Moleben for Those Suffering from Alcohol or Drug Dependence

Priest:  Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:  

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

During the Paschal season, omit "Glory to you" and "Heavenly King" and sing three times:

Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled death,
and to those in the tombs he granted life.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy on us. (3 times)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and ever forever. Amen.
Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;  
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;  
Master, forgive our transgressions;  
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever and forever. Amen.

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.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: (sung twice)
Call to Worship

Each time with a reverence:

Come, let us worship our King and God. Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.

Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

Psalm 26

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?

When evil doers draw near to devour my flesh,
    it is they, my enemies and foes, who stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me my heart would not fear.
    Though war break out against me even then would I trust.

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
    to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,

to savor the sweetness of the Lord,
    to behold his temple.

For there he keeps me safe in his tent in the day of evil.
    He hides me in the shelter of his tent,
on a rock he sets me safe.

And now my head shall be raised above my foes who surround me
    and I shall offer within his tent a sacrifice of joy.

I will sing
    and make music for the Lord.
O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face.

Dismiss not your servant in anger; 
you have been my help.

Do not abandon or forsake me, 
O God my help!

Though father and mother forsake me, 
the Lord will receive me.

Instruct me, Lord, in your way; on an even path lead me.  
When they lie in ambush protect me from my enemy’s greed.

False witnesses rise against me, breathing out fury.  
I am sure I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:  
now and ever and forever. Amen.

*Three times, each with a reverence:*  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glory to you, O God!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glory to you, O God!

*The third time, with melody:*  

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God!
Litany of Peace

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 1. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 2. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our holy father, (Name), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend Metropolitan, (Name), for our God-loving Bishop, (Name), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)
Deacon: For this city, [or: For this holy monastery], for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That He would not disdain the humble supplications of His servant(s), (Name), and deliver him (her, them) from the infirmity of alcohol (or drug) abuse, and keep him (her, them) in purity, temperance, and righteousness of soul through His salvific fear, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: That He would send down upon His servant(s), (Name), the spirit of wisdom and reason, and place in his (her, their) heart(s) His divine courage, drive out the irrational self-will, and enlighten the mind, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That He would look down on His servant(s), (Name), who is (are) suffering in body and soul, and free him (her, them) from the bonds of alcohol (or drug) dependence by which he (she, they) is (are) enslaved of his (her, their) own will, that he (she, they) may fall down before God in repentance and become a partaker (partakers) of piety, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)
Deacon: That he would visit His servant(s), *(Name)*, with the visitation of His Holy Spirit, and deliver him (her, them), from the infirmity of alcohol (or drug) abuse that is lodged in him (her, them), let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: Lord our God, mighty beyond description, glorious above all understanding, merciful without limits, loving us all beyond expression, look with compassion on us and on this holy church, O Master; and show us, and those who pray with us, the riches of your tender mercy.

For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.
The Lord is God - Tone 4

The Lord is God and has revealed himself to us; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

The deacon (or if there is no deacon, the priest) chants the verses:

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his love endures forever.

Verse: They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.

Verse: I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Verse: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

Troparion - Tone 4

You alone are prompt to defend us, O Christ; now quickly visit your suffering servants. Through the pray'rs of the Theotokos deliver him from illness and bitter pain. Raise her up that she may sing hymns to you and praise you continually. For you alone love us all.
Glo - ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Let us run, O faith - full, to the divine and most won - drous i - mage of the most ho - ly The-o - to - kos, who pours forth good - ness on the hearts of the faithful from the inexhaust-i - ble hea - ven - ly cup; who al - so shows miracles to your faithful, which we have seen and heard. Let us spi - ritually celebrate and warm - ly call out: O most mer - cci - ful Lady, heal our infirm-i - ties and pas - sions,
pray - ing to your Son, Christ our God, to save our souls.
Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace be to all.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 138:10,13):

E-ven there your hand would lead me; your right hand would hold me fast.

Deacon: For it was you who created my being, * knit me together in my mother's womb.

Response: All repeat the Prokeimenon.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: A reading from the first letter of the holy apostle Paul to the Corinthians.
(OR the letter of the holy apostle Paul to the Ephesians. - see below)

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Reader: (1 Cor. 3:11-17) Brothers and sisters, for no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw – each man’s work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and that temple you are.

OR
Reader: (Eph.2:4-10): Brother and sisters, God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God – not because of works, lest any man should boast. For, we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Priest: Peace be to you, reader.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 123:8, 141:7a):

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Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - ia.
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Deacon: Our help is in the name of the Lord, * who made heaven and earth.
Deacon: Bring my soul * out of this prison

Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.

Response:

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Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
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Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all!

Response:

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And to your spi - - - - it.
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Response: Glo - - - ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: *(Luke 8:26-39)* At that time, when Jesus and his disciples came to the land of the Garasenes which is opposite Galilee, they were met by a man from the town who was possessed by demons. For a long time he had not worn any cloths; he did not live in a house, but among the tombstones. On seeing Jesus he began to shriek; then the man fell at the feet of Jesus and exclaimed at the top of his voice, “Jesus, Son of God Most High, why do you meddle with me? Do not torment me, I beg you.”

By now Jesus was ordering the unclean spirit to come out of the man. This spirit had taken hold of him many a time. The man used to be tied with chains and fetters, but he would break his bonds and the demon would drive him into places of solitude. “What is your name?” Jesus demanded. “Legion,” he answered, because the demons who had entered him were many. They pleaded with Jesus not to order them back to the abyss. It happened that a large herd of swine was feeding nearby on the hillside, and the demons asked Jesus to permit them to enter the swine. This he granted. The demons then came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd charged down the bluff into the lake, where they drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they took to their heels and brought the news to the town and country roundabout. The people went out to see for themselves what had happened. Coming on Jesus, they found the man from whom the devils had departed sitting at the feet of Jesus dressed and in his full senses; this sight terrified them. They were told by witnesses how the possessed man had been cured. Shortly afterward, the entire population of the Garasene territory asked Jesus to leave their neighborhood, for a great fear had seized them; so he got back into the boat and went back across the lake.
The man from whom the devils had departed asked to come with Jesus, but Jesus sent him away with the words, “Go back home and recount all that God has done for you.” the man went all through the town making public what Jesus had done for him.

Response:

Litany of Fervent Supplication

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Merciful Lord, you do not desire the death of the sinners, but that they repent and live. Have mercy and spare your servant(s), (name(s)), that he (she, they) not perish by an untimely and tragic death from fatal substances. Enlighten him (her, them), that he (she, they) may understand that this is from the devil, who as a roaring lion seeks whom he may devour. But intercede, O Lord, and save him (her, them), who is (are) bound by this passion: help him (her, them) to follow the path of piety unto salvation, we pray you: O all-merciful Lord, hear and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: O Lord, look down mercifully on your servant(s), (name(s)), who is (are) deceived by the false satisfaction of the belly and fleshly pleasure. Grant unto them to know the sweetness of temperance in fasting and the fruits which come therefrom, we pray you, hear and have mercy.
Deacon: Again we pray you, O Lord our God, that you wouldst hear the voice of our prayer, and show compassion and mercy upon your servant(s), (name(s)), and forgive him (her, them) all transgressions, voluntary or involuntary, and deliver him(her, them), from all alcohol (or drug) abuse and the devil’s force, and be merciful to him (her, them), let us all say, O Lord hear and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (three times, as above)

Deacon: O Lord, by your divine power your led your all-praised apostle out of prison by angelic hands, so deliver your servant(s), (name(s)), who is (are) painfully suffering from the infirmity of alcohol (or drug) dependence, let us all say, O Lord, hear and have mercy.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (three times, as above)

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, hope of all the ends of the earth and of those far off at sea. And be merciful to us, O merciful Master, on account of our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful and loving God and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

And making three bows before the holy table, the Deacon says:

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy.
And the priest, with all attention and compunction, reads aloud this prayer:

Priest: O Lord and Master, you made man according to your image and likeness. Deliver your creation from slavery to the enemy, open the eyes of his heart, join to his life a luminous angel, delivering him from all attacks of the adversary. Hear those who flee to you in grief and sadness, held by the perilous passion of alcohol (or drug) dependence. Turn not your face from those who call upon you. Give them strength, hope, faith, courage, strong will, and the gift of discernment, and lead them to your saving temperance. Burn up, O Lord, the thorns of all their transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, and let your grace rest upon them, enlightening, purging, and cleansing the whole person. Heal them from the severe infirmity of alcohol (or drug) abuse, deliver them from the dark spirit of insobriety, stubbornness, and impenitence; establish them, the weak ones; grant to them, the infirm ones, strength; send them physical and spiritual health, and set them on the way of diligence and life in you, O God. O merciful Lord, hear the cries of their parents and relatives; accept the prayer of us who weep over our children and friends. For yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord, our God, we fall down before you and humbly pray to you: look down on this land, remove the deadly scourge that entices innocent young men and women to alcohol (or drug) abuse, leading some to sinful passions and others to inflict harm on themselves. You, O Lord, have justly brought this punishment on this land for apostasy from the faith and for transgressions, but now we flee to you with repentance and beg: change your righteous anger to mercy, and deliver our land from this deadly scourge. Ban, O Lord, the heartless men who for profit
distribute drugs, who have neither conscience nor fear of God, nor understand what judgment they prepare for their neighbor and themselves. Enlighten them that they may understand that you are the Lord God, the righteous Judge, who rewards each according to his deeds, that they may cease from their reckless actions, and come into the way of honorable labor. Look down, O Lord, on your servant(s), (name(s)), who by unbelief, free thinking, and irresponsibility have (have) made himself (herself, themselves) a sacrifice to alcohol (or drugs), so that he (she, they) cannot stop of his (her, their) own will because of being so enslaved. Help him (her, them), O Lord, to resist these passions, strengthen his (her, their) will and good thoughts, that being freed from servile infirmity, he (she, they) may know your mercy, and glorify you, and come into the way of salvation.

Response:

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Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response: More honorable than the cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim; who, a virgin, gave birth to God the word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

Priest: Glory to you, O Christ God our hope, glory to you!

Response: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Give the blessing.

Priest: (says the dismissal for the day)

Response:

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