

Supplication Service
to our Devout and God-bearing
Father Ciaran of Ireland
by Hieromonk Athanasios Simonopetrites
Translated by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

PRIEST

Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Psalm 142 (143).

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your righteousness; do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul; he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, and my spirit was in anguish within me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant. [SAAS]

Then "God is the Lord" is sung four times, with or without the verses.

CHOIR

Mode 4.

God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. [SAAS]

Verse 1: *Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His holy name.*

or: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

Verse 2: *All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I defended myself against them.*

Verse 3: *And this came about from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes.*

Troparia.

Mode 4. You who were lifted.

From early childhood you had great love for Jesus, * and without wavering you followed behind Him * O holy Ciaran, carrying asceticism's cross. * Therefore you were filled with gifts of the grace of the Spirit. * We, your children whom you love, come to you and implore you * to intercede for us and to fulfill * all our petitions that will benefit our souls. [SD]

Glory. **Repeat.**

Both now. **Same Melody.**

We the unworthy shall not ever be silent, * O Theotokos, from proclaiming your powers. * For were you not concerned to intercede for us, * who would have delivered us * from such manifold dangers, * and who else would up to now * have preserved us in freedom? * O Lady, we shall not depart from you, * for you ever save your servants * from evils of every kind. [SD]

READER

Psalm 50 (51).

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. For behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then You will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole

burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. [SAAS]

The Canon

CHOIR

Ode i. Mode pl. 4. Of old when the Israelite.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

The strong love for Jesus lit up your soul * from childhood, O godly-minded Ciaran, and you became * a fiery furnace of divine love. * We pray you grant us to share that experience. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Desiring to take up the cross of Christ, * you wisely selected the ascetical way of life, * O Ciaran, and thus by your example, * you have instructed us how to renounce the world. [SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Like deer run to water, so you arrived * at the holy Monastery, Ciaran, with utmost joy. * Establish that godly love and longing * within the hearts of the faithful who honor you. [SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Theotokion.

O Mother, make easy and smooth the way * to purification by your prayers, and remove the traps * the devil has hidden to destroy us; * and with the light of your Son, Christ, illumine us. [SD]

Ode iii. O divine Master Builder.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

O St. Ciaran, from childhood your pure and innocent heart * was pierced through with love for the Lord Christ, and thus it had no rest. * And all your life you bore * the wound of love for the

Savior. * We entreat you, grant this love to us who honor you. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

While the holy Apostles of old abandoned their boats, * you in imitation, O Ciaran, did likewise leave behind * your home and family, * for love of Christ. May we also, * by your intercessions, have this love throughout our lives.

[SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

You had no worldly riches when you, O Ciaran, arrived * at the Monastery. But there you desired to acquire * the riches of the Lord. * By your paternal entreaties, * grant us all who venerate you to inherit these. [SD]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion.

Now as always, O Mother, your Son, our God, is indeed * the supremely sweet and delightful riches of all who take * asceticism's cross * upon their shoulders, like Ciaran, * and whose only pleasure in this life is found in Him. [SD]

We honor you, O godly-minded St. Ciaran, and your divine life, * and we ask you to pray to Christ to deliver us * from all assaults of the enemy against us. [SD]

Look graciously upon your servant, all-praiseworthy Theotokos, and upon my painful physical suffering, and remedy my anguish of spirit. [SD]

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for the servants of God... (At this time the Priest commemorates those for whom the Paraklesis is sung.)

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable church, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people here present who await Your great and rich mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Kathisma.

Mode 2. In seeking the heights.

As you had a cow that traveled along with you * and fed you its milk, O Ciaran, now we entreat * that we have your sacred prayers * going with us who honor your holiness, * so that we may successfully complete * the journey to sweetest Paradise. [SD]

Ode iv. I have heard the report.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

O St. Ciaran, your holy life * and your monasteries adorn all Ireland. * As you stand near Christ, entreat for us * to adorn the souls of all who honor you. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

O St. Ciaran, beloved of God, * grant that we, like you, may attain a holy life * and salvation, by your fervent prayers * and your intercessions made on our behalf. [SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

In all-holy simplicity * you were filled with wisdom and grace of the divine * Holy Spirit, which we pray you grant * to us all who marvel at your holy life. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Theotokion.

O all-blameless one, fortify * by your intercessions, in your maternal love, * all who take up the ascetic cross * for the love of Jesus Christ, your sweetest Son. [SD]

Ode v. Sovereign Lord our God.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Ciaran, since you have * easy access to the Lord on high, * ever fervently implore on our behalf, * so that we may be found keeping His commandments all. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Ciaran, lift the minds * of the faithful who now honor you * from things fleeting to things permanent, O Saint, * so that we may reach the Kingdom in eternity. [SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Ciaran, by your prayers, * put the joyful recollection of * the Life-giver Jesus Christ into our souls, * so that we may now begin to live in Paradise. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Theotokion.

Virgin, make our souls, * to be gardens that are blossoming * all the virtues, as we sing to you "Rejoice!" * like the Angel, and we glorify you evermore. [SD]

Ode vi. I pour out my supplication.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

St. Ciaran, implore the Lord on our behalf * that His soul-saving peace may be given * to all of us who desire to order * our lives according to His all-holy commands, * and to be peacemakers indeed * with ourselves and with all people everywhere. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

O Ciaran, we fervently implore you now, * for you truly were a boiling volcano * of love for

Christ: burn away all our passions; * ignite within us a furnace of love divine; * and make us lions breathing fire, * burning up the assaults of the enemy. [SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

O Ciaran, the Spirit's grace enabled you * to remember half the Gospel of Matthew. * But as the wisdom of Christ was within you, * you would illumine and teach all of Ireland. * Therefore illumine now our souls, * by divine intercessions on our behalf. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Theotokion.

We have you, who never cease to intercede with Lord for us, as treasure O Virgin. * We rest beneath your all-holy protection, * and we send up to you hymns of our gratitude, * O Theotokos. Being poor, * we have nothing else worthy to give to you. [SD]

We honor you, O godly-minded St. Ciaran, and your divine life, * and we ask you to pray to Christ to deliver us * from all assaults of the enemy against us. [SD]

Entreat for us, * O spotless Maiden who gave birth to the divine Word * inexplicably through a word in the latter days, * since you indeed * speak with motherly freedom. [SD]

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

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(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Kontakion. Mode 2.

O St. Ciaran, the glory of Ireland, * since you speak to the Lord with great confidence, * we entreat you to pray that Christ will ever dwell in us * and will give to us the Spirit's might, that we may all put off the old * and instead may put on

the new * regenerated Adam, * that we may also inherit * the Jerusalem on high, * together with all the Saints. [SD]

(The Antiphon may be omitted, in which case we immediately sing the Prokeimenon.)

Antiphon I.

Mode 4.

Since my youth have many passions waged war against me. O my Savior, nonetheless help me and save me. (2) [SD]

You, the haters of Zion, be put to shame by the Lord, for like thatch in fire you will be completely dried up. (2) [SD]

Glory.

From the Holy Spirit every soul receives life, and through cleansing is lifted and brightened, in a hidden, sacred manner, by the trinal Monad. [SD]

Both now.

From the Holy Spirit do the streams of grace well forth; they irrigate everything created, so that life be engendered. [SD]

Prokeimenon.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His holy one. (2)

Verse: *God is wondrous in His saints.*

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His holy one. [SAAS]

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord our God that we may be made worthy to hear the holy Gospel.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

PRIEST

Mt. 11:27-30

The Lord said to his disciples, "All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." [RSV]

(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

CHOIR

Glory. **Mode 2.**

At the intercession of Your holy Ascetic, O Lord of mercy, blot out my many offences. [SD]

Both now.

At the intercession of the Theotokos, O Lord of mercy, blot out my many offences. [SD]

Mode pl. 2. When the saints deposited.

Verse: *Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression.*

Ciaran, standing near the Lord, you are aflame with divine love. * When you pray, commemorate

* all of us who who faithfully keep your memory.
* Ardently intercede that the love you showed Him
* when you lived on earth may also be * given to
us as well, * that we may possess it throughout
our lives, * and that beloved Ireland come into the
Orthodox Church again, * and produce a chorus *
of chosen Saints, as it had done of old. * With them
together, may we attain * Paradise, for which we
long. [SD]

PRIEST

O God, save your people and bless your
inheritance. Look upon your world with mercy
and compassion. Raise the Orthodox Christians in
glory, and send down upon us your rich mercies,
through the intercessions of our most pure Lady
the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, the power of
the precious and life giving Cross, the protection
of the honorable, bodiless Powers of heaven,
the supplications of the honorable and glorious
prophet, and forerunner John the Baptist, the
holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles, our
Fathers among the Saints, the great hierarchs and
ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the
Theologian and John Chrysostom, Athanasios,
Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of
Alexandria; Nicholas, bishop of Myra, Spyridon,
bishop of Trimythous, Nektarios of Pentapolis, the
wonder-workers; the holy, glorious great Martyrs
George the Victorious, Demetrios the Myrobletes,
Theodore the Teron, and Theodore the General,
Menas the Wonderworker, the Hieromartyrs
Haralambos and Eleftherios; the holy, glorious,
and victorious martyrs; the glorious great Martyr
and all-laudable Euphemia; the holy and glorious
Martyrs Thecla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine,
Kyriake, Fotene, Marina, Paraskeve and Irene;
of our holy God-bearing Fathers; (local patron
saint); the holy and righteous ancestors of God
Joachim and Anna, our devout and God-bearing
father Ciaran of Ireland, and of all your Saints. We

beseech you, only merciful Lord, hear us sinners
who pray to you and have mercy on us.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy. (12)

PRIEST

Through the mercy, compassion, and love of
mankind of your only-begotten Son, with whom
you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good
and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the
ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Ode vii. The Servants from Judea.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

You emerged as the victor, * by the power of
God, O St. Ciaran, for you beat * the triple-headed
serpent, * the world, the flesh, and Satan. * By
your prayers make him disappear, * for if he could
he would beat the faithful and destroy them. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

Imitating the God-man, * you emerged as a
house of divine humility. * And therefore, father
Ciaran, * the grace of God has richly * given
spiritual gifts to you. * We pray you share them
with us, as your beloved children. [SD]

*Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy
Spirit.*

Fragrant perfume is not poured * into souls
that are not pure, as holy Scripture says. * You
cleansed your heart, O Ciaran, * and thus became
a palace * of the all-holy Trinity. * Cease not to
intercede with God for us, O father. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Theotokion.

You, O Virgin, surpass all * shrines and temples of God in your utmost purity. * You therefore were the house of * your sweetest Son, our Savior. * Ever pray Him to purify * the hearts of all who believe in Him and magnify you. [SD]

Ode viii. O praise and bless Him.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

You have completed * the race of earthly existence, * father Ciaran. Now you stand near the Master. * Entreat Him that we may receive His grace and kingdom. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

You are enjoying * the peace of Christ, father Ciaran. * Give that peace to us who honor you with longing, * and drive out the passions that rattle and disturb us. [SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

O father Ciaran, * lover of chastity, give us * self-restraint and stop our carnal desires, * for we long to live in chastity, as Christ did. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Theotokion.

All-holy Lady, * how can we worthily speak of * your maternal care for us and protection, * by which you extinguish the devil's fiery arrows. [SD]

Ode ix. Heirmos.

You are the Theotokos * lit'rally, O Virgin; * and we confess it, for we have been saved through you * whom we, O pure one, with choirs of angels magnify.

Troparia.

Saint of God, intercede for us.

O father, as your life was * heavenly while you were * still in the body, conducting your life on earth, * kindle in us now the longing for all things heavenly. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

O holy father Ciaran, * pray that all of Ireland * return again to the Orthodox Christian faith, * to raise up saints of your stature, as it has done before. [SD]

Saint of God, intercede for us.

To you, O Ciaran, opened * the gates of the homeland * that is unshakable; where, as you now rejoice, * do not forget us believers when we invoke your name. [SD]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Thrice-blessed father Ciaran, * since you have defeated * the devil's traps, you can pray now with confidence * for those of us still in battle, and you can strengthen us. [SD]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.*

Theotokion.

O Virgin, grant us Christians * the heavenly kingdom. * We ever magnify you, and we glorify * your faithful votary, Ciaran, in songs extolling him. [SD]

Megalynaria.

It is truly right to call you blessed, Theotokos, the ever-blessed and all-blameless one and the Mother of our God. [SD]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim;

you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify. [SD]

From an early age you began to love * Christ, and you followed after Him, taking up your cross. * As you imitated the lives of the devout saints, * you stand with them, O Ciaran, now in sweet Paradise. [SD]

Ciaran, you emerged as guide for monks; * by word and example you directed to heaven's heights * many of your students. And by your sacred teachings, * their hearts became the living temples of God the Lord. [SD]

Ireland was drawn to the faith of Christ, * godly-minded Ciaran, by your teachings and holy life. * Founding Monasteries, therein you brought together * ranks of devout monastics, like angels in the flesh. [SD]

By your prayers, O Ciaran, ever protect * this your Monastery, holy father, and make it be * a most sacred workshop of holiness and virtue, * in Christ the Lord, whom you loved * wondrously from your youth. [SD]

Bless us all who solemnly honor you, * holy father Ciaran. We entreat you to please fulfill * all of our petitions conducive to salvation. * Grant us the divine kingdom, by your all-holy prayers. [SD]

Join the Theotokos, all you arrays * of angelic powers, honored Forerunner of the Lord, * holy Twelve Apostles * and all the Saints together, * and pray for our salvation, and intercede for us. [SD]

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

Mode pl. 2.

Have mercy on us, Lord have mercy on us. For with nothing to say in our own defense, we sinners offer this supplication to you our Master. Have mercy on us. [SD]

Glory.

Lord have mercy on us, for in You we trust. Be not enraged with us greatly, nor remember our iniquities. But look upon us now, being compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies. For You are our God, and we Your people, all of us

the work of Your hands, and now we have invoked
Your name. [SD]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

Open the gate of compassion for us, O blessed
Theotokos. For hoping in you, let us not fail
in our aim. Through you may we be delivered
from adversities. For you are the salvation of the
Christian race. [SD]

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your
great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy.)*

Again we pray for the protection of this holy
church, this city and every city and land, from
wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire,
sword, foreign invasions, civil strife, and accidental
death. That our good and loving God may be
merciful, gracious and favorable to us by turning
and keeping from us all wrath and sickness, and
deliver us from His just rebuke, and have mercy on
us.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy.)*

Again we pray that the Lord our God may hear
the prayer of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy.)*

PRIEST

Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all
those who live everywhere on earth and those far
out at sea or in the air. Be gracious toward our sins,
Master, and have mercy on us.

For you are a merciful and loving God, and to
you we give glory, to the Father and the Son and
the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of
ages.

(Amen.)

PRIEST

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

May Christ our true God, through the
intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate
holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-
giving Cross, the protection of the honorable,
bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the
honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John
the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy
apostles, of the holy, glorious, and triumphant
martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers,
(**local patron saint**); of the holy and righteous
ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, our devout
and God-bearing father Ciaran of Ireland, and of all
the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is
good and loves mankind.

CHOIR

Mode 2. Joseph took You down.

Father, to you ardently we pray * and invoke
your strong intercession before the Master with
faith, * so that He have mercy on us and forgive
our sins, * and He give us abundantly the grace of
the Spirit, * that, having conformed to His divine
commandments, O Saint, * we attain the homeland
in heaven, * where you are rejoicing, O Ciaran, *
celebrating with the hosts of all the Saints. [SD]

Lady, receive the supplications of your
servants, and rescue us from all necessity and
affliction. [SD]

O Mother of God, I have committed my every
hope wholly unto you. Keep me under your shelter.

[SD]

PRIEST

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord
Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us [and save
us].

(Amen.)