

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.