

Priest's prayer before serving. St John of Kronstadt

Lord, many of these who stand in Thy Temple, stand before Thee with their souls idle, like empty vessels, and knowest not what to pray for as they ought.

At this favorable time, in this day of salvation, fill their hearts with the Grace of Thy Holy and Life-giving Spirit, and at my prayer give them to my love, as full vessels, filled with the knowledge of Thy goodness and with heartfelt contrition and devotion.

Give to them Thy Holy Spirit, who intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.

I myself, their pastor, am sinful and impure above all men, but consider not my sins, dismiss them according to Thy great mercy and hear my prayer at this hour for the sake of the grace of the priesthood resting on me and dwelling in me.

Amen.

<http://www.orthodox.net/trebnic/of-john-of-kronstadt-before-serving.doc>
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