom, O Christ our God.

You also now, O Good One and Lover of Mankind, we ask You, grant us and all Your people a mind free from wandering and a clear understanding that we may know and understand how profitable are Your holy teachings which are now read to us through him.

And as he followed Your example, O Author of life, so make us also worthy to be like him in deed and in faith that we may glorify Your holy name and glory in Your Cross at all times.

And unto You we send up glory, honor, and worship with Your good Father and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You, now and at all times and unto the age of all ages. Amen.



But what is happening behind the scenes!?

- Catholic Epistle
 - Reading of the Catholic Epistle
 - “O Lord our God...”
 - Litany of the Oblations

● *Inaudible Prayer for the Catholic Epistle*

During the reading of the catholic Epistle, the partner or serving priest says the following prayer to the Father inaudibly.

Priest:

O Lord our God, who through Your holy apostles has revealed to us the mystery of the Gospel of the glory of Your Christ,

and have given to them according to the great immeasurable gift of Your grace that they should proclaim among all nations the glad tidings of the unsearchable riches of Your mercy,

we ask You, O our Master, make us worthy of their share and inheritance.

Grant to us at all times to walk in their footsteps and to imitate their struggle, and to have communion with them in the sweat which they accepted for the sake of godliness.

Watch over Your holy Church which You have founded through them, and bless the sheep of Your flock and make this vine to increase, which Your right hand has planted, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Through whom the glory, the honor, the dominion, and the worship are due unto You, with Him and the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life, who is of one essence with You,

now and at all times and unto the age of all ages.
Amen.



But what is happening behind the scenes!?

- **Praxis Circuit**

- “O God, who accepted the sacrifice of Abraham...”
- Litanies of the Church, Patriarch, Assemblies
- Houses of Prayer, Purity, Blessings
- Incense only towards the South and North. Does not go all around the Church
- “O God who accepted the confession”

- **Synaxarion**



But what is happening behind the scenes!?

- **Psalm and Gospel**
 - Litany of the Gospel
 - Procession of the Gospel
 - Prayer of Simeon The Elder (Lord, now you are letting)
 - (inaudible) O You who are longsuffering...sick, fathers, air, fruits, waters, seeds etc”

Lessons:

- Tons of symbolism during the Liturgy
- Confess/Pray during the procession of the incense
 - Be attentive with all your senses
- **THERE IS NO PREACHING, WITHOUT PRAYER**