

A. Bernardakis

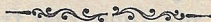
Athen

Rue Hippocrate

DAILY PRAYER OF THE MONK PARTHENIUS,

Of the Pecherskaja Lavra,

KIEFF.



“Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks :

For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

O my Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, do not let vanity, self-love, sensuality, laziness, or anger be the masters over me and snatch me away from Thy love.

O my Lord and my Creator, all my trust is in Thee. May I have my share in blessed eternity : may I follow Thy holy example, and be obedient to the authorities placed over me : grant me that purity of soul, that simplicity of heart which makes us worthy of Thy love.

To Thee, O my God, do I uplift both heart and soul, imploring Thee to preserve me, and to guard me from the greatest of all evils—sin. May I be as willing to endure with patience, afflictions and sorrows, as I am always willing to share in enjoyments and pleasures.

O Lord Jesus, if Thou wilt, Thou canst cleanse and sanctify me, therefore do I surrender myself to Thy mercy, imploring Thee to destroy in me all that is contrary to Thee, and to unite me to the throng of Thy chosen ones.

Lord, take away from me that idleness which makes me lose my time, that frivolity which is a hindrance to Thy service, and which draws my attention away during prayer, and let not my heart be hardened.

I confess to Thee, my Lord and my God, all the sins and wickednesses committed by me in time past: forgive me them for the sake of Thy Holy Name, and save my soul which Thou hast ransomed with Thy most precious Blood.

I commit myself to Thy mercy, I surrender myself to Thy will: deal with me according to Thy goodness, not according to my wickedness and sinfulness: teach me, Lord, so to dispose my actions, that they may contribute to the glory of Thy Holy Name.

Have mercy, Lord, on all Christians. Listen to the prayer of all those who approach Thee. Save Thy servants and deliver them from all evil. Grant them peace, comfort them in their troubles, and be their constant Guide.

I pray especially, O Lord, for those who may in any way have offended, insulted, grieved me, or done me any harm. Punish them not for such a sinner as I am, but have pity on them, O Lord.

I pray, too, for all those whom I, a sinner, may have grieved, offended, or tempted, by thought, word, or deed, willingly or unwillingly.

O Lord God, forgive us our own sins, and the sins of all that hate us. Blot out from our hearts all enmity, all that is a hindrance to love, and all that diminishes brotherhood in men, and have pity on every human being imploring Thy help.

Lord, make this day to be the day of Thy tender mercy. Listen to the prayers of all Thy children: be the Shepherd of the lost, the Guide and the Light of unbelievers, the Teacher of the simple, the Father of the fatherless, the Protector of the oppressed, the Physician of the suffering, the Comforter of the dying, and bring us all at last to Thee, our Refuge and Eternal Rest. Amen.

Nazareth, 1889.

Translated from the Russian by SOPHIA BAKOUNINE.

Letter of Sister M. E. addressed to Miss SOPHIA BAKOUNINE.

“..... I find that in the old Irish Church before the Latins came they used always to give the *Chrism* and also communicate often in the two kinds together and many other things as the Greeks. When I go next to Jerusalem shall I not ask the good and holy Gerassimos to give me the Chrism? I should like it very much.....

Sister M. E.

Dublin.

October 28th, 1892, Ft. of S. S. Simon and Jude.”

Letter of the Reverend..... to Miss SOPHIA BAKOUNINE.

“JERUSALEM, *April 25th, 1893.*

“..... Please tell His Beatitude * that I have been trying hard in Melbourne, Australia, to keep several Syrians, members of the Orthodox Church, faithful to their early teaching, and that the Patriarch of Jerusalem knows all the particulars and has been pleased to approve of my action. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to be of any service to the Orthodox Church. I trust that the disaffected Orthodox in Damascus have now settled down quietly under the kindly rule of their Patriarch.

*The Patriarch of Antioch—Spyridon.

I here enclose for you a copy of the *third edition* of '*The Monk Parthenius' daily prayer*' which you translated from the *Russian*. If you have any other suitable prayer or short office to be translated into English, I shall be thankful. The Prayer of Parthenius has been greatly appreciated, and many, many persons in different parts of Christendom now use it devotionally. At noon each day I thankfully use it....."

Another letter of the Rev. to Miss SOPHIA BAKOUNINE.

"JERUSALEM, *May 7th*, 1893.

"..... Last August, just before leaving Jerusalem for Australia, we heard unexpectedly and suddenly, that there were several Syrians (Orthodox) living in Melbourne. Bishop and myself called upon the Patriarch of Jerusalem and told him of this newly acquired information, and that I was to go about direct to Melbourne where they reside. His Beatitude sent an Arabic epistle and some liturgical books through me, and I worked steadily during my stay in the city of Melbourne to keep these dear Syrians steadfast in the faith of their fathers, so that they may not be misled by Roman Catholics or Protestants. Every single thing that I did has been

carefully reported to His Beatitude since my return, and I am sure that he will be pleased to inform the Patriarch of Antioch of the state of the case. At Sydney more than 500 Syrians are living under the rule of the Church of Rome, but at Melbourne, God be praised, we hope that a devout Orthodox Priest may be sent out, and that the faithful may not be devoured of wolves. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be allowed to help the Orthodox in Australia and I wish you to convey to His Beatitude of Antioch my value of his Apostolic Benediction. If after hearing more of the details of this business they meet with His Beatitude's approval, I shall be thankful to forward any pastoral letter from Damascus to these sons and daughters of the Faith.

If the Protestants are angry with me for doing my duty I must however try and persevere in doing what is right and what I consider to be my duty.

I ought to have stated that these Syrians come from the Lebanon, Tripoli and Beirut.

You will please to inform the Patriarch of Antioch how thankful Bishop..... will be to hear that the disaffected members of the Orthodox Church in Damascus have returned home. It grieved us sadly to hear of their erring and straying, and I trust that now they will settle down quietly, as in days of yore.

If you happen to come across any other beautiful and suitable prayer for translation into English, please bear it in mind. Hundreds of devout souls value the Prayer of Parthenius, and they would appreciate one or more composed in the same evangelical spirit.....”

Letter of His Lordship the Bishop of Argyll to His Beatitude the Patriarch of Antioch.

“DAMASCUS, 15th April, 1893.

My dear Lord, I am unable to express how deeply I feel the kindness which Your Beatitude has showed upon me since I have been in this great and ancient city.

Of this kindness the very valuable introductions with which Your Beatitude has been pleased to favour me, and which I have just received, are a new manifestation.

It is to me a source of great regret that I have not been able in conversation, and that I am not now able, by letter, to express in the language of the Holy Orthodox Church all that I feel and all that I should desire to say.

Had it been otherwise it would have been my desire to have expressed my earnest hope, that being

now, as I trust, one with the Holy Orthodox Church in Faith, and Hope, and Love towards our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ, Who died for our sins, Who rose again on the Third Day, Who ascended into Heaven, and for Whose Second and Glorious appearing we humbly wait, there may hereafter be perfect unity between us in all things, and that through the Gracious Presence of that Holy Paraclete Whom our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ has sent unto us from the Father.

Wishing your Beatitude long life and many blessings, now and for ever, believe me to be, my dear Lord, your humble and grateful servant and brother in Christ Jesus.

Alexander, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles.

Ballachulish, Scotland."

Letter of Miss SELMA KLALIE *

(Arabic teacher in the Orthodox School of Damascus),
to Miss SOPHIA BAKOÛNINE.

" DAMASCUS, *November, 15th, 1894.*

..... I had so many things to write to you

* She was educated in Beyrout, at the school of Mrs. MOTT.

about..... but now all that seems as nothing compared to the awful calamity which befell the Orthodox World, I mean, of course, the death of the Emperor Alexander III. of Russia. Oh, how we felt it here and how we mourn him still, I cried so bitterly that my eyes were become quite swollen, though I never had the happiness of seeing him, still as a good Orthodox, I was naturally deeply devoted to him and how delighted we all of us used to be in school when you spoke to us about him and about the Imperial Family of Russia, indeed he was worthy of the love of all Europe and Asia. Do you know, during his illness, except the grand prayers in Church that were being offered for him, I had all the children of our school pray for him every day, but, alas, it was all of no avail for God had decreed otherwise. My father also cried like a baby on hearing of the good Emperor's death, indeed all the Orthodox here felt it most deeply and we all of us are always speaking of Russia now. If so in Damascus, what a dreadful shock must it not be for the poor Russian people and for the Imperial Family! Please let me know what is going on in Russia now, I dare say you must know much more about it than what the Arabic newspapers tell us, though perhaps I ought not to revive your grief by recalling to your mind all the details

of that sad event. When last I visited His Beatitude the Patriarch, whom I had not seen for months past, I could not help shedding tears on entering the room; the Patriarch wondered at first what was the matter with me, but noticing quickly that I was looking at His Majesty's portrait on the wall opposite, he understood the cause of my grief, he told me it was a dreadful loss for the whole Orthodox Church and that it was our duty to pray for the eternal rest of the soul of the deceased Emperor, however he said we must not murmur against what God had been pleased to appoint, hoping that the new Emperor would resemble his father. I have seen in a Turkish paper the portrait of the late Emperor as well as of the new one and of the Princess Alice. Pray let me know all about the latter. She looks so nice and so pretty on the picture I should like to know who was her mother? It seems she was an English Princess, but is it true that her father was a *German*? Well I do hope she'll be as good and as virtuous as is the poor widowed Empress. May God prolong the life of the Emperor and give him health, wisdom, may peace and justice reign in his mighty and vast Empire and may he inherit all the good qualities of his late father and be as beloved by all the world as was the Emperor Alexander III. of blessed memory...."

*la Soc. de Pol. s'est emparée de cette école. Selon
 Lilias a quitté et maintenant ce qu'elle écrit sur la
 Russie est dans un tout autre ton...*

A PRAYER FOR THE EMPEROR.

“King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, maintain the kingdom of Thy servant, the orthodox and Christ loving Emperor (*Nicholas II.*), whom Thou hast vouchsafed to rule over the land in peace, and might, and justice.

“O God, subdue every enemy, both native and foreign. Lay hand upon the shield and buckler, and stand up to help him; bring forth the spear and stop the way against them that persecute him. Cover his head in the day of battle: cause them that spring from his loins to sit on his throne and speak good things to his heart for Thy Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church and all the people that loveth Christ; that we also in his tranquillity may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty . . .”

Liturgy of St. Mark.

Beyrouth, *March 17th*, 1895.