

## The Pre-Communion Prayer

I stand before the gates of Thy temple, and yet I refrain not from my terrible thoughts, But do Thou, O Christ my God, who didst justify the publican, and hadst mercy on the Canaanite woman, and opened the gates of Paradise to the thief; open unto me the compassion of Thy love toward mankind, and receive me as I approach and touch Thee, like the harlot and the woman with the issue of blood; for the one, by embracing Thine immaculate feet, received the forgiveness of her sins, and the other, but by touching the hem of Thy garment received healing. And I, most sinful, dare to partake of Thy whole Body. Let me not be consumed, but receive me as Thou didst receive them, and enlighten the senses of my soul, consuming the accusations of my sins: through the intercessions of her that, without corruption, gave Thee birth, and of the heavenly Powers; for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

I believe, O Lord and I confess, that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. And I believe that this is truly Thine own immaculate Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Wherefore I pray Thee, have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance; And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thine immaculate Mysteries, unto remission of sins and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystic Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither will I give Thee a kiss as did Judas: But like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord in Thy Kingdom.

Not unto judgment nor unto condemnation be my partaking of the holy mysteries. O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body

Man, behold the divine Blood, and tremble; For it is fire consuming the unworthy. The divine Body both deifieth and nourisheth me; It deifieth the spirit, and strangely nourisheth the mind.

Thou hast enraptured me, O Christ, by Thy longing and hast changed me by Thy divine love, consume my sins with Thine immaterial fire, and enable me so to be filled with Thy bliss, that, rejoicing, I may magnify Thy dual presence, O good One

Into the brilliant company of Thy Saints how shall I, unworthy and sinful, enter? If I dare to enter into the bridechamber, my garment will put me to shame, for it is not a wedding garment, and I shall be bound hand and foot and cast out by Thine angels, purify, Lord, my polluted soul and , and save me; for Thou art a lover of mankind.

