A Form for the Blessing of Icons

[A candle or candles may be lit before the icon.]

V Blessed is our God,  
R Now and forever. Amen.

V One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
R that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

V To behold the fair beauty of the LORD,  
R and to seek him in his temple.

V The Lord be with you.  
R And also with you.  
V Let us pray.

O Lord, God of the whole creation, Maker of the heavenly hosts,  
you have filled your Church with the likeness of the Eternal Word;  
our names are written in your Heavenly Church,  
and we minister to you by the grace of your Holy Spirit.

Grant, O Lord God, that your all-powerful hand  
may protect, bless, and sanctify this icon  
for the adoration of your holy Name.  
May it be to us a sign of your presence  
and a window into your Kingdom,  
where with the saints and souls of the redeemed  
you live and reign, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

[The icon may be sprinkled with holy water or anointed with oil.  
Those present may kiss or touch the icon as a sign of veneration.]