

Holy Thursday

Evening Prayers for *Pesaha*



Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

By the grace of God, this work was completed for the benefit of the English-speaking faithful through the help of
St. Gregorios Mission Parish, Spokane WA.

The work is adapted from prose translations from the original Syriac by Rev.
Fr. Baby Varghese found in *The Order of the Prayers of the Holy Week*
(Malankara Orthodox Church Publications, 2012)

RAMSHO

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
one true God;

Bshem Abo w'Abro w'Roobo Qadisbo, Had Alobo Shareero. Amin.

Glory be to Him, and may His grace and mercy be upon us forever.
Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, by whose glory, the heaven
and earth are filled, Hosanna in the Highest.

Blessed is He, who has to come, and is to come, in the name of the
Lord; Glory be to Him in the Highest.

QAUMO

*Blessed is Your humiliation for our sake
(Brikb Mookukb/Pesabayaal pesaba...)*

Christ, whose - passion abolished - the Passover lamb
By it gladden us! - Have mercy!

Praise to - You, O Lord, Honor - to Your Father and
Worship to the Ho-ly Spirit
Have mer-cy on us sinners
May the gates of the
Hea-ven-ly Zion - be opened
That our - pray'rs may enter be- fore Your Throne , Glory
To You Lord, Glory
To You Lord, Glory
Our hope forever *Barekmor*

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

OPENING PRAYER¹

Priest: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

People: May His mercy and compassion be upon us, weak and sinful servants, in both worlds forever, Amin.

Priest: Make us worthy, O Lord God, to celebrate this festival of Your Holy Passover, not with the old and bitter leaven of those who celebrated without understanding the meaning of Your Feast and condemned You, but with the unleavened bread of purity and holiness, offering You a Passover and a feast which will be pleasing to You; and we will offer You praise and thanksgiving, now and always and forever.

People: Amin

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, in Your loving kindness; in the abundance of Your mercy blot out my sin.

Wash me thoroughly from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my fault and my sins are before me always.

Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight, that You may be justified in Your words and vindicated in Your judgment. For I was born in guilt and in sin did my mother conceive me.

But You take pleasure in truth and You have made known to me the secrets of Your wisdom. Sprinkle me with Your hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

¹ The 'Opening Prayer' for Ramsho is taken from *Prayer with the Harp of the Spirit* by Francis Acharya (English translations based on Holy Week prayers from the Syriac *Fenqitho*).

Give me the comfort of Your joy and gladness, and the bones which have been humbled shall rejoice. Turn away Your face from my sins and blot out all my faults.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew Your steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

But restore to me Your joy and Your salvation and let Your glorious spirit sustain me; that I may teach the wicked Your way and sinners may return to You.

Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue shall praise Your justice. Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall sing Your praise.

For You do not take pleasure in sacrifices; by burnt offerings You are not appeased. The sacrifice of God is a humble spirit, a heart that is contrite God will not despise.

Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion and build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then shall You be satisfied with sacrifices of truth and with whole burnt-offerings; then shall they offer bullocks upon Your altar.

And to you belongs the praise O God. **Barekmor**

Priest: Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

People: From ages unto ages and for ever more.

ENIYONO
(*Haw Dabwo Bukero*)

He Whom His - own people spat on
Who freed – Gentiles from error
 O God, - have mercy on us (*Rabemalain Alobo*)

He Who gla-ddened the Holy Church
With the - fragrance of Chrism
 O God, - have mercy on us

He Who told – the sinful woman:
“Your sins – have been forgiven”
 O God, - have mercy on us

He Who received - the woman’s tears
And ab-solved her of her debts
 O God, - have mercy on us

Have pity,- Lord, on Your peoples
Do not – forget Your children
 O God, - have mercy on us...*Barek'mor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

Let every-thing you created
Offer - praise to Your Greatness
 O God, - have mercy on us

Psalm 140 (141)*Kurielaison*

Lord, I have called upon you, answer me: hear and receive my words.

Let my prayer be like incense in your sight, the offering of my hands like the evening offering. Set a guard, Lord, before my mouth, a guard before my lips, that my heart may not turn to evil words and I may not do deeds of wickedness.

Let me not take salt with impious men; let the just man teach me and reprove me: let not the oil of the impious anoint my head; because my prayer was against their evil-doing: their judges have been restrained by the side of the rock; and they have heard how gentle are my words.

As when the plough cleaves the earth their bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol. I have lifted up my eyes to you, Lord, and in you have I put my trust, do not cast away my soul.

Keep me from the hand of the proud, who have laid snares for me; let the wicked fall into their nets, while I pass on.

Psalm 141 (142)

With my voice I cried to the Lord; with my voice I besought the Lord and poured out my prayer before him; I showed him my affliction, when my spirit was troubled, but you know my path.

In the way of my walking they have laid a snare for me; I look to my right and see none that knows me: the way of escape has gone from me and there is none who care for my soul. I cried to you, Lord, and said: you are my hope and my portion in the land of the living.

Hear my petition because I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors because they are too strong for me. Lead me forth from prison that I may give thanks to your name: your just ones shall have hope when you shall reward me.

Psalm 118 (119): 105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path; I have sworn and am resolved to keep the judgments of your justice. I am greatly brought low, Lord, give me life according to your word; be pleased with the words of my mouth, Lord, and teach me your judgments.

My soul is ever in my hands, and I have not forgotten your law; sinners have laid snares for me and I have not strayed from your commands. I shall inherit your testimony for ever because it is dear to my heart. I have turned my heart to do your commands for ever in truth.

Psalm 116 (117)

Praise the Lord all you nations; praise him all you peoples; for his grace is strong over us, truly the Lord is forever.

And to you belongs the praise, O God. *Barek'mor.*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

QOLO

(Yaumono)

Today John and Simon went to prepare the Paschal Lamb
 It is for the Lord of Myst'ries
 Who, by His will became for us
 A sacrifice for salvation

Today our Lord revealed the myst'ry to His disciples
 'One among You will betray Me
 And for this he will inherit
 Torments and unquenchable fire'

Today John and Simon traveled to the Holy City
 They prepared the Passover lamb
 And on this day glorious myst'ries
 Were offered in the Upper Room

Today the disciples were sorrowful and in mourning
 When the Lord spoke of His Passion
 "One among you will betray Me
 And deliver Me to the Jews"

When they heard from their Lord: "One among you will betray me,"
 The disciples were shaken and
 their minds were disturbed but they did
 not dare ask who would betray Him...*Barek'mor*

Shub'bo... Men olam...

God of all who suffered in the flesh for His Holy Church
 Remove schisms and heresies
 And make Your peace and good-will dwel
 in the four quarters of the earth

Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison.

Priest: Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for mercy and
 compassion

People: O merciful Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

Priest: Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and unceasing
 exaltation, truly at all times and hours, may we ascribe unto
 Thee, O Lord.

PROMEON & SEDRO

QOLO

(Mshibo Natreb l'Edtbok)

Today, our Lord revealed The Passion - to His disciples,
 That he would endure suffering for the - sake of Adam's race
 From the ungrateful people
 who rejected - the way of virtue
 They would crucify the guiltless One along with the thieves
 Praise to Him Who is infinite by His Essence
 Who emptied and humbled Himself and was taken to - be
 condemned to death...*Barekmor*

Shub'ho... Men olam...

Today, the disciples were saddened - when the Savior said:
 "One of you will betray Me into - the hands of the Jews
 I will endure the Passion
 And will suffer - on top of the Cross"
 Satan entered into Judas and - he went to the priests
Judas promised to betray his Lord and Master
 He took thirty pieces of silver as a price for - destruction and death

Moriyo Rabem...

ETRO

Priest: Receive, O Lord God, this incense which we have offered before You in this feast, like the offering of Abel, the holocaust of Noah, the sacrifice of Abraham, and the sacred ministry of Melchizedek; and like the prayer of Moses, the incense of Aaron, the undertaking of Phinehas, the supplication of David, and the tears of Manasseh. Gladden us, O Lord, by the remission of our debts and the healing of our pains, the protection of our souls, and the absolution of our departed, that we will offer up glory and thanksgiving to You and Your Father and Your Holy Spirit, now and always and forever.

People: Amin.

QOLO*(Quqoyo)*

On Wednesday and Thursday before the - Passover
 Our Lord revealed the Myst'ry to His – disciples:
 ‘We will go to – the Holy City
 And I will be – betrayed to the Jews
 They’ll raise the Son of Man on the cross – for Adam
 Who transgressed the command but by Me - he will be
 Halleluiah, turned back to Eden’...*Barekmor*

Shubho... Men olam...Halleluiah

On Wednesday and Thursday before the - Passover
 The wicked plotted against the Lord – of the Worlds
 Caiaphas spoke – about the Great Feast
 He prophesied – of Christ’s glor’ious death:
 ‘It is fitting that one man should die – for many.’
 So they killed the One who gives life to - all people
 Halleluiah – His words were fulfilled.

BOTHE D'HASHO*Hymns of the Passion*

Blessed is Your - Passion, O Lord
And the shame you suffered for us

On this evening – the disciples
Those pure lambs were greatly troubled
For the One Who – examines hearts
Revealed to them – this mystery:
'One among you will betray Me.'

On this evening – wicked Judas
Made a deal with the evil men
He agreed to – betray his Lord
The Son who bought – us with His blood
was sold for pieces of silver

The Passover – was made ready
for Christ Who is the Lord of Lords
He fulfilled all – the prophecies
Which were revealed - about the Son
To the seers and the prophets

When You judge those – who condemned You,
Lord, spare us from the tribunal

Moriyo Rabem...

BO'UTHO OF ST. EPHREM

Lord have mercy upon us
 By the Passion You endured.
 May we all suffer with You
 And be heirs in Your – Kingdom.

† **Our God, have mercy on us**
Our Lord, have mercy on us

On the last Passover Feast
 The True Lamb prepared Himself,
 Not by any compulsion,
 But He chose this by His will.
 The disciples asked their Lord,
 Who lowered Himself for us,
 ‘Lord, where do you wish us to
 Prepare Passover – for You?’

† **Our God, have mercy on us**
Our Lord, have mercy on us

“In Your house, I will fulfill
 The mystr’ies of the prophets.
 Behold, I offer myself
 For the joy of all peoples
 And I will betroth the Church
 Which I will gain forever.
 I write this marriage contract,
 With my precious living blood.”

† **Our God, have mercy on us**
Our Lord, have mercy on us

Lord, have mercy upon us
 By the Passion You endured.
 May we all suffer with You
 And be heirs in Your – Kingdom.

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Our Lord, have mercy on us

GOSPEL

Fethgomo

Halleluiah, Halleluiah
 Those who hate Me plotted against - Me
 They – devised evil against Me
 Halleluiah

(Incense is placed)

Deacon: With calmness and reverence and with sober minds...

Priest: Glory to the Lord, May His mercies be upon us forever

People: Amin.

Priest: The Holy Gospel according to the Apostle St. John.

People: Kuricleison

(Priest reads the Gospel of St. John 7:45-52, 8: 12-20)

Priest: † Worship To the Lord (*L'Moriyo...*)

People: Kuricleison

QAUMO

Christ, whose - passion abolished - the Passover lamb
 By it gladden us! - Have mercy!

Praise to - You, O Lord, Honor - to Your Father and
 Worship to the Ho-ly Spirit
 Have mer-cy on us sinners
 May the gates of the
 Hea-ven-ly Zion - be opened
 That our - pray'rs may enter be-fore Your Throne , Glory
 To You Lord, Glory
 To You Lord, Glory
 Our hope forever *Barekmor*

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

SUTORO

QAUMO

*Blessed is Your humiliation for our sake
(Brikb Mookukb/Pesabayaal pesaba...)*

Christ, whose - passion abolished - the Passover lamb
By it gladden us! - Have mercy!

Praise to - You, O Lord, Honor - to Your Father and
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Have mer-cy on us sinners
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To You Lord, Glory
To You Lord, Glory
Our hope forever *Barekmor*

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

Stoumen Kalos, Kurieleison

Priest: Let us all pray and beseech the Lord for mercy and compassion

People: O merciful Lord, have mercy upon us and help us.

Priest: Glory and thanksgiving, praise and adoration, and unceasing exaltation, truly at all times and hours, may we ascribe unto Thee, O Lord.

PROMEON & SEDRO

QOLO*(Quqovo)*

On this Thursday, our Lord entered the – Upper Room
 He called Judas and seated Him at – the table
 Upon his face – Judas wore a smile
 But in his heart - he bore bitterness
 He appeared as a lamb but inside – was a wolf
 Glory to Him Who knew his deceit - and set him
 Halleluiah - apart from his friends...*Barek mor*

Shubho...Men olam...Halleluiah

On this new Thursday our Lord gave the - example
 and entrusted this good thing to His - apostles
 He ordered them – ‘do likewise, humbly
 As you saw Me – performing the types
 “By this right and noble example – I have shown,
 All peoples shall know that you are my - disciples”
 Halleluiah w’ Halleluiah

*Moriyo Rabem...***BOTHE D’HASHO***Hymns of the Passion*

Blessed is Your - Passion, O Lord
 And the - shame you suffered for us

The Good One gave – Himself to death
 And thus fulfilled the mystery
 Like Isaac our – Lord was offered
 He saved Isaac – from the knife’s edge
 And raised Adam up from the fall

On this feast day – wicked people
 Plotted deceit and paid Judas
 Who agreed to – betray his Lord
 The silver, which – he earned from this
 Led him to hang himself in shame

Today Simon - and John were sent
 By the Lord of the Mysteries
 To prepare the – Passover meal
 That He might celebrate the feast
 And seal the Covenant of Old

When You judge those – who condemned You,
 Lord, spare us from the tribunal

BO'UTHO OF ST. JACOB OF SARUG

Christ who came for Passion, crucifixion, and death
 Lord hear our pray'r and have mercy upon our souls
 † **Our God, have mercy on us**
 Our Lord, have mercy on us

Christ came three days before the feast of Passover
 And fulfilled that which had taken place for Isaac
 Isaac traveled for three days to be sacrificed
 Which prefigured the myst'ry of our Saviour's death
 † **Our God, have mercy on us**
 Our Lord, have mercy on us

Our Lord was killed by His own will, not by nature
 Christ died in His humanity, not His essence
 Isaac carried the wood needed for his own death
 Likewise, the Son carried the cross on His shoulder
 † **Our God, have mercy on us**
 Our Lord, have mercy on us

Our Lord, in Your Passion the heav'n and earth suffered
 Watchers and men marveled at Your humility

† **Our God, have mercy on us**
Our Lord, have mercy on us

Kurielaison, Kurielaison, Kurielaison

Psalm 91

Barek'mor

You that sit in the shelter of the Most High and abide in glory; in the shadow of God.

Say to the Lord; 'My trust and my refuge; the God in whom I confide'.

For He shall deliver you from the snare of stumbling, and from idle talk.

He shall keep you under His feathers, and by His wings, you shall be covered; and His truth shall encompass you like an armor.

You shall not fear from the terror by night, and from the arrow that flies by the day.

And from the Voice that travels in the darkness, and from the devastating wind in the noon.

Thousands shall fall at your side and ten thousands at your right side.

They shall not come near to you but with your eyes you shall see only; You shall see the revenge of the wicked

Since You have said 'Thou art the Lord, my trust. Who has placed thy abode in the heights'.

There shall not evil come near to you; neither shall any plague draw near to your dwelling place.

For He shall give His angels command concerning you, who shall protect you in all your ways.

And they shall bear you up in their hands, lest your foot stumble.

You shall tread upon the adder and the basilisk; and you shall trample down the lion and the dragon.

For the Lord has said: 'Since he has sought me, I will deliver him and strengthen him'.

'Since he has known my name he shall call upon me and I will answer him, and be with him in affliction'.

I will strengthen him and honor him. With long life, will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

Psalm 121

I will lift up eyes to the mountain, from whence comes my helper.

My help is from the Lord who has made the heaven and the earth.

He will not suffer your foot to tremble; Your keeper shall not slumber.

For neither slumbers, nor sleeps the keeper of Israel;

The Lord is your keeper. The Lord shall overshadow you with his right hand.

The sun shall not smite you by day nor the moon by night;

The Lord shall take care of you from all evil; the Lord shall take care of your life.

He shall watch over your exit and your entrance, henceforth forever.

And to You belongs the praise, O God. *Barekmor*

Celebrant: Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost

People: Halleluiah – Halleluiah – Halleluiah
From ages unto ages and forever more

PRAYER OF ST. SEVERIOS

O Lord, who sittest in the secret place of the Most High, shelter us beneath the shadow of the wings of thy mercy, and have compassion upon us.

Thou, who hearest all things, in Thy loving kindness, hearken to the supplication of thy servants.

Grant us O Messiah; our Savior! A peaceful evening and a sinless night, for Thou art the King of Glory, and unto Thee, are our eyes lifted up.

Forgive our debts and our sins; have mercy upon us, both in this world and in that to come.

May thy loving kindness shelter us, O Lord and Thy grace be upon our faces. May Thy cross protect us, from the evil one and his hosts.

Let Thy right hand overshadow us all the days of our lives and Thy peace reign among us. Do Thou give hope and salvation to the souls that pray to Thee.

By the prayers of St. Mary, Thy Mother, and of all Thy Saints, O God, forgive us our debts, and have mercy upon us. **Amin**

QAUMO

Christ, whose - passion abolished - the Passover lamb
By it gladden us! - Have mercy!

Praise to - You, O Lord, Honor - to Your Father and
Worship to the Ho-ly Spirit
Have mer-cy on us sinners
May the gates of the
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To You Lord, Glory
To You Lord, Glory
Our hope forever *Barekmor*

Our Father, Who art in heaven...

We believe in One True God...²

Amin, Barekmor, Stoumen kalos, Kurielaison...

² The Nicene Creed can be skipped if Holy Qurbana is to be celebrated on the evening of Holy Thursday (Wednesday).

Appendix

Special Hymns for the Holy Qurbana

QAUMO

Blessed is Your humiliation for our sake (Brikh Mookuk...)

Christ, whose - passion abolished - the Passover lamb
By it gladden us! - Have mercy!

Praise to - You, O Lord, Honor - to Your Father and
Worship to the Ho-ly Spirit
Have mer-cy on us sinners
May the gates of the
Hea-ven-ly Zion - be opened
That our - pray'rs may enter be-fore Your Throne , Glory
To You Lord, Glory
To You Lord, Glory
Our hope forever *Barek'mor*

After the Gospel

(Quqoyo)

On this day, the Lord with his belov'd - disciples
Celebrated Passover in the - Upper Room
Praise to the Lord – Who took our body
As prophesied – He was born as man
Let us all cry aloud and sing Ha-lleluiah
He who became the sacrifice of - Passover
Halleluiah – is worthy of praise

Qatholiqi
(During the Fraction)
(Mor Ephrem)

Let us receive Christ's body
 As refuge from this cruel world.
 Let us consume from this cup,
 The drink of our salvation.

As the body is fractioned,
 Let us examine our hearts.
 Those who harbor hate within
 Must not eat the Lord's body.

Fire is over the body
 And flames are above the cup.
 Behold, the priest intercedes
 To the Lord on our behalf.



