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

Syriac: *hasyo oo-qadeesho*

Eng Adapt: Inter-Eparchial Music Commission
(2011)

Em

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{Al-le-lu-ia!} \\
\text{Al-le-lu-ia!} \\
\text{Al-le-lu-ia!} \\
\text{Al-le-lu-ia!} \\
\text{Al-le-lu-ia!} \\
\end{array}\]

Am

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{Je-sus Christ, O Source of Light, in you we see light.} \\
\text{Ho-ly Lord, you dwell in light in realms of glory.} \\
\text{Vir-gin Ma-ry, you are blest am-ong all wo-men.} \\
\text{Blessed mar-tyrs, you pro-claimed be-fore your jud-ges:} \\
\text{Son of God, you died and rose to give us new life.} \\
\end{array}\]

Am

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{Truly Light from Light, you shine on all cre-a-tion.} \\
\text{Keep us free from sin and shame; dis-pel all dark-ness.} \\
\text{You were chosen by the Lord to be his Mo-ther.} \\
\text{“We will not renounce our Lord, the Cru-ci-fied One,} \\
\text{Those who sleep in death have hope and con-so-la-tion.} \\
\end{array}\]

Em

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{Shine your light up-on us all; grant us joy with your bright dawn.} \\
\text{Grant us purity of heart; may your jus-tice guide our lives.} \\
\text{The Eternal Son took flesh, dwell-ing nine months in your womb.} \\
\text{but with fer-vent love for him we will suf-fer pain and death.”} \\
\text{Je-sus, you will raise them up, for they praised the Tri-ni-ty.} \\
\end{array}\]

Source: *Hymn of Light*

Inter-Eparchial Music Commission (2011)
The Glorious Birth of Our Lord

(Celebrated on December 25 and the weekdays that follow until the Sunday of the Finding of the Lord in the Temple *)

Entrance Hymn

STAND

Zion Sees This Little Child

Syriac: nasheeho natareh l'endidokh

1. Zion sees this little child, who is Lord before all time, and beholds the mystery of the Holy Trinity; the Lord, who gives nourishment to all the world, from the Virgin feeds. God, who holds the universe, Mary’s arms are lifting up to heaven above. All the angels are in awe. Those on earth receive this child, so humbly born, singing praise with love and joy.

2. Let Isaiah come rejoice, Jeremiah shout for joy, and King David celebrate since his words have been fulfilled: The Lord said, “My Son! I have begotten you.” Sing, O Bethlehem!

(*) If there are two Sundays between the Birth of Our Lord and the Epiphany, this Service is celebrated on the first Sunday and the Service of the Finding of the Lord in the Temple on the second Sunday.
Jesus, light of all the lands,
he who holds the universe,
to him we give thanks, for he has come down to us.
By his birth he has fulfilled the prophets' words
and embodied every hope.

3. Joseph sang while holding you;
Mary's heart was filled with joy.
Cherubim and seraphim hastened to come down to earth,
and there they beheld their Lord, a newborn child,
ever seen before.
Giving praise, they worshipped you,
cradled in a manger now:
"O Lord, mighty God, blest are those upon the earth,
for you granted them to see with their own eyes
your eternal majesty!"
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)

Cong:  
O King of heaven, forgive all our sins.

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: O Christ our Lord, though you are God, you became man. Make us worthy to rejoice on this feast of your glorious birth, and with Mary, your mother, and Joseph, your chosen one, to thank, praise, and adore you, crying out with the angels: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good hope to all." We glorify you, your Father, and 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 Father, who in his love sent his only-begotten Son to us; and to the Son, who was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem; and to the Holy Spirit, who fills us with joy, peace, and holiness on this feast. To the Good One be glory and honor, on this feast, and all the days of our lives, and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: Glory and thanks to you, Eternal Son, you are without beginning or end. You are the hidden Light, who shines upon the world, and the Ancient of Days, born as a child from the Daughter of David.

Today, we celebrate the mystery of your love for us, proclaiming:

You are wonderful, O God! You became man, yet you are still God.
You are wonderful, O God! You came down to us and were born in a manger, yet you fill heaven and earth with your glory.
You are wonderful, O God! The angels, shepherds, and magi came to adore you.
By your birth, you tore down the wall separating heavenly
and earthly beings, reconciling heaven and earth.
By your birth, you brought together those who are far and
those who are near to celebrate your feast.
At your birth, the angels announced to the shepherds: "To
you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the
Messiah, the Lord."
Now, O Wondrous Child, we ask you, with the fragrance of
this incense, to help us to understand the mystery of your
incarnation. Forgive our sins, free us from all distress,
and remember our departed who have gone to their rest
hoping in you. We raise glory and thanks to you, to your
Father, and to your Holy Spirit, for ever.

Cong: Amen.

**Hymn**

**SIT**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God**

*Syriac: soogheeto (safro)*

1. Holy, holy, holy Lord God;
   only Son born of the Father.
   Holy, holy, holy Lord God;
   only Son who dawned from Mary.

2. Holy, holy, holy Lord God;
   though once hidden, is revealed now.
   Holy, holy, holy Lord God;
   who in flesh dawned on creation.
3. Holy, holy, holy Lord God;  
angels came down, singing praises.  
Holy, holy, holy Lord God;  
who is carried by the Virgin.

Cel: (standing at the Gospel lectern)  
We adore you, O Son of the Father from all eternity and Son  
of the Virgin born in time. When you became flesh, our eyes  
were able to see God, bringing us closer to the One who  
dwells in the heights. With the light of your knowledge,  
you enlightened our minds with the knowledge of the One  
who is beyond our understanding. Accept our incense,  
forgive our sins, and grant rest to our departed. We raise  
glory and thanks to you, to your Father, and to 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-la-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.

msh-ee-ho deh-tee-led
men bat da-weed,
it-ra-ham 'a-lain.

O Christ, born of the daughter of David, 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
Psalm of the Readings

Syriac: raumremain

SIT

Cong: Born today is an infant,
Wonderful and Mighty God!
In a wonderful manner,
as a child God is revealed.

Ceh: As foretold by Isaiah:
"Wonderful" his name shall be!
Christ is born of a virgin;
as a child God is revealed.

All: Praise to you, Child of Wonder,
hope of peoples everywhere!
O pure Sun, shining brightly,
you give light to all the world.
The Feast of the Glorious Birth of Our Lord

Letter to the Hebrews 1:1-12
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, and was put far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, so that all the heavenly hosts should worship him. And since he is the one through whom the angels, by their ministry, are sent, and through whom, by a Son, he makes purification for the sins of the people, he is himself the mediator of a new covenant, whereby, after making better sacrifices than those on the altar, he entered once for all into the holy place, taking the blood of himself, thus establishing the true covenant, of which Abraham was the type in this promise: ‘In your offspring all nations shall be blessed.’ For it is said: ‘Abraham believed God, and God reckoned it to him as righteousness.’ This is why he is the mediator of a new covenant through the Spirit, in which those who are called are justified by faith. And on the other hand the Law, or the covenant previously established, had come in as a shadow, not to be compared in reality with the true form of the new covenant. For God, who is the maker of the shadows, has anointed them with the oil of gladness beyond your companions. For to which of the angels did God ever say, ‘You are my Son; today I ordain you as heir of my glory?’ And again, ‘I will be his Father, and he will be my Son.’ But to us human beings he says, ‘You are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you are the same, you, O Father, forever, and the righteous never perishes. Of the angels he says, ‘He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.’ But of the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore, O God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.’ And, ‘In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.’

The Gospel according to Saint Luke 2:1-20
In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, and it had been told them.
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 Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son." (John 1:14)

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.
Cel: (blessing the congregation)
* Peace be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Cel: From the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint N., who proclaimed life to the world. Let us listen to the proclamation of life and salvation for our souls.

Deacon: Remain silent, O listeners, for the Holy Gospel is about to be proclaimed to you. Listen and give glory and thanks to the Word of the living God.

The Gospel is now proclaimed (recited or chanted).
The Celebrant concludes by blessing the congregation with the Book of Gospels, saying:

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

He kisses the Book of Gospels.

Cong: Praise and blessings to Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, for giving us his words of life.

Homily

The Creed can be found on page 748
Creed

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 I will go to the altar of God, wal-wot a-lo-ho to God who gives joy dam-ha-deh tal-yoot. to my youth. weh-no bsao-ghod Through the abundance of tai-boo-tokh your goodness eh-ool-lel bai-tokh I will enter your house wes-ghoo-deb and worship hai-yek-lo dqood-shokh. in your holy temple.


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

sa-laow 'a-lai Pray for me meh-tool mo-ran. to the Lord.

Cong: a-lo-ho nqa-bel May God accept goor-bo-nokh your offering oo-net-ra-ham 'a-lain and have mercy on us bas-loo-tokh. 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: fisheeto

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-nee al-khoob-zool mooh-yee, (el)-á-tee
min hid-nil á-bee qoo-tan lil ‘a-lam qa-bee-la-nee híd-nool
‘ath-ra’il oom-min na-qee (el)’-a-thra-ee mar-yam, mith-la
ha-ba-ti til gham-hee feel ar-dil khas-bah, sir-too faow-qal
math-ba-bee qoo-tan lil bee-‘ah. hal-le-loo-ya wa khoob-za
hai-yáh.

Syriac
mor-yo am-lekh òo-ga-yoo-tol besh. hal-le-loo-ya.
eh-no no lah-mod ha-yeh eh-mar mo-ran. dmen raow-mol
‘oom-qa neh-tet dhee-heh bee ‘ol-mo shal-han a-bo. mél-
tod lo bes-ro wakh dal-ferd-to dheh-teh ba-seem-to qa-bel-
tan khar-sod mar-yam akh ar-‘o tob-to òo-hom zai-‘een lee
bee-dai-hoon koh-neh ‘al ma-deb-heh hal-le-loo-ya qa-bel
qoor-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 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:** Imarey yoldat aloho

**Cong:** Alleluia!

Honour 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-loo-ya.

lee-wa-lee-da-ti lâ-hil oo-mil ‘ath-ra
l-an-bi-yâ-e wa-roos-lee wa-shoo-ha-dá,
wal-khoo-da-mil ka-ha-na jaow-qil ab-rar
koool-lee aow-lâ-dil bee-‘ah nooh-yee tath-kar.

**Syriac**

hal-le-loo-ya.

Imar-yam yol-dat a-lo-ho nheh dookh-ro-no
oo-lan-bee-yeh shlee-heh oo-soh-deh oo-kee-neh oo-koh-neh.
wal-khooll-hoon yał-deh d’ée-to men dor el-dor
wa’-da-mol ’o-lam ’ol-meen a-meen wa-meen.
Anaphora of Saint Peter
Head of the Apostles

Rite of Peace

SIT

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)
O Father, God of peace and Lord of security, make us worthy to embrace one another with a sincere kiss in the spirit of your unending love, that we may raise glory and thanks to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: 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.

Cel: (extending his hands)

O Lord, we bow before you to receive your blessings and assistance for we are weak and you are the support and refuge of all. We raise glory to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Cel: (extending his hands)

O Lord, may the light of your face shine upon us. Deliver us from every evil and blot out all our transgressions, that we may raise glory and thanks to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Eucharistic Prayer

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 it is right and just to glorify and exalt you, O Maker of all creation. With the angels we glorify you, and with voices of praise we cry out and proclaim:
Holy, holy, holy, mighty 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.

You are holy, O God the Father, and abundant in mercy.
Because of your love for us, you sent your Son into the world and he became flesh of the Virgin Mary for our salvation.
Cel:
(taking the bread in his hands and praying in Syriac)
wa-byaw-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 o-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
l'ho-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-qee 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.
CeI: (extending his hands)

He then commanded and instructed them, saying: Each time you celebrate these Mysteries, you remember 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.

CeI: O Lord, we remember your coming that saved us and, as we await your second coming, we offer you praise and ask you: On the day when you will judge the righteous and sinners, do not condemn us because of our sins, but have compassion and mercy on us. Turn your face away from our sins and assist us. 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.

CeI: (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)
Have mercy on us, O God; have mercy on us. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these offerings, that he may assist and pardon us.

Cel: (kneeling on both knees and extending his hands)
Hear us, O Lord. 'a-nee mor-yo.
Hear us, O Lord. 'a-nee mor-yo.
Hear us, O Lord. 'a-nee mor-yo.
And may your living oo-nee-teh mor roo-hokh ha-yo Holy Spirit oo-qa-dee-sho.
 come and rest upon us oo-na-gen 'a-lain and upon this offering. oo-'al qoor-bo-no ho-no.

The Celebrant kisses the altar.

Cong: Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison.
 Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison.
 Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison.

The Celebrant stands.
Cel: (making the sign of the cross over the Mysteries)
That by his descent he may make this bread the Body of Christ our God.
ai-ka-no dab-magh-no-noo-teh ne'-bed lah-mo ho-no fagh-ro dam-shee-ho a-lo-ho dee-lan.

Cong: Amen.

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

Cong: Amen.

Cel: May those who share in these Mysteries be cleansed, body and soul, from every sin and receive eternal life.

Cong: Amen.

Cel:

Cong:

Cel:

Cong:
Intercessions

Cel: (joining his hands)
O Lord, accept our intercessions and prayers, and grant security to your people and peace to your flock. Protect our shepherds: N., the Pope of Rome, N. Peter, our Patriarch of Antioch, and N., our Bishop. Assist the priests, the deacons, and all those who serve your holy Church, so that they may intercede and pray to you on our behalf. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, those who have asked us to pray for them, those who desired but were unable to make an offering, and those who assist your holy Church. Be a shelter and a refuge for them, for you are the Savior of all. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, the civil leaders in our country and throughout the world. Enlighten their consciences to bring security and peace to your people. 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, the holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and the prophets, apostles, martyrs, and confessors, Saint N. (the patron of the church), Saint N. (the saint of the day), and all the saints. Assist us through their prayers, and make us worthy of their reward. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remember, O Lord, the righteous fathers and teachers who have gone to their rest among the saints. Remember those who diligently carried your Gospel throughout the whole world and confirmed your holy Church in the true faith. Assist us through their prayers and strengthen us in your love. We pray to you, O Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Cel: Favorably remember, O Lord, our parents, brothers and sisters, teachers, and all the faithful departed here and everywhere who have gone to their rest. Forgive us and forgive them of all sins and offenses. 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.
Cel: (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:
Anaphora of Saint Peter

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:

O Lord,
you are the pleasing Olibation,
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

Cel: (extending his hands)

O God the Father, you strengthen and encourage us for we
are weak. We implore you to purify us from every sin and
to accept our offering, so that in one spirit we may call
upon you, 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.
Ceb: (extending his hands)

O Lord, lead us not into the trials of temptation that we do not have the strength to overcome, but deliver us from every evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, with your only Son and your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Ceb: (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.

Ceb: (extending his hands)

O Lord, bless your worshippers who bow before you and implore you. Make them worthy of your mercy and forgive their sins, for you are almighty and rich in compassion. We raise glory and thanks to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Anaphora of Saint Peter

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.
Communion

The Hosts of Angels

Arabic: 'asākīroo 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.

Ceh: (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.

Ceh: (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:

Ceh: 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.
The following hymn is chanted by all:

**God Sent His Only Son**  
* (Arsal Allah)

1. God sent his only Son from the heavens to the earth as the Light for all the world.  
   God’s Word has hid himself in the Virgin Mary’s womb, and from her he took his flesh.  
   His star was seen on high, shining brightly in the East, as foretold in Balaam’s words.  
   Wise men, led by the star to the place where Jesus lay, honored him with finest gifts.

*hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!*

(Praise him! Praise him! Praise him, our Lord!)

ar-sal al-lah eb-na-hoo al wa-heed  
noo-ran lil-oo-mam  
wah-ta-já-ba fee ha-sha mar-yam al ba-tool  
w a men-ha ta-jas-sam  
ash-ra-qa naj-moo-ho fee hoo-dood fá-res  
ka-ma qa-la bil-‘am  
wa-a-na-ral ma-joos fa-ha-ma-loo ee-lai-hee  
ha-dai-yal ek-ram  
*hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!*
2. This child Isaiah called “Wonderful and Mighty God” and proclaimed him as the Lord:
“Upon his shoulders rest full authority and power over all the universe.”
In truth, he is the Word and the Voice of God above, roaring with a lion's strength.
Yet, as a gentle lamb, silently and peacefully, he now dwells in Mary's womb.

hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!
(Praise him! Praise him! Praise him, our Lord!)

'ā-jee-ban qa-wee-yan da-'á-hoo a-sha'-ya
wa 'an-hoo ta-ran-nam
be-an-na-hoo yah-mel 'a-la man-kee-bai-hee
sool-ta-na-hool 'am
qad ka-na ka-le-mat bal ra-'a-da as-wat
wa-sheb-la lai-thin a'-zam
fa-ad-ḥa sá-ke-tan wa ḥa-ma-lan wa-dee-'an
fee bat-nee mar-yam
hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!
3. Nine months within her womb, Mary carried Christ, our Lord, he, who holds the universe. She felt no weight at all while she bore the mighty One. Truly, he is God and man! Amazement filled the earth, since she had been made so pure, keeping her virginity: before the child was born, and at birth, and afterwards, and for all eternity.

*hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!*

(Praise him! Praise him! Praise him, our Lord!)

tis-'a-ta ash-hoo-ren ha-ma-lat mar-yam
bee ha-me-leel ak-wán
wa-lam ta-hoos-sa men-hoo be-theq-len lee an-na-hoo
ee-lá -hon wa in-sán
zá-da-ha toh-ran wa-ma-ka-that ba-too-lan
tod-he-shool az-han
qab-lal-mee-lád wa fee-hoo wa ba'-da-hoo
wa-ma da-ma za-mán
*hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!*
The celebrant stands.
He blesses and places incense in the thurible. He incenses the Blessed Sacrament in three sets of three. After each single swing he bows slightly and after three swings he kneels on both knees and bows profoundly. This is repeated three times while the final verses of the hymn are sung.

4. His soul and body joined in a perfect unity when he made the womb his home. The oil of joy was poured by the Father from above to anoint him as the Christ. His life in Mary’s womb, his conception, and his birth, these were great and wonderful. We see the Spirit’s work in the Son of God made man, as portrayed in Ephrem’s words.

*hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh*
(Praise him! Praise him! Praise him, our Lord!)

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fee ha-leel hoo-lool ta-saow-wa-ra ká-me-lan
wa jes-moo-hoo ma ba-rah
moot-ta-hee-dan ben-naf-see wa be-dooh-neel fa-rah
ma-see-han en-ma-sah
bel-hoo-loo-lee wal-khoo-rooj wa-sook-nah be-oom-mee-hee
‘a-jee-ban et-ta-dah
fa-tab-‘oob-ta-‘ad wa ba-na fee’-loo rooh
ka-ma aph-ra-moo aow-dah
*hal-lel. hal-lel. hal-lel-loo-noh!*
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)

We thank you, O Father, for this Gift that you have given us though we are unworthy. Do not shame us because of our sins, but help and save us, that we may raise glory and thanks to you, to your only Son, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.
Celt: (blessing the congregation)
* Peace be with you.

Cong: And with your spirit.

Celt: (extending his hands)
Lord Jesus, stretch forth your right hand and bless your people. Protect them by your cross, be their shelter and refuge, and perfect them with your abundant blessings, that we may raise glory and thanks to you, to your blessed Father, and to your Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Cong: Amen.

Final Blessing

Celt: 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, for ever.

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.