1A. Jesus Christ, O Source of Light  
(Hymn of Light)

Syriac: hasyo oo-qadeesho  
Eng Adapt: Inter-Eparchial Music Commission  
(2011)

Em

Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

Am

Je - sus Christ, O Source of Light, in you we see light.  
Holy Lord, you dwell in light in realms of glory.  
Virgin Mary, you are blest among all women.  
Blessèd martyrs, you proclaimed before your judges:  
Son of God, you died and rose to give us new life.

Em

Truly Light from Light, you shine on all creation.  
Keep us free from sin and shame; dispel all darkness.  
You were chosen by the Lord to be his Mother.  
"We will not renounce our Lord, the Crucified One,  
Those who sleep in death have hope and consolation."

D

Shine your light upon us all; grant us joy with your bright dawn.  
Grant us purity of heart; may your justice guide our lives.  
The Eternal Son took flesh, dwelling nine months in your womb.  
but with fervent love for him we will suffer pain and death."  
Jesus, you will raise them up, for they praised the Trinity.
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
(Celebrated on September 14
and all the Sundays during the Season of the Glorious Cross)

Entrance Hymn

Lord, Your Cross Was Taken from the Tree
Syriac: fsheeto

1. Alleluia!
Lord, your cross was taken from the tree in Eden,
and your death upon the cross
has granted new life to all the world.
In its shadow refuge can be found
for the rich and poor.
All the prophets and the martyrs sang its praises.
On this day we join with them in giving glory.
Alleluia! The cross is our light!
2. Alleluia!
When they crucified the Lord,
our great Redeemer;
and he died upon the cross for our salvation,
all was fulfilled.
Joseph, his disciple, with great love
came to bury him.
He beheld and touched the body of the Savior.
On this day we join with him in giving glory.
Alleluia! The cross is our light!

3. Alleluia!
With the cross we bless ourselves
for Christ’s protection.
When the Tempter comes to us with his deception
and sees the cross;
far from it he flees and hides himself
in the darkest depths,
for the holy cross is mighty and defends us.
On this day we raise it up in exaltation.
Alleluia! The cross is our light!
The Celebrant, assistants, and altar servers stand at the sanctuary steps in front of the altar. At the conclusion of the Entrance hymn or psalm, they chant in Syriac:

Cel:  
I have entered your house, O God, and have worshipped before your throne. O King of heaven, forgive all my sins.

Cel: (crossing his hands over his chest, he turns slightly towards his left and then towards his right)

sa-laow 'a-lai meh-tool mo-ran.

Pray for me to the Lord.

Cong:  
May God accept your offering and have mercy on us through your prayer.

All enter the sanctuary and go to their appointed places.
Opening Prayers

Cel:  (standing at the Gospel lectern, he blesses himself)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong:  Amen.

Cel:  Lord Jesus, make us worthy to celebrate the exaltation of your glorious cross with sacred hymns and psalms. When you appear on the last day and the sign of your cross will shine brighter than the sun, gather us before you, and surround us with your eternal light, that we may raise glory and thanks to you, to your Father, and to your Holy Spirit, for ever.

Cong:  Amen.

Cel:  (blessing the congregation)
* Peace be with the Church and her children.

Cong:  Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good hope to all.
Prayer of Forgiveness

Cel: (placing incense in the thurible, he says)

To the glory and honor of the Most Holy Trinity.

The Celebrant, or someone appointed by him, chants the Prayer of Forgiveness. Meanwhile, either the Celebrant, or another priest or deacon, incenses the cross three times three (in the middle, to the right, and to the left), the four corners of the altar, the clergy, and the congregation.

Cel: Let us raise glory, honor, and praise to the Savior, who made the wood of his cross a strong fortress for his flock and established it as a sign of the covenant for the salvation of his inheritance. By his cross, he exalted his Church and gave joy to all people who believed in it. To the Good One be glory and honor, on this feast, and all the days of our lives, and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: O Christ our God, by your precious cross you have given us perfect salvation and made us worthy to celebrate this feast with hymns of praise, proclaiming:

Blessed are you, O Wood of the Holy Cross, for you erased Adam’s curse and restored his banished children to their inheritance.

Blessed are you, O Holy Cross, for you united heavenly and earthly beings.

Blessed are you, O Holy Cross, for you fulfilled the words of the prophets, enlightened the apostles in their preaching, crowned the martyrs for their faith, and honored the confessors for their loyalty.
Now, O Christ our Savior, we ask you, with the fragrance of this incense, to make the celebration of the feast of the exaltation of your holy cross a sign of security and peace. By your cross, exalt your holy Church, guide her shepherds, adorn her priests with virtue, purify her deacons, help the elderly, educate children, direct the young, protect orphans, care for widows, and grant rest in your dwellings of light to our brothers and sisters who have died hoping in you. May we find refuge in the shadow of your cross on the great day of your second coming, that we may raise glory and thanks to you, to your Father, and to your Holy Spirit, for ever.

Cong:  Amen.

Hymn

Your Cross, O Lord
Syriac: toobaik 'eedto

1. Your cross, O Lord,
had been lost but then was found
through Saint Helen's love and zeal.
When the cross had been revealed,
all the world was bathed in light
and the darkness disappeared.
Now the Church in every place
honors and adores your cross,
for she has been saved from sin
to inherit life on high.
2. Your cross, O Lord,
is the key to paradise
and unlocks its gates for us
that were closed by Adam’s sin.
It protects us from the fire
and the place of punishment,
for through it we have been saved.
By your holy cross, O Lord,
may we enter with the saints
into heaven’s lasting joy.

3. Lord, may your cross
guard your holy, faithful Church
everywhere throughout the world.
Keep all scandal far from her;
keep her free from harm and strife,
that your lasting peace may reign
for all ages yet to come.
May the children of the Church
find their shelter and their strength
in the shadow of your cross.

Cel: (standing at the Gospel lectern)
Jesus Christ our Lord, accept these prayers and the
fragrance of the incense that we have offered on the feast
of the exaltation of your holy cross. May its sign always be
visible before our eyes to strengthen us, that we may walk
with you toward death and then stand at your right hand
to celebrate the feast of your eternal victory. We glorify
you, your Father, and your Holy Spirit, for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Qadeeshat Aloho
(You are holy, O God)

The Celebrant and congregation sing the Qadeeshat three times, in Syriac.

qa-dee-shat a-lo-ho. You are holy, O God.
qa-dee-shat ha-yel-to-no. You are holy, O Strong One.
qa-dee-shat lo-mo-yoo-to. You are holy, O Immortal One.

it-ra-ham 'a-lain. Have mercy on us.

Cel: Holy and immortal Lord, sanctify our minds and purify our consciences, that we may praise you with purity and listen to your Holy Scriptures. To you be glory, for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Readings

Psalms of the Readings

Syriac: ramrēmēn

Cong: Guard the Church and her children with your cross of light and life. By your cross, O Redeemer, prophecies have been fulfilled.

Cel: With the sign of your cross, Lord, you ordain your holy priests, and they give us the Mysteries through the power of your cross.

All: Lord, your cross is a ladder leading us to heaven's heights. May your Church and her children join the angel hosts on high.
Second Letter to the Corinthians 15: 19-34

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. Then he will come into his own glory with all his holy ones, with the kings of glory. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew 24: 1-14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the temple buildings. Then he asked them, 'You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' Jesus answered them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!', and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. 'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But anyone who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.
Epistle

The reader stands at the Epistle lectern, while a server holds a lighted candle to the right of the lectern. The reader introduces the Epistle, saying:

Reader: A reading from ... Your blessing, Father.

Ccl: (blessing the reader)

Glory to the Lord of Paul and the apostles! * May the mercy of God descend upon the reader and the listeners, and upon this parish and her children, for ever.

The reader recites the Epistle and concludes by saying:

Reader: Praise be to God always!

Gospel

STAND

Cong: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor: "The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

(1 Corinthians 1:18)

Cong: Alleluia!

The Celebrant places incense in the thurible, and incenses the Book of Gospels three times three, while a deacon proclaims:

Deacon: Before the proclamation of the Gospel of our Savior, announcing life for our souls, we offer this incense and ask for your mercy, O Lord.
The Creed can be found on page 748.

Homily

Catechist: He blesses the Book of Gospels, for giving us his words of life.

The Creed concludes by blessing the congregation with the Book of Gospels, saying:

Praise and blessings to Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, who proclaimed the Gospel and gave glory and thanks, according to Saint John, who proclaimed life to the world. Let us listen to the proclamation of the living God.

Deacon: Remain silent. Listeners for the Holy Gospel is about to be proclaimed to you.

Cat.: This is the truth! Peace be with you.

Catechist: And with your spirit.

Cat.: Peace be with you.

Catechist: From the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint N., who proclaimed life to the world for our souls.

Catechist: Let us listen to the proclamation of life and salvation.
Creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. We confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and we look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.
Approach to the Altar

The Celebrant walks towards the altar, chanting in Syriac:

Cel: ee-tel-wot ma-deb-heh da-lo-ho
    wal-wot a-lo-ho
    dam-ha-deh tai-yoot.
    weh-no bsao-ghod
    tai-boo-tokh
    eh-ool-lel bai-tokh
    wes-ghoo-deb
    hai-yek-lo dqood-shokh.

I will go to the altar of God, to God who gives joy to my youth. Through the abundance of your goodness I will enter your house and worship in your holy temple.

Cong: bdeh-hel-tokh mor-yo
da-ba-rain
wab-za-dee-qoo-tokh
a-leh-fain

Guide me, O Lord, in your fear, and instruct me in your justice.

Cel: (crossing his hands over his chest, he turns slightly towards his left and then towards his right)
sa-laow ‘a-lai
meh-tool mo-ran.

Pray for me to the Lord.

Cong: a-lo-ho nqa-bel
goor-bo-nokh
oo-net-ra-ham ‘a-lain
bas-loo-tokh.

May God accept your offering and have mercy on us through your prayer.

The Celebrant approaches the altar and kisses it in the center.
Transfer and Presentation of the Offerings

For Feasts and Sundays: The assistants (or whomever the Celebrant appoints) transfer the offerings from the preparation table to the altar. The procession is led by candles. Meanwhile, the congregation sings the Hymn of Transfer.

The Lord Reigns
Syriac: ḥaṣṣa'ta

Cong: The Lord reigns clothed in majesty. Alleluia!
Our Lord Jesus said: "I am the Bread of Life.
From the Father I was sent
as Word without flesh to give new life.
Of the Virgin Mary I was born, taking flesh as man;
as good earth receives a seed, her womb received me.
Priestly hands now lift me high above the altars."
Alleluia. Our gifts, Lord, receive.

(Arabic)
hal-le-loo-ya.
qa-la rab-boo in-na-neeq al-khoob-zool mooh-yee, (el)-ā-tee
min hid-nil ā-bee qoo-tan lil 'ā-lam qa-bee-la-neeq hid-nool
'ath-ra'ai oom-min na-qee (el)-'a-thra-ee mar-yam, mith-la
ha-ba-tīl qam-hee feel ar-dīl khas-bah, sir-too faow-qal
math-ba-hee qoo-tan lil bee-'ah. hal-le-loo-ya wa khoob-za
hāi-yāh.

(Syriac)
mor-yo am-lekh oo-ga-yoo-tol besh. hal-le-loo-ya.
eh-no no lah-mod ḥa-yeh eh-mar mo-ran. dmen roaw-mol
oom-qo neh-tet dhee-heh bee 'ol-mo shal-han a-bo. met-
tod le bes-ro wahal dal-ferd-to dhee-teh ba-seem-to qa-bel-
tan khar-sod mar-yam akh ar-o toβ-to oo-hom zai-heen lee
bee-dai-hoon koh-neh 'al ma-deb-ħeħ hal-le-loo-ya qa-bel
qoore bo-nan.
The Celebrant raises the paten in his right hand and the chalice in his left, saying:

Cel: Almighty Lord and God,
you accepted the offerings of our ancestors.
Now accept these offerings
that your children have brought to you
out of their love for you and for your holy name.
Shower your spiritual blessings upon them
and, in place of their earthly gifts,
grant them life and your kingdom.

Cong: Amen.

The Celebrant places the offerings on the altar and covers them with the palls. He extends his hands in the form of a cross upon them, saying:

Cel: As we remember our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ
and his plan of salvation for us,
we recall upon this offering
all those who have pleased God
from Adam to this day,
especially Mary, the blessed Mother of God,
Saint Maron, Saint N. (the patron of the church),
and Saint N. (the saint of the day).

Remember, O God, the children of the holy Church:
our fathers and mothers, and our brothers and sisters,
both the living and the departed,
especially those for whom this sacrifice is offered, N.
Remember also all those who share with us today
in this offering.

Cong: Amen.

The Celebrant places the paten in his right hand and the chalice in his left, saying:

Cel: Almighty Lord and God,
you accepted the offerings of our ancestors.
Now accept these offerings
that your children have brought to you
out of their love for you and for your holy name.
Shower your spiritual blessings upon them
and, in place of their earthly gifts,
grant them life and your kingdom.

Cong: Amen.
The Celebrant incenses the cross (three times three); the offerings (in the middle, to the right, and to the left); the four corners of the altar, and then the congregation. He concludes by incensing the relics of the martyrs in the altar (to the right and to the left).

Meanwhile, the congregation sings an appropriate hymn commemorating the Virgin Mary, the saints, or the faithful departed.

Honor Mary, Mother of Our Lord

Syriac: Imaryam yoldat aboho

Cong: Alleluia!

Honor Mary, Mother of our Lord and God, and with her remember all the righteous ones, prophets and apostles, martyrs and the priests, and the children of the Church, from age to age.

(Arabic) hal-le-laa-ya.
lee-wa-lee-da-till há-hil oo-mi ‘ath-ra
l-an-biyá-ee wa-roos-lee wa-shoo-ha-dá,
wal-khoo-dá-ml ka-ha-na jaow-qií ab-rar
kool-lee aoow-lá-dil bee-‘ah nooh-yee tath-kar.

(Syriac) hal-le-laa-ya.
Imar-yam yol-dat a-lo-ho neh dookh-ro-no
oo-lan-bee-yeh shlee-heh oo-soh-deh oo-kee-neh oo-koh-neh.
wal-khool-hoon yal-deh d’ee-to men dor el-dor
wa‘-da-mol ‘o-lam ‘ol-meen a-meen wa-meen.
Anaphora of Saint Mark
The Evangelist

Rite of Peace

Cel: (blessing himself)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: (extending his hands)
Lord God, Almighty Father, you are true and holy love. May we be bound by your divine love and find joy in it all the days of our lives. Make us worthy to give one another the greeting of peace with a holy kiss, that through Jesus Christ our Lord we may be your radiant and blameless flock. We glorify and honor you, your only Son, and your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

The Celebrant places his hands on the altar and on the offerings and then he gives the greeting of peace.

Cel: Peace to you, O Altar of God.
Peace to the Holy Mysteries placed upon you.
Peace to you, O server of the Holy Spirit.
Deacon: Let us give the greeting of peace to our neighbor
with love and faith that are pleasing to God.
The congregation exchanges the greeting of peace with joined hands, while
singing an appropriate hymn of peace, such as:

Cong: Peace, love, and faith, brothers and sisters,
from God the Father
and from the Lord Jesus Christ,
and may the God of peace be with us. Amen.

C refers to (extending his hands)

Lord God, we bow before you and ask that you grant us,
in your mercy, the riches of your grace and kindness. May
your compassion and assistance sustain us all the days
of our lives through the grace of your only Son and his love
for all people. We glorify and honor you, your only Son,
and your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

C refers to (extending his hands)

Holy God and Father, you sent your only Son to save
us, for we are weak and poor. When we went astray, he
brought us back to your spiritual fold by his royal blood.
Through your grace and the favor of your only Son, we
implore you to accept this bloodless sacrifice from our
sinful hands, and through it to forgive our sins. We glorify
and honor you, your only Son, and your Holy Spirit, now
and for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Eucharistic Prayer

STAND

The Celebrant blesses the congregation three times (in the middle, to the left, and to the right).

Cel: The love of God the Father*, and the grace of the only-begotten Son*, and the communion and indwelling of the Holy Spirit*, be with you, my brothers and sisters, for ever.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Cel: (lifting up his hands and looking upwards)
Let us lift up our thoughts, our minds, and our hearts.

Cong: We lift them up to the Lord.

Cel: (joining his hands and bowing)
Let us give thanks to the Lord with reverence and worship him with humility.

Cong: It is right and just.

Cel: (extending his hands)

Truly glory, thanks, praise, and honor are yours, O God the Father, Maker of all creation, with your only-begotten Son and your living Holy Spirit. The angels, archangels, and all the heavenly hosts bless and praise you. They cry out and proclaim:
Cong: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your great glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who has come and will come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Cel: Holy, holy, holy are you, God the Father Almighty, with your only Son and your Holy Spirit. When we had strayed from you by transgressing your law, you sent your only Son into the world for our salvation. By his saving passion he restored us to our original inheritance and gave us life by his divine blood.
Cel: (taking the bread in his hands and praying in Syriac)

wa-byaaw-mo haow daq-dom ha-sho dee-leh
ma’-bed ha-yeh
en-sa-bel lah-mo bee-daow qa-dee-sho-to
oo-ba-rekh oo-qa-desh
waq-so oo-ya-bel tal-mee-daow kad o-mar:
sab a-khool meh-neh kool-khoon
ho-no den ee-taow fagh-ro deel
dah-lo-fai-koon wah-lof sa-gee-yeh
meh-teq-seh oo-meh-tee-heb
lhoo-so-yod haow-beh wal-ha-yeh
dal-‘o-lam ‘ol-meen.

And on the day before his life-giving passion,
he took bread in his holy hands.
He blessed, sanctified, and broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take this, all of you, and eat of it,
for this is my body
which is broken and given
for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins
and for eternal life.

Cong: Amen.

The Celebrant bows.
Cel: (taking the chalice in his hands and praying in Syriac)

ho-kha-no 'al ko-so dam-zeegh wo
men ham-ro oo-men ma-yo
ba-rekh oo-qa-desh
oo-ya-bel tal-mee-daow kad o-mar:
sab esh-taow meh-neh kool-khoon
ho-no den ee-taow dmo deel
dee-ya-tee-gee hda-to
dah-lo-fai-koon wah-lof sa-gee-yeh
meh-teh-shed oo-meh-tee-heb
lhoo-so-yod haow-beh wal-ha-yeh
dal-'o-lam 'ol-meen.

In a similar way,
over the chalice of wine mixed with water,
he blessed and sanctified it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take this, all of you, and drink from it,
for this is my blood of the new covenant,
which will be poured out and given
for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins
and for eternal life.

Cong: Amen.
The Celebrant bows.
Cel: (extending his hands)
Whenever you observe these commandments, you proclaim my death and resurrection until I come again.

Cong: We remember your death, O Lord.
We profess your resurrection.
We await your second coming.
We implore your mercy and compassion.
We ask for the forgiveness of sins.
May your mercy rest upon us.

Cel: Lord Jesus Christ, we remember your plan of salvation for us: your conception, birth and baptism, your saving passion and life-giving death, your burial, your glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven, your sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and your royal second coming when you will judge all people and reward them according to their deeds.

Now we ask you: At that fearful hour, have compassion on us, have mercy on us in your kindness, and forgive our sins in your mercy. For this, your Church implores you and, through you and with you, implores your Father, saying:

Cong: Have mercy on us, Almighty Father.
Have mercy on us.

Cel: (crossing his hands over his chest)
O Lord, as we, your sinful children, receive your graces, we thank you for them and because of them.
Cong: We praise you. We bless you. We adore you. We glorify you. We profess our faith in you and we ask you: Have compassion on us, O God. Have mercy on us and hear us.

Deacon: How awesome is this moment, my beloved, for the living Holy Spirit descends and rests upon this offering for our sanctification. Let us stand with reverence as we pray.

Cel: (bowing, he flutters his hands three times over the Mysteries)

Yes, O Lord, at this moment have mercy on us and hear us. From your heavens send us your Holy Spirit, who is consubstantial with you, who appeared in the form of a dove over your only Son at the Jordan River, and who descended in tongues of fire on your holy apostles in the Upper Room. May he perfect us as well, with the abundance of your grace, and make us chosen vessels worthy of your service.

Cel: (kneeling on both knees and extending his hands)

Hear us, O Lord. 'a-neen mor-yo.
Hear us, O Lord. 'a-neen mor-yo.
Hear us, O Lord. 'a-neen mor-yo.
And may your living oo-neeh-teh mor roo-hokh ha-yo
Holy Spirit oo-qaa-deeh-sho.
come and rest upon us oo-na-geneh 'a-lain
and upon this offering. oo-ee al qoor-bo-no ho-no.

The Celebrant kisses the altar.
Cong: Lord, have mercy. Kýrie eleíson.
Lord, have mercy. Kýrie eleíson.
Lord, have mercy. Kýrie eleíson.

The Celebrant stands.

Cel: [making the sign of the cross over the Mysteries]
That by his descent ai-ka-no dab-magh-noo-teh
he may make this bread ne’bed lah-no ho-no
* the Body of Christ fagh-ro dam-shee-ho
our God. a-lo-ho dee-lan.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: And make the mixture oo-lam-zo-gho
in this chalice dab-ko-so ho-no
* the Blood of Christ amo dee-leh dam-shee-ho
our God. a-lo-ho dee-lan.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: May these Holy Mysteries be for the forgiveness of sins, the
pardon of faults, the honor, upbuilding and strengthening
of your holy Church, and the protection of her children
from sin; and may these Mysteries allow us to stand with
confidence before your awesome throne, that we may
raise glory to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Intercessions

Cel: (joining his hands)

O Lord, exalt thy holy Church established throughout the world. Protect her shepherds of the true faith in peace and security all the days of their lives, especially N., the Pope of Rome, N. Peter; our Patriarch of Antioch, N., our Bishop, and all the bishops, pious priests, pure deacons, and all who serve thy holy altar. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, all those who call upon thy holy name. Bless those who are near and bring back those who are far, visit the sick and strengthen the weak, release captives and assist the oppressed, bring back those who have strayed that they may live in your fear, and reward those who have brought offerings to your holy Church. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, our civil leaders and all the children of thy holy Church. Grant them security and peace, and keep domestic and foreign conflicts far from them, so that they may live in tranquility. Protect them by the sign of thy living and victorious cross. Rescue the persecuted and the displaced of thy flock, and be a refuge for strangers and a companion to travelers.
Grant your eternal reward to monks, to those who live solitary lives, and to hermits who live on mountaintops and in caves of the earth. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

On some occasions, the Deacon may add intercessions, after having consulted with the Celebrant.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, upon this altar and upon your heavenly altar the holy and ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of God; the prophets, apostles, martyrs, confessors, and evangelists; John the Baptist, the forerunner; Stephen, the archdeacon and first martyr; Saint N. (the patron of the church), Saint N. (the saint of the day), and all the saints. May we join their ranks and share in their joyful feast. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, the faithful teachers who have gone to their rest in the true faith, especially Peter and Paul, Mark, Clement, Ignatius, Dionysius, Julius, and all those who endured suffering and persecution for the strengthening of your holy Church. Remember also those who serve your holy altar, and forgive their sins, that they may reach your joyful dwellings. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.
Ccl: Remember, O Lord, all those who have left this world and have gone to you. Lead them to your joyful dwellings and blot out all their sins. Through our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, who is without sin, we hope to find mercy and forgiveness for our sins and for theirs.

Cong: Grant rest, O God, to the departed, and forgive the sins we have committed with or without full knowledge.

Ccl: (extending his hands and blessing the congregation)

Grant us pardon, O God, and forgive us and the departed, so that your blessed name may be glorified in us and in all things, with the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and of your living Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: As it was, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Fraction, Signing, Sprinkling, Mingling, and Elevation

The congregation sings an appropriate hymn while the Celebrant performs the following rite:

The Fraction, symbolizing Christ’s crucifixion and death; the Signing, symbolizing the action of the Trinity in uniting the Body and Blood; the Sprinkling, symbolizing the sprinkling of the Body with the Blood which is the symbol of life; the Mingling, symbolizing the uniting of Christ’s Body and Blood; and the Elevation, symbolizing Christ’s resurrection, ascension into heaven, and the completion of the mystery of redemption.

The Celebrant takes the host in his right hand and breaks it over the chalice into two parts; then he breaks a piece from the edge of the half remaining in his left hand saying silently:
Cel:
We have believed and have approached and now we seal * and break this oblation, the heavenly bread, the Body of the Word, who is the living God.

He dips the small piece into the chalice in the form of a cross:

We sign this chalice of salvation and thanksgiving with the forgiving ember which glows with heavenly mysteries:

He dips the Body in the Blood three times and continues:

In the name of the Father *, the Living One, for the living; and of the only Son *, the Holy One, begotten of him, and like him, the Living One, for the living; and of the Holy Spirit *, the beginning, the end, and the perfection of all that was and will be in heaven and on earth; the one, true, and blessed God without division from whom comes life for ever.
He sprinkles the Body three times, using the small piece that has been dipped into the Blood:

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is sprinkled on his holy Body, in the name of the Father *, and of the Son *, and of the Holy Spirit *. He drops the small piece into the Blood:

You have united, O Lord, your divinity with our humanity and our humanity with your divinity, your life with our mortality and our mortality with your life. You have assumed what is ours and you have given us what is yours for the life and salvation of our souls. To you be glory for ever.

The Celebrant joins the two halves of the Body and holds them in his right hand over the chalice which is held in his left hand. He elevates them and prays with the congregation:

All: STAND

O Lord, you are the pleasing Oblation, who offered yourself for us. You are the forgiving Sacrifice, who offered yourself to your Father. You are the High Priest, who offered yourself as the Lamb. Through your mercy, may our prayer rise like incense which we offer to your Father through you. To you be glory for ever.
Lord's Prayer and Penitential Rite

Ciel: (extending his hands)

O God the Father, you are merciful and compassionate. You have sanctified this divine service and have perfected it in your good pleasure, by the grace of your only Son and by the descent of your Holy Spirit. Sanctify us now, that we may be renewed as your spiritual children, so that with pure hearts and enlightened souls we may call upon you, O glorious Father and Lover of all people, praying:

All: (with extended hands)

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 the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Ciel: (extending his hands)

Deliver us, O Lord, from every temptation of soul and body, and crush our enemy, the Evil One. Grant us your mercy through Christ Jesus our Lord, for you are blessed and glorified with him, and with your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Cel: (blessing the congregation)
   ✡ Peace be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.
   All bow their heads.

Deacon: Bow your heads before the God of mercy, before his forgiving altar, and before the Body and Blood of our Savior, who gives life to those who partake of him, and receive the blessing from the Lord.

Cel: (extending his hands)

O Lord, look upon us, your inheritance who bow before you, and guide our steps on your right path. Make us worthy to share in this sacrifice, and may it sanctify the souls and bodies of those who receive it, through Christ Jesus our Lord. We glorify and honor you, your only Son, and your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: (blessing the congregation)
   ✡ The grace of the most Holy Trinity, eternal and consubstantial, be with you, my brothers and sisters, for ever.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Let each one of us look to God with reverence and humility and ask him for mercy and compassion.
Invitation to Communion

Cel: (elevating the paten in his right hand and the chalice in his left)
Holy Gifts for the holy,
with perfection, purity, and sanctity.

Cong: One Holy Father, one Holy Son, one Holy Spirit!
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
for he is one in heaven and on earth;
to him be glory, for ever.

All: (with extended hands)
Make us worthy, O Lord God,
so that our bodies may be sanctified
by your holy Body
and our souls purified
by your forgiving Blood.
May our communion be
for the forgiveness of our sins
and for new life.
O Lord our God, to you be glory, for ever.
Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Cong: O Divine Ocean of mercy and compassion, be with us in our time of trial and difficulties.

Today I make an act of spiritual communion with you, the life-giving Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

At this time I am not able to receive the sacred body and blood of my Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, but I choose to live in union with him and in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

I offer my day, my daily life, my joys and sorrows to you, for those around me, and for the whole world.

Be with us, O life-giving Triune God, for we know that nothing in this world has power over us.

O Lover of all people, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
Communion

The Hosts of Angels
Arabic: 'asakiru sama

Cong: The hosts of angels have come to stand with us at the holy altar. They sing in chorus and carry Christ, the Lamb, sacrificed before us.

O come, receive him, the saving Lamb of God, who will grant forgiveness.

Alleluia.

Cel: (praying silently)

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ is given to me for the forgiveness of my sins and for eternal life.

The Celebrant reverently consumes the Body of Christ.

Cel: (praying silently)

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is given to me for the forgiveness of my sins and for eternal life.

The Celebrant reverently consumes the Blood of Christ. The concelebrants receive Communion. The faithful then approach for Communion. Before receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, each one bows and makes the sign of the cross, and the Celebrant says:

Cel: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ are given to you for the forgiveness of your sins and for eternal life.

During Communion, appropriate Communion hymns are sung. The traditional communion hymns are found on pages 922-926.
Traditional Syriac Communion Hymns

Hymn 1A

I Am Truly the Bread of Life
Syriac: bo’oolo aloor ya’qoob (ehno elno lahmo dhayeh)

“I am truly the Bread of Life
who will grant you life eternal
if you eat my Body in faith.”

eh-no eh-no lah-mo dha-yeh
eh-mar mo-ran kool do-khel lee
bhai-mo-noo-to nee-rat ha-yeh.

Come and drink from this precious cup
which was poured out on the Lord’s cross,
and obtain the pardon of sins.

ho-naow ko-so dmaz-geh mo-ran
‘al reesh qai-so qroob mo-yoo-teh
wesh-taow meh-nel hoo-soy haow-beh.

Come receive his pure Body now.
Come in true faith; drink his pure Blood;
this the Church proclaims singing praise.

a-hai qa-bel fagh-reh dab-ro
qo’yo ‘ee-to wesh-taow lad-meh
bhai-mo-noo-to waz-mar shoob-ho.
Hymn 1B

Holy, Holy, the Church Proclaims

Syriac: bo'ōto dimor ya'qoob (ehno ehno lajmo dhayeh)

Holy, holy, the Church proclaims,
Lord, most holy! You forgive us
by your precious Body and Blood.

qa-deesh qa-deesh qa-deesh-shat mor
qo'-ya 'ee-to bree-khooed yab-lee
fagh-reh wad-meh det-ha-seh beh.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let us praise him who forgives us
by his precious Body and Blood.

ha-le-loo-ya oo -ha-le-loo-ya.
leh tesh-booh-to dyab lan fagh-reh
wad-meh ha-yod net-ha-seh beh.

May this pure sacrifice, O Lord,
intercede for us at judgment
when we stand before your great throne.

qood-shoqk neh-weh met-kash-fo-no
bdee-no hlo-fain qdom hot bee-ma
dmal-yo deh-lo oo -'a-zee-zoo-to.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Now the Church sings hymns of glory
and receives the Blood of the Lord.

ha-le-loo-ya oo -ha-le-loo-ya.
leh tesh-booh-to dshot-yo meh-neh
'ee-to oo -yal-deh oo -zom-reen shoob-ho.
Lord, Accept This Sacrifice

Syriac: bo'oto dmor qfrem (qabel moran bahnonokh)

1. Lord, accept this sacrifice in the kindness of your love, and have mercy on the dead; grant them life with you above.

2. Lord, this sacrifice was made for the faithful who have died. May it bring rest to their souls, then with you they will abide.

3. Since this sacrifice was made by the living for the dead, Lord, forgive their sins and faults through the Blood your Son has shed.
4. Jesus raised up Lazarus
and the widow’s only son;
may he sprinkle mercy’s dew
on the tombs of faithful ones.

5. With the righteous Abraham,
Isaac, and with Israel,
grant to our departed ones
life in heaven where you dwell.

Hymn 3

King of Heaven

Syriac: setoro tobo & lbaınok 'elẹt (malko shmayono)

1. King of Heaven, grant
life eternal to the dead
through this sacrifice which was offered for their souls.

May they be remembered, Lord,
in Jerusalem above,
in the Church, and on your altar in heaven.
2. For your flock you died,
   O Good Shepherd, Lamb of God.
   In your tender love may the faithful find their rest.

   Our souls thirst for you, O Lord,
   yet we fear to draw so near
   for our sins are great. Be kind and forgive us.

3. May we pass to light
   from the darkness without fear,
   for a path and bridge is your Body and your Blood.

   Grant joy to the ones on high
   and good hope to those on earth
   who have offered prayers for all the departed.
After Communion, the Celebrant blesses the congregation with the Mysteries:

**STAND**

**Cel:**  Again and again we thank you, O Lord, and raise glory to you, for giving us your Body to eat and your living Blood to drink. O Lover of all people, have mercy on us.

**Cong:**  Have mercy on us, O Lord. O compassionate and merciful One, O Lover of all people, have mercy on us.

**Thanksgiving**

**SIT**

The Celebrant consumes what remains of the Mysteries and performs the ablutions. Meanwhile, the congregation sings an appropriate thanksgiving hymn.

**Cel:**  (extending his hands)

O God the Father, how can we, who are unworthy, thank you for your grace? For you have given us this Divine Gift and have made us worthy to share in the Body and Blood of your only-begotten Son who saved us. Through him and with him glory and honor are due to you and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Cong:**  Amen.
Final Blessing

Cel: Go in peace, my beloved brothers and sisters, with the nourishment and blessings you have received from the forgiving altar of the Lord. May the blessing of the Most Holy Trinity accompany you: the Father ☩, and the Son ☩, and the Holy Spirit ☩, the one God, to whom be glory, forever.

Cong: Amen.
Final Hymn

The congregation sings an appropriate final hymn.

Farewell to the Altar

Cel:  (kissing the altar, praying silently)
I leave you in peace, O holy Altar,
and I hope to return to you in peace.
May the offering I have received from you
be for the forgiveness of my faults
and the remission of my sins,
that I may stand without shame or fear
before the throne of Christ.
I do not know if I shall be able to return to you again
to offer another sacrifice.
I leave you in peace.