

**Εὐχαὶ εἰς τὸ ἐκκλησιάσαι παιδίον,  
μεθ' ἡμέρας τεσσαράκοντα.**

*Ἰσταμένης δὲ τῆς μητρὸς μετὰ τοῦ βρέφους πρὸ τῶν  
πυλῶν τοῦ Ναοῦ, ὁ Ἱερεὺς λέγει·*

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ**

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν πάντοτε, νῦν καὶ  
ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

( Ἀμήν. )

**ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ**

**Τρισάγιον.**

Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, ἅγιος Ἰσχυρός, ἅγιος  
Ἀθάνατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. (ἐκ γ')

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.  
Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν  
αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Παναγία Τριάς, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Κύριε,  
ἱλάσθητι ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ἡμῶν. Δέσποτα,  
συγχώρησον τὰς ἀνομίας ἡμῖν. Ἄγιε,  
ἐπίσκεψαι καὶ ἴασαι τὰς ἀσθενείας ἡμῶν,  
ἕνεκεν τοῦ ὀνόματός σου.

Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.  
Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν  
αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς,  
ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου. Ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία  
σου. Γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου, ὡς ἐν  
οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς. Τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν  
ἐπιούσιον δὸς ἡμῖν σήμερον. Καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ  
ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν τοῖς  
ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν. Καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς  
πειρασμόν, ἀλλὰ ρῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ.

**Prayers for the Churching of a  
Mother and Child After Forty Days**

*Standing together with the mother, child and sponsor  
before the doors of the nave of the church, the Priest says:*

**PRIEST**

Blessed is our God always, now and ever,  
and to the ages of ages.

( Amen. )

**READER**

**Trisagion Prayers.**

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

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and to the  
ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us.  
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our  
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our  
infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and to the  
ages of ages. 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. [GOA]

## ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Ὅτι σοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία καὶ ἡ δύναμις  
καὶ ἡ δόξα τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ  
ἀγίου Πνεύματος, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς  
αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

( Ἀμήν. )

*Καὶ κλινούσης τῆς μητρὸς τὴν κεφαλὴν, ἅμα τῷ βρέφει,  
ποιεῖ ὁ Ἱερεὺς τὴν τοῦ Σταυροῦ σφραγίδα ἐπ’ αὐτῇ καὶ  
ἀπτόμενος τῆς κεφαλῆς αὐτῆς, λέγει τὴν ἐπομένην Εὐχὴν.*

## ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν.

( Κύριε, ἐλέησον. )

Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς ὁ παντοκράτωρ, ὁ Πατὴρ  
τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ὁ πᾶσαν  
φύσιν λογικὴν τε καὶ ἄλογον διὰ τοῦ λόγου  
σου δημιουργήσας· ὁ πάντα ἐξ οὐκ ὄντων  
εἰς τὸ εἶναι παραγαγών, σοῦ δεόμεθα καὶ  
σὲ παρακαλοῦμεν· ἦν τῷ σῶ θελήματι  
διέσωσας δούλην σου (τήνδε), καθάρισον  
ἀπὸ πάσης ἁμαρτίας καὶ ἀπὸ παντὸς ῥύπου,  
προσερχομένην τῇ ἀγίᾳ σου Ἐκκλησίᾳ, ἵνα  
ἀκατακρίτως ἀξιωθῇ μετασχεῖν τῶν ἁγίων σου  
Μυστηρίων.

( Ἀμήν. )

*Τότε ἀπτόμενος τῆς κεφαλῆς αὐτοῦ λέγει·*

Καὶ τὸ ἐξ αὐτῆς τεχθὲν παιδίον,  
εὐλόγησον, αὖξησον, ἀγίασον, συνέτισον,  
σωφρόνισον, καλοφρόνησον· ὅτι σὺ  
παρήγαγες αὐτό, καὶ ἔδειξας αὐτῷ τὸ φῶς  
τὸ αἰσθητόν, (ταῦτα παραλείπονται ἐὰν τὸ  
τέκνον ᾗ βεβαπτισμένον) ἵνα καὶ τοῦ νοητοῦ  
καταξιωθῇ φωτὸς ἐν καιρῷ, ᾧ προώρισας, καὶ  
συγκαταριθμηθῇ τῇ ἀγίᾳ σου ποίμνῃ διὰ τοῦ  
μονογενοῦς σου Υἱοῦ, μεθ’ οὗ εὐλογητὸς εἶ,  
σὺν τῷ παναγίῳ καὶ ἀγαθῷ, καὶ ζωοποιῷ σου

## PRIEST

For Yours is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, of the Father and the Son and  
the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of  
ages.

( Amen. )

*Over the bowed heads of mother and child, the Priest  
makes the sign of the Cross. He then lays his hand upon the  
mother's head and says:*

## PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

( Lord, have mercy. )

O Lord God Almighty, Father of our  
Lord Jesus Christ, Who by Your word has  
made every rational and irrational creature,  
that brought all things out of nothingness  
into being: we pray to You and implore You,  
cleanse this Your servant (Name), whom by  
Your Will You have preserved, and who now  
comes into Your Holy Church, from every  
transgression, so that she may be accounted  
worthy to partake of Your holy Mysteries  
without condemnation. <sup>[HC]</sup>

( Amen. )

*Then he touches the child's head and says:*

Bless also this child which has been  
born of her; increase it sanctify it, give it  
understanding and a prudent and virtuous  
mind; for You alone have brought it into being,  
and have shown him (her) the light which  
bodily sense perceives, so that he (she) might  
be accounted worthy also of the ideal light and  
be numbered with Your holy Flock; through  
Your Only-begotten Son, with Whom You are  
blessed, together with Your All-holy, Good

Πνεύματι, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

( Ἀμήν. )

Εἰρήνη πᾶσι.

( Καὶ τῷ πνεύματί σου. )

Τὰς κεφαλὰς ἡμῶν τῷ Κυρίῳ κλίνωμεν.

( Σοί, Κύριε. )

Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν.

( Κύριε, ἐλέησον. )

Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ διὰ τῆς ἐνανθρωπήσεως τοῦ μονογενοῦς σου Υἱοῦ παραγενόμενος ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ τοῦ γένους τῶν ἀνθρώπων, παραγενοῦ καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν δούλην σου (τήνδε) καὶ καταξίωσον αὐτήν, διὰ τῶν εὐχῶν τοῦ τιμίου Πρεσβυτερίου, καταφυγεῖν ἐν τῇ ἀγίᾳ σου καθολικῇ Ἐκκλησίᾳ, καὶ τυχεῖν τῆς εἰσόδου τοῦ ναοῦ τῆς δόξης σου, καὶ ἀξιώσον αὐτὴν μεταλαβεῖν τοῦ τιμίου Σώματος καὶ Αἵματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ σου. Απόπλυνον αὐτῆς τὸν ῥύπον τοῦ σώματος, καὶ τὸν σπῖλον τῆς ψυχῆς, ἐν τῇ συμπληρώσει τῶν τεσσαράκοντα ἡμερῶν· ὅπως, ἀξιωθεῖσα εἰσελθεῖν ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ ναῷ σου, δοξάσῃ σὺν ἡμῖν τὸ πανάγιον ὄνομά σου τοῦ Πατρός, καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ, καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

( Ἀμήν. )

Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν.

( Κύριε, ἐλέησον. )

Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ ἐν τεσσαράκοντα ἡμέραις, βρέφος τῷ νομικῷ Ναῷ προσαχθεὶς ὑπὸ Μαρίας τῆς ἀπειρογάμου καὶ ἀγίας σου Μητρός, καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἀγκάλαις τοῦ

and Life-creating Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. [HC]

( Amen. )

Peace be with all.

( And with your spirit. )

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

( To You, O Lord. )

Let us pray to the Lord.

( Lord, have mercy. )

O Lord God, Who ever draws near for the salvation of the human race, come also to this Your servant (Name), and through the prayers of Your venerable Priesthood account her worthy to find refuge in Your holy Catholic Church, to obtain entrance into the Temple of Your Glory, and worthy also to partake of the Precious Body and Blood of Your Christ. In the fulfillment of the forty days, wash away from her every transgression, voluntary and involuntary, so that accounted worthy to enter Your holy Temple, she may glorify with us Your All-holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. [HC]

( Amen. )

Let us pray to the Lord.

( Lord, have mercy. )

O Lord our God, Who on the fortieth day was brought as a child into the Temple of the Law by Mary, the Virgin Bride and Your holy Mother, and was carried in the arms of the

δικαίου Συμεών βασταχθείς, Αὐτός, Δέσποτα παντοδύναμε, καὶ τὸ προσαχθὲν τοῦτο βρέφος, ἐμφανισθῆναί σοι τῷ πάντων Ποιητῇ, εὐλόγησον, καὶ εἰς πᾶν ἔργον ἀγαθὸν καὶ σοὶ εὐάρεστον αὖξησον, ἀποσοβῶν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ πᾶσαν ἐναντίαν δύναμιν, διὰ τῆς σημειώσεως τοῦ τύπου τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου· σὺ γὰρ εἶ ὁ φυλάσσων τὰ νήπια, Κύριε· «ἵνα, καταξιωθὲν τοῦ ἁγίου Βαπτίσματος»\* τύχη τῆς μερίδος τῶν ἐκλεκτῶν τῆς βασιλείας σου, φυλαττόμενον σὺν ἡμῖν τῇ χάριτι τῆς ἁγίας, καὶ ὁμοουσίου, καὶ ἀδιαιρέτου Τριάδος. Σοὶ γὰρ πρέπει πᾶσα δόξα καὶ εὐχαριστία καὶ προσκύνησις, σὺν τῷ ἀνάρχῳ σου Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ παναγίῳ καὶ ἀγαθῷ καὶ ζωοποιῷ σου Πνεύματι, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

( Ἀμήν. )

Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν.

( Κύριε, ἐλέησον. )

Ὁ Θεός, ὁ Πατήρ, ὁ παντοκράτωρ, ὁ διὰ τοῦ μεγαλοφωνοτάτου τῶν προφητῶν Ἡσαΐου, προκαταγγείλας ἡμῖν τὴν ἐκ Παρθένου σάρκωσιν τοῦ μονογενοῦς σου Υἱοῦ καὶ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, ὃς ἐπ' ἐσχάτων τῶν ἡμερῶν, εὐδοκίᾳ σῇ καὶ συνεργείᾳ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, διὰ τὴν τῶν βροτῶν σωτηρίαν, ἀμέτρῳ εὐσπλαγχνίᾳ ἐξ αὐτῆς νηπιάσαι καταδεξάμενος, καὶ κατὰ τὸ εἰθισμένον ἐν Νόμῳ ἁγίῳ σου, μετὰ τὴν ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν ἡμερῶν τοῦ καθαρισμοῦ, τῷ Ἱερῷ προσαχθῆναι ἠνέσχετο, ἀληθῆς νομοθέτης ὑπάρχων, καὶ ἐν ἀγκάλαις τοῦ δικαίου Συμεών βασταχθῆναι κατεδέξατο, οὐπὲρ μυστηρίου τὴν προτύπωσιν ἐν τῷ

righteous Symeon, do You also, Sovereign Master All-Powerful, bless this presented babe that it may appear before You, the Creator of all things. And do You increase in him (her) every good work acceptable to You, removing from him (her) every opposing might by the sign of the likeness of Your Cross; for You are He Who guards infants, O Lord. So that, accounted worthy of holy Baptism, he (she) may obtain the portion of Your Elect of the Kingdom, being protected with us by the Grace of the Holy Consubstantial and Undivided Trinity. For unto You do we send up Glory, Honor and Worship, with Your Eternal Father and Your All-holy, Good and Life-creating Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. [HC]

( Amen. )

Let us pray to the Lord.

( Lord, have mercy. )

O God, the Father Almighty, Who by the loud; voice Prophet Isaiah has foretold to us the incarnation from a Virgin of Your Only; Begotten Son and our God; Who in the latter days, by Your good pleasure and by the cooperation of the Holy Spirit have willed, through measureless love, to become a child of her for the salvation of men; and, according to the custom of Your Holy Law, after the fulfillment of the days of purification, submitted to be brought into the Sanctuary, being Himself a true lawgiver, and willed to be carried in the arms of the righteous Symeon, of which mystery we have a prototype declared

προλεχθέντι Προφήτη, διὰ τῆς λαβίδος τοῦ ἄνθρακος, δηλωθεῖσαν ἐπέγνωμεν, οὗ καὶ ἡμεῖς οἱ πιστοὶ τὴν μίμησιν ἐν χάριτι κατέχομεν· Αὐτὸς καὶ νῦν, ὁ φυλάσσων τὰ νήπια, Κύριε, εὐλόγησον τὸ παιδίον τοῦτο, ἅμα τοῖς γονεῦσι καὶ ἀναδόχοις αὐτοῦ· «καὶ καταξιώσον αὐτὸ ἐν καιρῷ εὐθέτῳ καὶ τῆς δι' ὕδατος καὶ πνεύματος ἀναγεννήσεως· συγκαταρίθμησον αὐτὸ τῇ ἀγίᾳ σου ποιμνῇ τῶν λογικῶν προβάτων, τῶν ἐπικεκλημένων τῷ ὀνόματι τοῦ Χριστοῦ σου».\* Ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ ἐν ὑψηλοῖς κατοικῶν καὶ τὰ ταπεινὰ ἐφορῶν, καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν ἀναπέμπομεν, τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ καὶ τῷ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

( Ἀμήν. )

*Εἶτα, λαβὼν ὁ Ἱερεὺς τὸ παιδίον, σχηματίζει δι' αὐτοῦ Σταυρὸν πρὸ τῶν πυλῶν τοῦ Ναοῦ, λέγων·*

Ἐκκλησιάζεται ὁ δοῦλος τοῦ Θεοῦ (ὁ δεῖνα), εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος.

( Ἀμήν. )

*Εἶτα εἰσάγει αὐτὸ ἐν τῷ Ναῷ λέγων·*

Εἰσελεύσομαι εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου, Κύριε, προσκυνήσω πρὸς ναὸν ἁγίόν σου.

*Καὶ εἰσέρχεται ἐν τῷ μέσῳ τοῦ Ναοῦ, λέγων·*

Ἐκκλησιάζεται ὁ δοῦλος τοῦ Θεοῦ (ὁ δεῖνα), εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος.

( Ἀμήν. )

Ἐν μέσῳ ἐκκλησίας ὑμνήσω σε.

in the aforementioned Prophet by the taking of coals with tongs from the Altar, and of which we Faithful also have an imitation in Grace. Do You, Who are He that watches over babes, Yourself, O Lord, bless (+) this child, together with its parents and sponsors, and account it worthy, at the fitting time, to be born again of water and the Spirit. Number it with Your holy Flock of rational sheep, who are called by the Name of Your Christ. For You are He that dwells on high, and gives regard to the things which are lowly, and to You do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. [HC]

( Amen. )

*Then, taking up the child, the Priest lifts it up in the sign of the Cross before the Gates of the Temple, saying:*

The servant of God (Name) is churched, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. [HC]

( Amen. )

*And he carries the child into the Holy Temple, saying:*

I will come into Your house, O Lord; in fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple. [SAAS]

*Coming to the center of the church, he says:*

The servant of God (Name) is churched, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. [HC]

( Amen. )

In the midst of the church I will sing to You. [SAAS]

*Εἵτα προσάγει αὐτὸ πρὸ τῶν πυλῶν τοῦ Θυσιαστηρίου λέγων·*

Ἐκκλησιάζεται ὁ δοῦλος τοῦ Θεοῦ (ὁ δεῖνα), εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος.

( Ἀμήν. )

*Καί εισάγει αὐτὸ εἰς τὸ ἅγιον Θυσιαστήριον, εἰ μὲν εἴη ἄρρεν· εἰ δὲ θῆλυ, ἕως τῶν ὁραίων πυλῶν, λέγων τὸ·*

Νῦν ἀπολύεις τὸν δοῦλόν σου, Δέσποτα, κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμά σου, ἐν εἰρήνῃ· ὅτι εἶδον οἱ ὀφθαλμοί μου τὸ σωτήριόν σου, ὃ ἡτοίμασας κατὰ πρόσωπον πάντων τῶν λαῶν· φῶς εἰς ἀποκάλυψιν ἐθνῶν, καὶ δόξαν λαοῦ σου Ἰσραήλ.

Δόξα σοι, Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, δόξα σοι.

Ὁ ἐν ἀγκάλαις τοῦ δικαίου Συμεὼν βασταχθῆναι καταδεξάμενος, διὰ τὴν ἡμῶν σωτηρίαν, Χριστὸς ὁ ἀληθινὸς Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς παναχράντου καὶ παναμώμου ἁγίας αὐτοῦ Μητρός, δυνάμει τοῦ τιμίου καὶ ζωοποιοῦ Σταυροῦ, προστασίαις τῶν τιμίων ἐπουρανίων δυνάμεων ἀσωμάτων, ἱκεσίαις τοῦ τιμίου, ἐνδόξου, προφήτου, προδρόμου καὶ βαπτιστοῦ Ἰωάννου, τῶν ἁγίων ἐνδόξων καὶ πανευφήμων ἀποστόλων, τῶν ἁγίων ἐνδόξων καὶ καλλινίκων μαρτύρων· τῶν ὁσίων καὶ θεοφόρων πατέρων ἡμῶν· **(τοῦ Ἁγίου τοῦ Ναοῦ)**· τῶν ἁγίων καὶ δικαίων θεοπατόρων Ἰωακείμ καὶ Ἄννης, καὶ πάντων τῶν ἁγίων, ἐλεῆσαι καὶ σῶσαι ἡμᾶς, ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος καὶ ἐλεήμων Θεός.

Δι' εὐχῶν τῶν ἁγίων πατέρων ἡμῶν, Κύριε Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, ἐλέησον καὶ σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

( Ἀμήν. )

*Then he brings the child before the Doors of the Altar, saying:*

The servant of God (Name) is churched, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. <sup>[HC]</sup>

( Amen. )

*If the child is male the Priest carries him into the Altar; if a female, the child is carried only as far as the Holy Doors. He then says:*

Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples. A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.

Glory to You, O Christ our God. Glory to You.

May He who condescended to be held in the arms of righteous Symeon, for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers, **(local patron saint)**; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and merciful and loves mankind.

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

( Amen. )

Καὶ μετὰ τὸ Ἀμήν σφραγίζει τὸ μέτωπον αὐτοῦ καὶ  
τὸ στόμα καὶ τὸ στήθος ἐπιλέγων καὶ τὸ τῆς ἁγίας Τριάδος  
ὄνομα.

Καὶ οὕτως ἀποδίδωσι τὸ βρέφος τῇ μητρὶ.

After the Amen, the priest makes the sign of the Cross  
over the forehead, mouth, and chest of the child, invoking the  
name of the Holy Trinity.

He then returns the child to the mother.