

The Ritual of the Breaking of the Bread - Jules-Benoît Doinel, 1894 (Translated by Rodney Orpheus and corrected words of consecration per Tau Apiryon translation)

The Perfect having come together, the women with their heads covered with a white veil and the men girded with a white cord, they kneel to receive the blessing of his Eminence, the Bishop. They rise and the choir sings the canticle:

Beati, vos Æones
Vera vita vividi;
Vos Emanationes
Pleromatis lucidi;
Adeste visiones
Stolis albis candidi.

*The Gospel of John rests between two candles on a table draped in linen. The Bishop and the Deacon and Deaconess stand before the table. Once the canticle is completed, his Eminence recites the **Lord's Prayer** in Greek.*

Pater hêmôn ho en tois ouranois:
Hagiasthêtô to onoma sou;
Elthetô hê basileia sou;
Genêthêtô to thelêma sou,
Hôs en ouranôi kai epi gês;
Ton arton hêmôn ton epiouision dos hêmin sêmeron;
Kai aphe hêmin ta opheilêmata hêmôn,
Hôs kai hêmeis aphêkamen tois opheiletais hêmôn;
Kai mê eisenenkêis hêmas eis peirasmon,
Alla hrusai hêmas apo tou ponêrou.
Hoti sou estin hê basileia,
Kai hê dynamis, kai hê doxa,
Eis tous aiônas. Amên.

The assembly answers:

Amen.

The Deacon presents the chalice and the bread to the Bishop. The Prelate puts on the Stole (when his Grace the Patriarch officiates, he is covered with the very august Pallium), raises the hands over those present and says:

Eon Jesus prisquam pateretur mystice, accepit panem et vinumin stancias et venerabiles manus suas, et, elevatis oculis in coelum, fregit

(The Bishop breaks the bread)

benedixit

(The Bishop makes the shape of the Tau over the bread and the chalice)

et dedit discipulis uais, dicens:

(All prostrate themselves)

Accipite et manducate et bibit omnes!

The Deacon carrying the plate and the Deaconess carrying the chalice precede his Eminence who advances towards the Perfect. The organ plays a slow religious march.

The Bishop, taking the bread, raises it above the assembly while saying:

Touto estin to soma pneumatikon tou Christou.

Then he puts the bread back onto the plate, kneels and adores.

He rises, takes the chalice and raises it while saying:

Calix meus inebrians quàm proeclaus est!

Calicem Salutaris accipiam et nomen Domini invocabo, **touto estin to aima pneumatikon tou Christou.**

He kneels and adores.

He rises and breaks a fragment of the spiritual body of Jesus and eats it. He drinks from the cup of blood.

Pause. Organ plays.

He then advances towards each of the Perfect in turn and offers the bread and the cup to each.

Silence. Organ. Adoration.

Upon returning to the altar, the Bishop, extending his hands, proclaims:

May the grace of the most holy Pleroma be with you always!

The remains of the consecrated host are burned in the chafing-dish, for the essence of the body of the Lord should not be profaned.

After this his Eminence gives the Gnostic benediction and retires between the two assistants who carry the candles.