

# Divine Liturgy with Crowning

A service table is prepared at the front of the church, with the Gospel book, cross and crowns.

The priest, bridal couple and sponsors meet at the back of the church.

## **Procession**

The priest leads the bridal couple from the back of the church chanting the processional psalm with the choir responding 'Glory to the Thee, O God, glory to Thee'. The priest stands in front of the service table, just in front of the bridal couple.

## **Opening Blessing and Great Litany**

'Blessed is the kingdom...' and great litany, with additional petitions for the wedding.

## **First Antiphon and Prayer**

The choir sings 'Bless the Lord, O my soul'. Then the little litany and the first wedding prayer ('O God most pure...').

## **Second Antiphon and Prayer**

The choir sings 'Praise the Lord, O my soul' and 'Only begotten Son'. Then the little litany and the second wedding prayer ('Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God...').

## **Third Antiphon and Prayer**

The choir sings 'In Thy kingdom'. Then 'Let us pray to the Lord' and the third wedding prayer ('O holy God...').

## **The Crowning**

The priest crowns the groom and bride, and blesses them with the cross ('O Lord our God...').

## **The Entrance and Hymns of the Day**

As usual, the prayer of the entrance, entrance hymn and entrance with the Gospel into the altar. The choir sings the hymns of the day (troparia and kontakia).

The bridal couple may (if they wish) move to stand off to the side (so that they can sit during the Epistle and sermon).

## **The Trisagion**

The trisagion prayer and hymn.

## **Prokeimenon, Epistle, Alleluia and Gospel**

All from the wedding service. Followed by the sermon as usual.

### **Augmented Litany**

Following the sermon, the augmented litany, with additional petitions for the wedding.

### **Continuation of the Divine Liturgy**

Following the augmented litany, the Divine Liturgy continues as normal up to the reception of communion. The bridal couple, followed by their sponsors, receive communion first.

### **After Communion, Dance of Isaiah**

Following the litany of thanksgiving, the priest comes out for the prayer before the ambo as usual.

Then the 'Dance of Isaiah' is sung, while the priest leads the bridal couple followed by their sponsors three times around the service table.

### **Removal of the Crowns**

The priest removes the crowns from the bridal couple, followed by a prayer and blessing.

### **Conclusion of the Divine Liturgy**

The choir sings 'Blessed be the name of the Lord' three times as usual, followed by the dismissal.

'Many years' is sung to the bridal couple and their sponsors.