



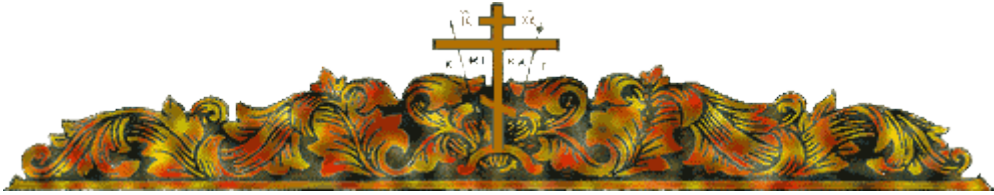
After the Kiss the catechetical Sermon of St John Chrysostom is read by the Superior or the Ecclesiarch. The Brethren all stand and listen to the sermon.

PASCAL HOMILY
of our Father among the Saints John Chrysostom
Archbishop of Constantinople.

If any be pious and a lover of God, let him take part in this fair and radiant festival. If any be an honest servant, let him come in and rejoice in the joy of his Lord. If any have wearied himself with fasting, let him take part now in the recompense. If any have worked from the first hour, let him receive today his just dues. If any have come at the third, let him feast with thankfulness. If any have arrived at the sixth, in no wise let him be in doubt; in no way shall he suffer loss. If any be later than the ninth, let him draw near, let him not waver. If any arrive only at the eleventh, let him not be fearful for his slowness, for the Master is munificent, and receives the last even as the first. He giveth rest to him of the eleventh, even as to him who has wrought from the first hour. And He is merciful to the last, and provides for the first. And to this one He gives, and to that one He shews kindness. And he receives their labours, and acknowledges the purpose. And he honours the action and praises the intention.

Wherefore enter ye all into the joy of our Lord, and let the first and the second take part in the reward. Ye rich and ye poor, join hands together. Ye strong and ye heedless, do honour to this day. Ye who fast and ye who fast not, be glad today. The table is full: do ye all fare' sumptuously. The calf is ample: let no one go forth unsatisfied. Let all take part in the banquet of Faith. Let all take part in the wealth of Righteousness. Let no one lament for poverty, for the Kingdom is made manifest for all. Let no one bewail transgressions, for forgiveness has dawned from the tomb. Let no one be fearful of Death, for the death of the Saviour has set us free. He has quenched it by being subdued by it. He Who came down into Hades, despoiled Hades; and Hades was embittered when it tasted of His Flesh Isaiah, anticipating this, cried and said: Hades was embittered when below it met Thee face to face. It was embittered for it was rendered void. It was embittered for it was





mocked. It was embittered for it was slain. It was embittered for it was despoiled. It was embittered for it was fettered. It received a Body, and encountered God. It received mortal dust, and met Heaven face to face. It received what it saw, and fell whither it saw not. O Death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory? Christ is risen and thou art overthrown. Christ is risen and the demons have fallen. Christ is risen and the Angels rejoice. Christ is risen and freedom is given to life. Christ is risen and there is none dead in the tomb.

For Christ is raised from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. To Him be glory and power from all Ages to all Ages. Amen.

Then the Troparion of the Saint is sung, 4th Plag. Tone (8).

Grace as flame shining forth from thy mouth illuminated the earth, it disclosed to the world treasures which wealth could not purchase, and set forth to us the exaltation of humility. Wherefore teaching by thine own words, do thou, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede with the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

