

## THE PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF WATER

Blessed are You, O Lord God almighty, strong  
and Who does works of wonder. You have made  
heaven and earth and the sea out of formless waste  
and dark abyss while the Spirit hovered over the waters.

You have created  
man out of the  
dust of the earth  
and made him alive  
with Your all-holy  
Breath. You did give  
him the Garden of  
Eden in the east  
and subjected the  
whole world to him.

But he was  
deceived by the serpent,  
who offered to  
him as to a child  
the fruit of the tree  
of knowl e d g e .

Thereupon being  
divested of his glory,  
he was expelled

from the Garden. Yet You did not forsake Your  
servant and did have pity over his offspring You  
did send Your Only-Begotten Son from the paternal  
bosom. He came and was clothed in flesh  
from the Holy Virgin and went out to seek him  
who was lost and whom Adversary had taken out  
of the Garden of Life.

But Your beneficent Only-Begotten called  
with His sweet voice saying: "Come to Me all you  
that are weary and heavily laden and I will give  
you rest." And He gathered all and brought them  
to the River Jordan. And he saw the fearful  
dragon, who had his lair in the waters and wanted  
to swallow men.

Thereupon Your Only-Begotten Son with  
His mighty power trampled the waters down under  
his heels and destroyed the great beast in accordance  
with the prediction of the Prophet, who had  
said: You have crushed the head of the dragon  
over the waters.

He revealed his godhead, when You, O Father,

called upon Him saying: He is my beloved Son, and Your resplendent Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove.

And now this day He cleanses the waters and enlightens mankind and makes them dwellers of heaven.

This day the earth becomes a new heaven in honor, for the Son of God has appeared on earth and has walked about with men. He comes this day and goes into the River Jordan and cleanses the waters and enlightens mankind, so that they may be holy through the water and may have life through the Spirit.

Now therefore, O Lord, come near unto us by Your Holy Spirit and bless this water, that this may be for the building-up of homes, for the healing of the sick, for the salvation of souls and bodies, and for goodness in fulfillment of all needs. For You are merciful, God that loves mankind. And let all who devise evil for Your servant keep away from this.

O Lord our God, bless this water and make it for the cleansing of Your servants. Cast away through this every harm and evil spot and disease and all the tyranny of Satan. And implant through this the graces of Your all-powerful Holy Spirit in us, thereby granting us health and wholeness and victory over the power of the Most Evil One. And may we all through this be worthy of Your help and may we be received, healed, blessed and sanctified by You, and may we always glorify the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.