

# Documents

## Some Russian Prayers

*A small Russian samizdat (i.e. typewritten) book of prayers reached the West last year. It is lovingly bound and illustrated with pictures of the saints. The following are a few examples of its contents.*

### **Prayer to Christ for every day**

Lord, grant me to meet with tranquillity of soul all that may befall me this day. Grant that I may obey Thy holy will every hour of this day; guide me and maintain me in all things, reveal to me Thy will for me and those about me. Whatever news I may receive this day, grant that I may accept it with a tranquil soul and in the firm conviction of Thy holy will in all things. In all my words and deeds, guide my thoughts and emotions, in all unforeseen circumstances let me not forget that all these things are permitted by Thee.

Teach me, O Lord, to deal openly and wisely with all, in the community, in my own family, (in this cloister), causing grief or embarrassment to no one, but comforting, aiding and counselling all.

Lord, grant me the strength to bear the weariness of the coming day, and all the events that occur in the course of the day.

Guide my will and teach me, O Lord, to pray to Thee, to believe, hope, endure patiently, forgive, and love.

### **Prayer in time of fear**

Almighty God. The hour of Thy glory has come; look mercifully upon me and deliver me from this great misfortune. In Thee I place my hopes. For alone I am helpless and as nothing. Help me, O God, and deliver me from fear.

### **Prayer in time of famine**

Lord Jesus Christ, Almighty All-generous and All-Merciful God, Who under the Old Dispensation didst miraculously feed Thy chosen people for forty years in the desert, and who in the time of famine didst, through Thy prophet Elijah multiply the flour and oil of the widow at Zarephath, and under the New Dispensation didst feed five thousand with five loaves and four thousand with seven loaves, and Who in latter times didst work like miracles through the faith and prayers of Thy servants, look mercifully now, O Lord, upon us, Thy sinful servants, have mercy upon us and deliver us from the famine which threatens us; grant in Thine Omnipotence that we lack not the food we need, lest we untimely perish.

## Prayer to Christ Crucified

O Lord Jesus! By Thy Passion which Thou hast endured on the Cross, I beseech Thee: have pity on my poor sinful soul, and have mercy on it, when it shall depart from this perishable body.

## Prayer before the Cross

O Lord of the world! My mind do thou enlighten,  
May Thy Cross send a ray of faith, my heart to brighten.  
Thy Cross and Thy Passion within my soul deep,  
In my mind and my heart engrave, me for to keep.  
With faith and with love I will thank Thee for ever,  
For Thy mercy, my King and my God, failing never.  
And Thy All-Holy Cross with tears I shall praise,  
With mind and with lips, heart and soul, all my days.

(Translated by Vera Rich)

## Pentecostalist on Trial

*Ivan Fedotov, a Pentecostal pastor, was sentenced in July 1960 to ten years "on an absurd charge of 'trying to make a human sacrifice' as anti-Soviet propaganda" (see documents in RCL Vol. 3, Nos. 1-3, p. 28 and p. 29). On 4 August, 1974 a wedding service led by Pastor Fedotov was disrupted by the local authorities, and on 15 August he was arrested for a second time. The document below is a brief account of his subsequent trial. It appeared in the samizdat human rights journal, The Chronicle of Current Events No. 36.*

## The trial of Fedotov

Ivan Petrovich Fedotov (born in 1929, builder), was arrested on 15 August 1974 (see *The Chronicle of Current Events* No. 34).

From 10 to 18 April 1975 the Kaluga regional court examined his case. The Chairman of the court was Kuznetsov. The public prosecutor had the same surname. Fedotov conducted his own defence.

He was accused under article 227 ("Infringement of person and rights of citizens under the appearance of performing religious ceremonies"), 190/1, 191 ("Resisting a representative of the authorities or a representative of the community fulfilling his obligation to preserve public order") and 192 ("Insulting a representative of the authorities or a representative of the community") of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR.

Under article 227 Fedotov was accused of organizing unregistered prayer meetings. Five documents were produced as material evidence. A document