

D. The New Heaven and the New Earth: The Human Person as Priest of the Universe

*Receive us all into your kingdom,
declaring us to be children of the light and children of the day.
Grant us your peace and your love, O Lord, our God;
for you have given us everything.
And grant that with one voice and one heart
we may glorify and sing the praises of your most honoured and magnificent name,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.
(Anaphora of the Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great)*

999 The Risen Christ, our Pascha, is the New Man, for by his Resurrection, death is overcome. In his glorified body, his Divine Person is the bearer of the new creation—of the new heaven and earth that God created in the beginning, but which humanity—through sin—subjected to transitory fading and vanity. The renewal of creation—"Behold, I make all things new" (Rev 21:5)—begins with the Resurrection of Christ and passes through the spiritual rebirth and renewal of each of us: "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation" (2 Cor 5:17).

1000 The world can be renewed by every person that has "put on" Christ—the new Adam—who therefore experiences the "new creation" spiritually. The apostle Paul teaches: "The creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God" (Rom 8:20-21).

1001 Hope for the successful completion of the world's transfiguration comes from the prophetic words of Christ: "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (Jn 16:33). Christ speaks of things that are to come as being already completed, seeing them as such in his Divine Providence. It has been entrusted to us to bring this victory of Christ to completion: "Do this in remembrance of me" (Lk 22:19).

DAILY PRAYERS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (3)
Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of truth, Who are everywhere present and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us; cleanse us of all that defiles us; and, O Good One, save our souls.

Trisagion

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

Doxology

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer to the Most Holy Trinity

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us. Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord; pardon our transgressions, O Master; look upon our weakness and heal them, O Holy One; for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Worship of Jesus Christ

Come, let us bow in worship before the King, our God.

Come, let us bow in worship before Christ the King, our God.

Come, let us bow in worship and fall down before the very Lord, Jesus Christ, our King and God.