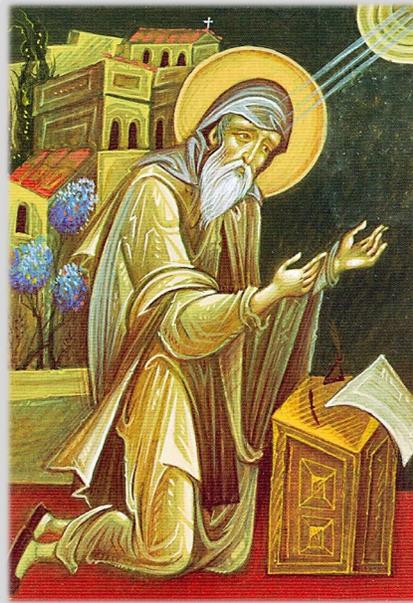


ST. SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN

(MAR 12/OCT 12)

Mystical prayer of our father among the saints Symeon, through which he invokes the Holy Spirit whom he saw before him.

“Come, true light (Jn 1.9). Come, eternal life (1 Jn 5.20). Come, hidden mystery (Eph 3.9). Come, nameless treasure. Come, ineffable reality. Come, incomprehensible face. Come, everlasting exultation. Come, unfading light. Come, trusty expectation of all who are going to be saved. Come, awakening of those who sleep. Come, resurrection of the dead (Jn 11.25). Come, Mighty One who always creates, who re-creates and who transforms all things by his will alone. Come, invisible, and untouchable, and in every way intangible. Come, You Who always remain immutable, and Who at every hour are wholly altered, and are coming to us who lie in hell, You Who are above all the heavens (Eph 4.10). Come, most beloved name repeated again and again, <a name> entirely forbidden for us to speak or to know the very person You are, the kind or quality. Come, eternal joy. Come, imperishable crown (1 Pet 5.4). Come, purple of our great God and King. Come, crystalline cincture set with gems. Come, unapproachable and truly autocratic right hand! Come, royal, purple robe and truly autocratic right hand! soul has desired and desires. Come, You Whom my miserable cause I am alone, as you see! from everyone and made me alone have become desire itself in me utterly unapproachable one. (Acts 17.25). Come consolation of and glory, and endless luxury.



I thank You because You have become one spirit with me (1 Cor 6.17), unmixing, unmoved, imbecause You yourself have become pressible food, and utterly with-ly overflowing the lips of my soul, my heart (Prov 5.16), garment demons, purification through in-wash me out, tears that You give thank You because You have become an unfading light and an unsetting sun to me, You Who have nowhere to hide, Who fill the universe with your glory. For You have never been hidden from anyone, but we always hide ourselves from You, not wishing to come to You. For where would You hide, You Who nowhere have a place of rest? Why <would You hide>? You Who never turn away anyone at all, and You do not turn from anyone of them. And so now Master, dwell in me and inhabit me, and remain continually, and inseparably in me your slave, until my death, Good One, so that I also may be found both in my departure and after my departure in You (Phil 3.9), Good One, and I shall reign with You (2 Tim 2.12), God over all things (Rom 9.5)! Remain, Master, and let me not be alone, so that when my enemies come, always seeking to devour my soul (1 Pet 5.8), when they find You remaining in me, they shall flee entirely, and shall have no strength against me, when they see You Who are more powerful than everything, seated within the home of my humbled soul (Mk 3.27). Verily Master, When You remembered me, when I was in the world of my ignorance, and You yourself picked me out, and separated me from the world, and set me before the face of your glory (Jude 24). So now also keep me within, always standing upright and immovable in your dwelling within me. So that watching You continually, I the corpse, may live; and holding You, I, a poor hired man, will always be rich, even richer than all kings; and eating and drinking You (Jn 6.54), and every hour being vested with You, I will be reveling in unspeakable holy things. For You are every good, and every glory, and every enjoyment, and to You glory is fitting, You the Holy, Consubstantial, and life-giving Trinity. The Trinity in Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit venerated, and proclaimed, and worshipped, and served by all the faithful now, and always forever and ever. Amen.”

(Text from Daniel Griggs, trans., *St. Symeon the New Theologian: Divine Eros* [PPS 40; SVS Press. 2011].)