

Instructions for the Paraklesis Service in the Absence of a Priest

The **opening blessing** (“Blessed is our God...”) is replaced with “Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.”

The first two **litanies** are replaced with a 12-fold repetition of “Lord, have mercy” followed by “Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.”

For the **Gospel** reading, immediately after the prokeimenon, the reader plainly announces “The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke,” then simply reads (neither chanting nor intoning) the Gospel lection from the chanter stand. “Glory to Thee, O Lord...” is omitted before and after the reading.

The **Intercession** (“O God, save Thy people...”) is replaced with a 40-fold repetition of “Lord, have mercy” followed by “Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.”

At the place of the final **litany** only say the 40-fold “Lord, have mercy” followed by “Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.”

The **Dismissal** is omitted, sing the final hymns and conclude with “Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen”