

ΟΔΗΓΙΑΙ
ΚΑΙ
ΔΙΑΔΙΚΑΣΙΑ
ΕΠΙ ΤΗ ΕΚΔΗΜΙΑ ΙΕΡΕΩΣ

GUIDELINES
AND
PROCEDURE WHEN
A PRIEST FALLS ASLEEP
IN THE LORD

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GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

THE HOLY EPARCHIAL SYNOD

The falling asleep in the Lord of a brother priest constitutes an extremely solemn event. The departed brother is now with the Lord, but at the same time we feel the sorrow of the separation. It is difficult to fully prepare for this moment especially, when death occurs suddenly and the time needed to prepare for a funeral in a dignified manner is limited. The sensitivity related to the issue, the care for the departed priest, and the desire to alleviate emotional hardship faced by his family led the Holy Eparchial Synod to prepare this booklet entitled, *Guidelines and Procedure When a Priest Falls Asleep in the Lord*. It is the decision of the Hierarchs of our Synod that this booklet be referenced and used throughout the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America by the family and brother clergy in all cases when a beloved priest has fallen asleep in the Lord.

The text that follows was carefully prepared by the Holy Eparchial Synod which examined the existing liturgical texts for directions pertinent to the preparation for the funeral of the body of a clergyman who has fallen asleep in the Lord. The *Great Euchologion* briefly prescribes a relevant preparation but does not describe the exact manner in which the body is to be prepared for funeral and burial services. For this reason the Holy Eparchial Synod using the experience of her members and the existing oral traditions of the Church on the matter, proceeded in preparing the present text in Greek and English to be disseminated throughout the Archdiocese especially because the majority of our clergy have rather limited experience in performing the sacred service of vesting and anointing the body of a departed brother priest.

At this point, the Holy Eparchial Synod wishes to thank the Very Rev. Panteleimon D. Costarakis, Presvytera Elaine K. Stephanides, and the sisterhood of Presvyteres for submitting an initial text dealing primarily with the practical issues for things to be done when a priest falls asleep in the Lord. That initial text led to further research which ended with the publication of this booklet. This booklet is offered by our Holy Eparchial Synod as an expression of thanksgiving to God for the lives of our departed brother priests and a consolation to their respected families.

Archim. Sebastian

+ Archimandrite Sebastian Skordallos
Chief Secretary of the Holy Eparchial Synod

ΟΔΗΓΙΑΙ ΚΑΙ ΔΙΑΔΙΚΑΣΙΑ ΕΠΙ ΤΗ ΕΚΔΗΜΙΑ ΙΕΡΕΩΣ

A. Πληροφόρησις τοῦ τοπικοῦ Ἱεράρχου.

Ἐπὶ τῇ πρὸς Κύριον ἐκδημίᾳ ἱερέως ἢ οἰκογένεια πληροφορεῖ ἀμέσως τὸν τοπικὸν Μητροπολίτην. Ἐπὶ πλέον ἢ οἰκογένεια πληροφορεῖ τὸ Γραφεῖον τοῦ Ἀρχιεπισκόπου εἰς περίπτωσιν καθ' ἣν ὁ ἱερεὺς δὲν ἀνήκε εἰς τὴν Ἀμεσον Ἀρχιεπισκοπικὴν Περιφέρειαν. Ἡ οἰκογένεια δέον νὰ ἀποστείλῃ εἰς τὸ Γραφεῖον τοῦ Ἀρχιεπισκόπου σύντομον βιογραφικὸν σημεῖωμα περὶ τοῦ κοιμηθέντος ἱερέως, ὡς ἐπίσης καὶ τὰς λεπτομερείας περὶ τῆς κηδείας, ὅπως συμπεριληφθοῦν εἰς τὰ σχετικὰ ἀνακοινωθέντα τῆς Ἀρχιεπισκοπῆς. Ἐπὶ πλέον, ὁ τοπικὸς Ἱεράρχης θὰ ὀρίσῃ, εἰ δυνατόν, τρεῖς ἱερεῖς διὰ νὰ ἐποπτεύσουν εἰς τὴν διαδικασίαν τῆς ἐτοιμασίας τοῦ σκηνώματος τοῦ ἐκδημήσαντος ἀδελφοῦ των καὶ τῆς ἐνδύσεώς του διὰ τῶν ἀμφίων αὐτοῦ.

B. Ἐτοιμασία τοῦ σώματος πρὸ τῆς κηδείας.

Πρὸ τῆς μεταφορᾶς τοῦ ἐκδημήσαντος ἱερέως εἰς τὸ γραφεῖον τελετῶν, οἱ καθορισμένοι ἱερεῖς ψάλλουν τὴν ἀκολουθίαν τοῦ Τρισάγιου ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἐν Χριστῷ ἀδελφοῦ αὐτῶν εἰς τὸν τόπον ὅπου ἀπεβίωσεν (π.χ. οἰκία, νοσοκομεῖον). Μετὰ τὸ Τρισάγιον τὸ σκηνῶμα τοῦ ἱερέως μεταφέρεται εἰς τὸ γραφεῖον τελετῶν.

Ἡ οἰκογένεια τοῦ κοιμηθέντος ἱερέως δέον νὰ προμηθεύσῃ τὸν διευθυντὴν τοῦ γραφείου τελετῶν μὲ πλήρη καθαρὰν ἐνδυμασίαν (ἔσωρουχα, ὑποδήματα, παντελόνιον, κάλτσαι, ὑπουκάμισον, κλπ.), ὡς ἐπίσης καὶ λευκὴν ἢ χρυσοῦν ἱερατικὴν στολὴν, συμπεριλαμβανομένων καὶ «Ἀέρος» καὶ ἐπιστηθίου σταυροῦ ἢ ἐπιγονατίου (εἰάν ὁ ἱερεὺς ἦτο ὀφφικιάλιος).

Μετὰ τὴν ἐτοιμασίαν τοῦ σκηνώματος ὑπὸ τοῦ γραφείου τελετῶν, οἱ ἱερεῖς τελοῦν τὴν πλύσιν καὶ χρίσιν αὐτοῦ καθὼς τοῦτο καθορίζεται ὑπὸ τοῦ Μεγάλου Εὐχολογίου καὶ περιγράφεται εἰς τὸ κείμενον τὸ ὁποῖον ἀκολουθεῖ κατωτέρω. Ὁ διευθυντὴς γραφείου τελετῶν δέον νὰ ἐτοιμάσῃ τὸ σκηνῶμα τοῦ νεκροῦ καὶ νὰ ἐνδύσῃ τοῦτο διὰ τῶν ἐσωρούχων, παντελονίου καὶ ὑπουκαμίσου, ἄνευ τῶν ὑποδημάτων καὶ καλτσῶν, ὥστε οἱ πόδες νὰ εἶναι γυμνοὶ διὰ τὴν χρίσιν. Ὅταν συμπληρωθῇ ἡ χρίσις καὶ ἡ ἐνδυσις καὶ ψαλῇ τὸ Τρισάγιον, τὸ σκηνῶμα τοῦ ἱερέως μεταφέρεται εἰς τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν ὅπου θὰ τελεσθῇ ἡ ἐξόδιος ἀκολουθία (κηδεῖα).

ORDER AND GUIDELINES WHEN A PRIEST FALLS ASLEEP IN THE LORD

A. Notification of local presiding Hierarchy

Upon the falling asleep in the Lord of a priest the family should immediately inform the local Metropolitan. In addition the family should inform the office of the Archbishop in the event the priest was not from the Direct Archdiocesan District. The family should forward to the office of the Archbishop a brief biography of the departed priest as well as the funeral arrangements to be included in all press releases issued by the Archdiocese. Furthermore, the local presiding Hierarchy will designate three priests (if possible) to oversee the preparation and vesting of their departed brother.

B. Preparation of the body before the funeral

Prior to the transportation of the departed priest to the funeral home, the designated priests offer a Trisagion for their departed brother in Christ at the place where he has passed (i.e. home, hospital). Following the Trisagion, the departed priest is transferred to the funeral home.

The family of the departed priest should provide the funeral director with a complete change of clean clothing (undergarments, shoes, pants, socks, shirt etc.), as well as a full set of white or gold vestments including an Aer and pectoral cross and/or epigonation (if the priest had been bestowed the Offikion).

Following the preparation of the body by the funeral home, the priests perform the washing and anointing of the body as prescribed in the *Mega Euchologion* and described in the text that follows. The funeral director should have the body prepared and dressed in undergarments pants and shirt, except for the shoes and socks so that the feet are available for anointing. Once the anointing, vesting, and Trisagion have been completed, the departed priest is transferred to the church in which the funeral will take place.

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Γ. Τρισάγιον

Τὸ πρῶτον Τρισάγιον ψάλλεται, εἰ δυνατόν, ἀμέσως μετὰ τὴν πρὸς Κύριον ἐκδημίαν τοῦ ἱερέως εἰς τὸν τόπον ὅπου ἐκοιμήθη (οἰκία, νοσοκομεῖον). Τὸ δεύτερον Τρισάγιον ψάλλεται μετὰ τὴν ἔνδυσιν τοῦ ἱερέως διὰ τῆς ἱερατικῆς στολῆς ὅπως αὕτη περιγράφεται κατωτέρω. Ὁ χρόνος τοῦ τρίτου Τρισαγίου διευθετεῖται ἐν συνεννοήσει μετὰ τοῦ τοπικοῦ Ἱεράρχου.

Δ. Τοποθέτησις καὶ ἐτοιμασία τοῦ σκηνώματος τοῦ Ἱερέως ἐντὸς τοῦ ναοῦ.

Μετὰ τὴν μεταφορὰν τοῦ σκηνώματος τοῦ ἱερέως εἰς τὸν ναὸν ὑπὸ τῶν ἱερέων ὅπως ἐκτεθῆ εἰς λαϊκὸν προσκύνημα, τὸ φέρετρον ἀνοίγεται καὶ τὸ Ἱερὸν Εὐαγγέλιον τοποθετεῖται ἐπὶ τοῦ στήθους τοῦ ἐκλιπόντος ἱερέως (μέ τὴν παράστασιν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως εἰς τὸ ἄνω μέρος), ἐνῶ τὸ πρόσωπον τοῦ νεκροῦ εἶναι ἐστραμμένον πρὸς τὸ Ἅγιον Βῆμα (πρὸς Ἀνατολάς). Ἡ δεξιὰ χεὶρ τοῦ ἱερέως ἐπαναπαύεται εἰς σχῆμα εὐλογίας ἐπὶ τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου πρὸς ἀπόδοσιν τιμῆς ὑπὸ τῶν πιστῶν δι' ἀσπασμοῦ.

Ε. Θεία Λειτουργία καὶ ἐξόδιος ἀκολουθία (κηδεία).

Ὁ τοπικὸς Ἱεράρχης ὀρίζει τὸν ἱερέα ἢ τοὺς ἱερεῖς, οἱ ὅποιοι θὰ τελέσουν τὴν Θείαν Λειτουργίαν τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς κηδείας. Ὅταν συμπληρωθῇ ἡ ἐξόδιος ἀκολουθία (κηδεία), προτοῦ κλεισθῆ τὸ φέρετρον, ἀφαιρεῖται ὁ ἐπιστήθιος σταυρὸς καὶ τὸ Ἱερὸν Εὐαγγέλιον.

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C. Trisagion

The first Trisagion should be offered, if possible, immediately after the falling asleep in the Lord of the priest at the place of his repose (home, hospital). The second Trisagion should be offered after he is vested with his priestly vestments as outlined in the text that follows. The time of the third Trisagion should be arranged in consultation with the local presiding Hierarch.

D. Position and preparation of the priest inside the church

After the body is transported to the church by the priests to lie in state, the casket is opened and the Holy Gospel is placed on the breast of the departed priest (with the Resurrection side of the Gospel icon facing up) and the priest facing the Holy Altar (East). The priest's right hand, which is placed in the blessing form, is rested upon the Gospel available for veneration, by the faithful.

E. Divine Liturgy and Funeral Service

The local presiding Hierarch designates the priest/s who will celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the day of the funeral. At the conclusion of the Funeral Service and before the closing of the casket, the pectoral cross and the Holy Gospel are removed.

Η ΑΚΟΛΟΥΘΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΕΩΣ Ἀπαραίτητα ἀντικείμενα

1) Μικρὰ λεκάνη· 2) Ἐλαιόλαδον· 3) Σπόγγος· 4) Ὑδωρ.

Κατ' ἀρχὴν τὸ ὕδωρ ἀναμείγνυται μετὰ τοῦ ἐλαιολάδου εἰς τὴν μικρὰν λεκάνην. Οἱ ἱερεῖς φέροντες ράσον καὶ ἐπιτραχήλιον, χρίουν τὰς χεῖρας, τοὺς πόδας, καὶ τὸ μέτωπον τοῦ ἐκδημήσαντος ἱερέως ἐνῶ ἀναγινώσκουν τὸν 50ὸν Ψαλμόν. Εἴθιστα νὰ σχηματίζεται ὁ τύπος τοῦ σταυροῦ μετὰ τοῦ σπόγγου ὅταν χρίεται ὁ ἱερεύς.

Ψαλμός 50

ΕΛΕΗΣΟΝ με, ὁ Θεός, κατὰ τὸ μέγα ἔλεός σου καὶ κατὰ τὸ πλῆθος τῶν οἰκτιρισμῶν σου ἐξάλειψον τὸ ἀνόμημά μου· ἐπὶ πλεῖον πλυνόν με ἀπὸ τῆς ἀνομίας μου καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς ἁμαρτίας μου καθάρισόν με. Ὅτι τὴν ἀνομίαν μου ἐγὼ γινώσκω, καὶ ἡ ἁμαρτία μου ἐνώπιόν μου ἐστὶ διαπαντός. Σοὶ μόνῳ ἤμαρτον καὶ τὸ πονηρὸν ἐνώπιόν σου ἐποίησα, ὅπως ἂν δικαιωθῆς ἐν τοῖς λόγοις σου, καὶ νικήσης ἐν τῷ κρίνεσθαί σε. Ἴδου γὰρ ἐν ἀνομίαις συνελήφθην, καὶ ἐν ἁμαρτίας ἐκίσησέ με ἡ μήτηρ μου. Ἴδου γὰρ ἀλήθειαν ἠγάπησας, τὰ ἄδηλα καὶ τὰ κρύφια τῆς σοφίας σου ἐδήλωσάς μοι. Ραντιεῖς με ὑσσώπῳ, καὶ καθαρισθήσομαι, πλυνεῖς με, καὶ ὑπὲρ χιόνα λευκανθήσομαι. Ἀκουτιεῖς μοι ἀγαλλίασιν καὶ εὐφροσύνην, ἀγαλλιᾶσονται ὅστέα τεταπεινωμένα. Ἀπόστρεψον τὸ πρόσωπόν σου ἀπὸ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μου καὶ πάσας τὰς ἀνομίας μου ἐξάλειψον. Καρδίαν καθαρὰν κτίσον ἐν ἐμοί, ὁ Θεός, καὶ πνεῦμα εὐθὲς ἐγκαίνισον ἐν τοῖς ἐγκάτοις μου. Μὴ ἀπορρίψης με ἀπὸ τοῦ προσώπου σου καὶ τὸ πνεῦμά σου τὸ ἅγιον μὴ ἀντανέλης ἀπ' ἐμοῦ. Ἀπόδος μοι τὴν ἀγαλλίασιν τοῦ σωτηρίου σου καὶ πνεύματι ἠγεμονικῶ στήριξόν με. Διδάξω ἀνόμους τὰς ὁδοὺς σου, καὶ ἄσεβεῖς ἐπὶ σὲ ἐπιστρέψουσι. Ρῦσαί με ἐξ αἱμάτων, ὁ Θεός, ὁ Θεὸς τῆς σωτηρίας μου· ἀγαλλιᾶσεται ἡ γλῶσσά μου τὴν δικαιοσύνην σου. Κύριε, τὰ χεῖλη μου ἀνοίξεις, καὶ τὸ στόμα μου ἀναγγελεῖ τὴν αἴνεσίν σου. Ὅτι εἰ ἠθέλησας θυσίαν, ἔδωκα ἄν· ὀλοκαυτώματα οὐκ εὐδοκήσεις. Θυσία τῷ Θεῷ πνεῦμα

THE SERVICE OF ANOINTING

Items Needed

1. Bowl
2. Bottle of olive oil
3. Sponge
4. Water

Before beginning, some water and oil are mixed in a bowl. The priests vested in their Rason and Epitrachilion, proceed with anointing the hands, feet, and forehead of the departed priest while reciting the 50th Psalm. It is customary to make the sign of the cross with the sponge over the areas of the body that are anointed.

PSALM 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and blameless in Your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, You loved truth, You have manifested to me the hidden and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, You would not be pleased.

συντετριμμένον, καρδίαν συντετριμμένην καὶ τεταπεινωμένην ὁ Θεὸς οὐκ ἐξουδενώσει. Ἀγάθυνον, Κύριε, ἐν τῇ εὐδοκίᾳ σου τὴν Σιών, καὶ οἰκοδομηθήτω τὰ τείχη Ἱερουσαλήμ. Τότε εὐδοκήσεις θυσίαν δικαιοσύνης, ἀναφορὰν καὶ ὀλοκαυτώματα. Τότε ἀνοίσουσιν ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριόν σου μόσχους.

Εἰς τὸ τέλος τῆς χρίσεως, οἱ ἱερεῖς, λέγοντες τὰς εὐχὰς τῆς ἐνδύσεως τῶν ἱερατικῶν ἀμφίων, ἐνδύουν τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτῶν μὲ πλήρη ἱερατικὴν στολήν.

ΕΝΔΥΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΙΕΡΕΩΣ

(Ἡ ἐνδυσις γίνεται εἰς τὸ Γραφεῖον Τελετῶν)

Οἱ ἱερεῖς, προτοῦ ἐνδύσουν τὸν ἐκδημήσαντα ἀδελφὸν αὐτῶν, εὐλογοῦν καὶ ἀσπάζονται ἕκαστον ἄμφιον.

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν πάντοτε, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰῶνων. Ἀμήν.

Εἰς τὸ στιχάριον·

Ἀγαλλιᾶσεται ἡ ψυχὴ μου ἐπὶ τῷ Κυρίῳ· ἐνέδυσε γὰρ με ἱμάτιον σωτηρίου, καὶ χιτῶνα εὐφροσύνης περιέβαλέ με· ὡς νυμφίῳ περιέθηκέ μοι μίτραν καὶ ὡς νύμφην κατεκόσμησέ με κόσμῳ.

Εἰς τὸ ἐπιτραχήλιον·

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεός, ὁ ἐκχέων τὴν χάριν αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς ἱερεῖς αὐτοῦ· ὡς μῦρον ἐπὶ κεφαλῆς τὸ καταβαῖνον ἐπὶ πώγωνα, τὸν πώγωνα τοῦ Ἁαρῶν, τὸ καταβαῖνον ἐπὶ τὴν ὦαν τοῦ ἐνδύματος αὐτοῦ.

Εἰς τὴν ζώνην·

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεὸς ὁ περιζωννύων με δύναμιν καὶ ἔθετο ἄμωμον τὴν ὁδὸν μου.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Do good to Zion in Your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then will You delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Your altar.

At the conclusion of the anointing service, the priests, while reciting the vesting prayers, dress their departed brother with his priestly vestments.

VESTING OF THE PRIEST

(The vesting takes place in the Funeral Home)

Before the priests vest their departed brother they bless each vestment and kiss it.

Blessed is our God always, now and forever, and unto to the ages of ages. Amen.

For the Sticharion:

My soul shall rejoice in the Lord, for He has clothed me with the garment of salvation, and with the robe of gladness has He encompassed me. As a bridegroom He has set a crown upon me, and as a bride He has adorned me with ointment.

For the Epitrachelion:

Blessed is God, Who pours out His grace upon His priests, as ointment upon the head, which runs down upon the beard, the beard of Aaron, which runs down to the hem of his garment.

For the Zone (belt):

Blessed is God, Who girds me with strength, and has made my path blameless.

Εἰς τὰ ἐπιμάνικα, ἐν μὲν τῷ δεξιῷ·

Ἡ δεξιὰ σου, Κύριε, δεδόξασται ἐν ἰσχύϊ· ἡ δεξιὰ σου χεῖρ, Κύριε, ἔθραυσεν ἐχθρούς καὶ τῷ πλήθει τῆς δόξης σου συνέτριψας τοὺς ὑπεναντίους.

Ἐν δὲ τῷ ἀριστερῷ·

Αἱ χεῖρές σου ἐποίησάν με καὶ ἔπλασάν με· συνέτισόν με καὶ μαθήσομαι τὰς ἐντολάς σου.

Εἰς τὸ ἐπιγονάτιον (ἐάν ἔχει)·

Περίζωσαι τὴν ῥομφαίαν σου ἐπὶ τὸν μηρόν σου, δυνατέ, τῇ ὠραιότητί σου καὶ τῷ κάλλει σου· καὶ ἔντεινε καὶ κατευοδοῦ καὶ βασίλευε, ἔνεκεν ἀληθείας καὶ πραότητος καὶ δικαιοσύνης· καὶ ὀδηγήσει σε θαυμαστῶς ἡ δεξιὰ σου.

Εἰς τὸ φελόνιον·

Οἱ ἱερεῖς σου, Κύριε, ἐνδύσονται δικαιοσύνην καὶ οἱ ὄσιοί σου ἀγαλλιάσει ἀγαλλιάσονται.

Ἐὰν ὁ κεκοιμημένος ἱερεὺς ἔχη ἐκκλησιαστικὸν ὀφφίκιον ἵνα φέρῃ ἐπιστήθιον σταυρόν, ὁ πρῶτος τῶν ἱερέων τοποθετεῖ αὐτὸν (μέ κομμένην τὴν ἀλυσίδα εἰς τὸ ἄνω ἄκρον, ὥστε ὁ σταυρὸς νὰ δύναται νὰ ἀφαιρεθῇ εὐκόλως πρὸ τῆς ταφῆς) λέγων·

Εἰς τὸν Σταυρόν·

Ὅστις θέλει ὀπίσω μου ἐλθεῖν, ἀπαρνησάσθω ἑαυτὸν καὶ ἀράτω τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθεῖτω μοι.

Εἶτα, οἱ ἱερεῖς ποιῶσιν τὸ Τρισάγιον ὑπὲρ αἰωνίου ἀναπαύσεως τοῦ κεκοιμημένου ἀδελφοῦ.

For the right Epimanikion:

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorified in strength; Your right hand, O Lord, has shattered Your enemies, and in the multitude of Your glory have You crushed adversaries.

For the left Epimanikion:

Your hands have made me and fashioned me; teach me, and I shall learn Your commandments.

If the departed priest has been bestowed with the offikion of wearing an Epigonation:

Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, in Your comeliness and in Your beauty, and go forth and prosper, and reign because of truth, and meekness, and righteousness; and Your right hand shall guide You wondrously.

For the Phelonion:

Your priests, O Lord, shall clothe themselves with righteousness, and Your holy ones shall joyfully rejoice.

If the departed priest has the offikion of wearing a pectoral cross, the attending priests put it on him (open the back of the chain on the pectoral cross and drape the chain over the shoulders of the departed priest, so that after the funeral, it may be easily removed) saying:

Placement of the Pectoral Cross:

He who wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me.

At this time the vesting priests will offer a Trisagion for the eternal repose of the soul of their departed brother.

ΤΡΙΣΑΓΙΟΝ

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, πάντοτε· νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, Ἅγιος Ἰσχυρός, Ἅγιος Ἀθάνατος ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. (γ')

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Παναγία Τριάς, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Κύριε, ἰλάσθητι ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ἡμῶν. Δέσποτα, συγχώρησον τὰς ἀνομίας ἡμῶν. Ἅγιε, ἐπίσκεψαι καὶ ἴασαι τὰς ἀσθενείας ἡμῶν, ἕνεκεν τοῦ ὀνόματός σου.

Κύριε ἐλέησον. (γ')

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Πάτερ ἡμῶν, ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς, ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου, ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου, γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς. Τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον δὸς ἡμῖν σήμερον καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν, καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν, ἀλλὰ ῥῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ.

Ὅτι σοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία καὶ ἡ δύναμις καὶ ἡ δόξα, τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Μετὰ πνευμάτων δικαίων τετελειωμένων τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ δούλου σου, Σῶτερ, ἀνάπαυσον, φυλάττων αὐτὴν εἰς τὴν μακαρίαν ζωὴν, τὴν παρὰ σοί, φιλόανθρωπε.

Εἰς τὴν κατάπαυσίν σου, Κύριε, ὅπου πάντες οἱ ἅγιοί σου ἀναπαύονται, ἀνάπαυσον καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ δούλου σου, ὅτι μόνος ὑπάρχεις ἀθάνατος.

TRISAGION

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

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

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever 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. (3)

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever 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.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest, O Savior, to the soul of Your servant. Bestow upon it the blessed life which is from You, O loving Lord.

Within Your peace, O Lord, where all Your Saints repose, give rest also to the soul of Your servant, for You alone are immortal.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.

Σὺ εἶ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν ὁ καταβάς εἰς Ἄθην καὶ τὰς ὀδύνας λύσας τῶν πεπεδημένων, αὐτὸς καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ δούλου σου, Σῶτερ, ἀνάπαυσον.

Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Ἡ μόνη ἀγνή καὶ ἄχραντος Παρθένος, ἡ Θεὸν ἀφράστως κηήσασα, πρέσβευε ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἐλεηθῆναι καὶ συγχωρηθῆναι τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ δούλου σου.

Ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεός, κατὰ τὸ μέγα ἔλεός σου, δεόμεθά σου, ἐπάκουσον καὶ ἐλέησον.

Κύριε ἐλέησον. (γ')

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ ἀναπαύσεως τῆς ψυχῆς τοῦ κεκοιμημένου δούλου τοῦ Θεοῦ (δεῖνα) ἱερέως, ἀδελφοῦ καὶ συλλειτουργοῦ ἡμῶν γενομένου, καὶ ὑπὲρ τοῦ συγχωρηθῆναι αὐτῷ πᾶν πλημμέλημα ἐκούσιόν τε καὶ ἀκούσιον.

Κύριε ἐλέησον. (γ')

Ὅπως Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς τάξῃ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἔνθα οἱ δίκαιοι ἀναπαύονται, τὰ ἐλέη τοῦ Θεοῦ, τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ ἄφειν τῶν αὐτοῦ ἁμαρτιῶν, παρὰ Χριστῷ τῷ ἀθανάτῳ Βασιλεῖ καὶ Θεῷ ἡμῶν αἰτησώμεθα.

Παράσχου, Κύριε.

Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν. Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

Ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πνευμάτων καὶ πάσης σαρκός, ὁ τὸν θάνατον καταπατήσας τὸν δὲ διάβολον καταργήσας καὶ ζωὴν τῷ κόσμῳ σου δωρησάμενος· αὐτός, Κύριε, ἀνάπαυσον καὶ τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ κεκοιμημένου δούλου σου (δεῖνα) ἱερέως, ἀδελφοῦ καὶ συλλειτουργοῦ ἡμῶν γενομένου, ἐν τόπῳ φωτεινῷ, ἐν τόπῳ χλοερῷ, ἐν τόπῳ ἀναψύξεως, ἔνθα ἀπέδρα πᾶσα ὀδύνη, λύπη καὶ στεναγμός. Πᾶν ἁμάρτημα τὸ παρ' αὐτοῦπραχθὲν ἐν λόγῳ ἢ ἔργῳ ἢ διανοίᾳ, ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος Θεὸς συγχώρησον· ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἄνθρωπος ὃς ζήσεται καὶ οὐχ ἁμαρτήσῃ· σὺ γὰρ ὁ μόνος, Κύριε, ἐκτὸς ἁμαρτίας ὑπάρχεις, ἡ δικαιοσύνη σου, δικαιοσύνη εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ ὁ λόγος σου ἀλήθεια.

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

O Savior, You are our God who descended into Hades and delivered from suffering those who were bound there. Grant rest also to the soul of Your servant.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Most pure and spotless Virgin, who ineffably gave birth to God, intercede with Him for the salvation of the soul of your servant.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Furthermore, we pray for the rest of the soul of the servant of God (**Name**), Priest, who has been our Brother and Concelebrant who has fallen asleep, and for the forgiveness of all his transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

May the Lord God grant that his soul rest where the righteous repose. Let us ask for the mercies of God, the kingdom of heaven, and the forgiveness of his sins from Christ our Immortal King and God. Grant this, O Lord.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

O God of spirits and of all flesh, You have trampled upon death and have abolished the power of the devil, giving life to Your world. Give rest to the soul of Your departed servant (**Name**), Priest, who has been our Brother and Concelebrant, in a place of light, in a place of repose, in a place of refreshment, where there is no pain, sorrow, and suffering. As a good and loving God, forgive every sin he has committed in thought, word or deed, for there is no one who lives and does not sin. You alone are without sin. Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your word is truth.

Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν. Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

Ἵτι σὺ εἶ ἡ ἀνάστασις, ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ἡ μακαρία ἀνάπανσις τοῦ κεκοιμημένου δούλου σου (δεῖνα) ἱερέως, ἀδελφοῦ καὶ συλλειτουργοῦ ἡμῶν γενομένου, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν ἀναπέμπομεν, σὺν τῷ ἀνάρχῳ σου Πατρὶ, καὶ τῷ παναγίῳ καὶ ἀγαθῷ καὶ ζωοποιῷ σου Πνεύματι, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

ΑΠΟΛΥΣΙΣ

Δόξα σοι ὁ Θεός, ἡ ἐλπίς ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

Ἵο καὶ νεκρῶν καὶ ζώντων τὴν ἐξουσίαν ἔχων ὡς ἀθάνατος Βασιλεύς, καὶ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν, Χριστὸς ὁ ἀληθινὸς Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς παναχράντου ἀγίας αὐτοῦ Μητρὸς, τῶν ἀγίων ἐνδόξων καὶ πανευφήμων Ἀποστόλων, τῶν ὁσίων καὶ θεοφόρων Πατέρων ἡμῶν, τῶν ἀγίων ἐνδόξων Προπατόρων Ἀβραάμ, Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακώβ, τοῦ ὁσίου καὶ δικαίου φίλου αὐτοῦ Λαζάρου τοῦ τετραήμερου, καὶ πάντων των Ἀγίων, τὴν ψυχὴν τοῦ ἐξ ἡμῶν μεταστάντος δούλου αὐτοῦ (δεῖνα) ἱερέως, ἀδελφοῦ καὶ συλλειτουργοῦ ἡμῶν γενομένου ἐν σκηναῖς δικαίων τάξει, ἐν κόλποις Ἀβραάμ ἀναπαύσαι, καὶ μετὰ δικαίων συναριθμησαὶ ἡμᾶς δ' ἐλεῆσαι καὶ σώσαι ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος καὶ ἐλεήμων Θεός.

Αἰωνία σου ἡ μνήμη ἀξιομακάριστε καὶ ἀείμνηστε ἀδελφὲ ἡμῶν. (γ)

Ψάλλεται τό·

Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη. (γ)

Δι' εὐχῶν τῶν ἀγίων πατέρων ἡμῶν, Κύριε Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἐλέησον καὶ σῶσον ἡμᾶς. Ἀμήν.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

For You are the resurrection, the life, and the repose of Your departed servant (**Name**), Priest, who has been our Brother and Concelebrant Christ our God, and to You we give glory, with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Glory to You, O God, our hope, glory to You.

May Christ our true God, who rose from the dead and as immortal King has authority over the living and the dead, have mercy on us and save us, through the intercessions of his spotless holy Mother; of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and glorious forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; of his holy and righteous friend Lazaros, who lay in the grave four days; and of all the Saints, establish the soul of His servant (**Name**), Priest, who has been our Brother and Concelebrant, departed from us, in the dwelling place of the Saints; grant rest to him in the bosom of Abraham and number him among the righteous.

May your memory be eternal, our brother, who are worthy of blessedness and eternal memory. (3)

Chanted:

May his memory be eternal. (3)

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.