



The Kronia Ritual

- ◆ **Ritual washing**
- ◆ **Ritual washing with invocation to Okeanos: Orphic Hymn 83 To Okeanos**

Okeanos whose nature ever flows, from whom at first both Gods and men arose;
sire incorruptible, whose waves surround, and earth's all-terminating circle bound:
hence every river, hence the spreading sea, and earth's pure bubbling fountains spring from
thee. Hear, mighty sire, for boundless bliss is thine, greatest cathartic of the powers divine:
earth's friendly limit, fountain of the pole, whose waves wide spreading and circumfluent roll.
Approach benevolent, with placid mind, and be forever to thy mystics kind.

- ◆ **Purification – water sprinkled from a bay branch – Be gone all corruption and evil”
(three times).**

Blessed Okeanos, may your bright waters purify this space, and prepare both me, and it,
for the rites that are about to unfold.

- ◆ **Who is present? Those attending answer: All good people!**
- ◆ **Euphemia sto, euphemia sto, euchomai tois Theois pasi kai pasais**
- ◆ **Offering of barley groats strewn around altar**

- ◆ **Lighting of the lamp for Hestia with invocation: Daughter of Kronos, You whose eternal
flame illumines all our worship, come to this oikos with blessings . . .**
- ◆ **Lighting of the sacrificial fire**
- ◆ **Libation of honey sweet wine to Hestia**
- ◆ **Homeric Hymn 24 to Hestia**

To Hestia

Hestia, you that tend the far-shooting lord Apollo's sacred
house at holy Pytho, from your locks the oozing oil ever
drips down. Come to this house in kindly (?) heart, together
with Zeus the resourceful, and bestow beauty on my singing.

- ◆ **Invocation to Gaia: Gaia, to you who nurtures us into being, who nurtures us through
life, and who accepts us unto once again unto Thee**

First of all, in my prayers, before all other Gods, I call upon the foremost
prophetess Gaia.

◆ **Orphic Hymn 26 to Ge**

Ges

Divine Earth, mother of men and of the blessed Gods,
you nourish all, you give all, you bring all to fruition, and you destroy all.
When the season is fair you are heavy with fruit and growing blossoms;
and, o multiform maiden, you are the seat of the immortal cosmos,
and in the pains of labor you bring forth fruit of all kinds.
Eternal, reverend, deep-bosomed, and blessed,
you delight in the sweet breath of grass, O Goddess bedecked with flowers.
Yours is the joy of the rain, and round you the intricate realm of the stars
revolves in endless and awesome flow.
But, O blessed Goddess, may you multiply the gladsome fruits
and, together with the beautiful seasons, grant me favor.

- ◆ **Offering of khernips**
- ◆ **Strewing of barley groats around altar**
- ◆ **Prayers (for blessings of bounty for the coming year, etc.)**

- ◆ **Invocation to Themis: To you who sits leaning against Zeus, who consults closely with Zeus, and are the just order of all things**
- ◆ **Libation of honey sweet wine with prayers**

Leap for goodly Themis

From the Hymn of the Kouretes

- ◆ **Invocation to Kronos: You who are the ending and beginning again of all things, who governs the cycles of the Seasons, who accomplishes the harvest O Great Ruler and sire of Almighty Zeus**
- ◆ **Libation of honey sweet wine**
- ◆ **Orphic Hymn 13 to Kronos**

To Kronos

Everlasting father of blessed Gods and men,
resourceful, pure, mighty, and powerful Titan,
you consume all things and replenish them, too.
Unbreakable is the hold you have on the boundless cosmos.
O Kronos, begetter of time, Kronos of contrasting discourse,
child of Earth and starry Sky.

In you there is birth and decline, august and prudent lord of Rhea.
who, as progenitor, dwell in every part of the world.
Hear my suppliant voice, O wily and brave one,
and bring an ever blameless end to a good life.

Translation by Apostolos N. Athanassakis

- ◆ **Invocation to Rhea: Mother of the Gods, the everlasting flow of nature, Queen of queens**
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- ◆ **Libation of honey sweet wine**
- ◆ **Orphic Hymn 27 To the Mother of the Gods**

To the Mother of the Gods

Divine are your honors, O mother of the Gods and nurturer of all.
 Yoke your swift chariot drawn by bull slaying lions and,
 O mighty Goddess who brings things to pass, join our prayers.
 Many-named and reverend, you are queen of the sky,
 for in the cosmos yours is the throne in the middle because
 the earth is yours and you give gentle nourishment to mortals.
 Gods and men were born of you,
 and you hold sway over the rivers and all the sea.
 Hestia is one of your names, and they call you giver of prosperity
 because you bestow on men all manner of gifts.
 Come to this rite, queen whom the drum delights,
 all taming, savior of Phrygia, consort of Kronos,
 child of Ouranos, honored and frenzy-loving nurturer of life.
 Joyously and graciously visit our deed of piety.

Translation by Apostolos N. Athanassakis

- ◆ **Offerings for Kronos and Rhea**
- ◆ **Prayers (blessings for the coming year, etc.)**

- ◆ **Lighting of the incense burner with frankincense**
- ◆ **Invocation to Zeus Ktesios and Zeus Teleios: King of all, you who rules with Hera Queen of Heaven, fulfiller**
- ◆ **Libation of honey sweet wine**
- ◆ **Homeric Hymn 23 to Zeus**

**To the Son of Kronos, Most High
To Zeus**

Of Zeus, best and greatest of the gods, I will sing, the
 wide-sounding ruler, the one that brings to fulfillment,
 who consults closely with Themis as she sits leaning
 against him.

Be favorable, wide-sounding son of Kronos, greatest
 and most glorious.

- ◆ **Prayers (for blessings for the coming year, etc.)**

- ◆ **Invocation to Hera Teleia: To You Queen of all, accomplisher, who rules with Almighty Zeus**
- ◆ **Libation of honey sweet wine**
- ◆ **Homeric Hymn 12 to Hera**

To Hera

Of Hera I sing, the golden-throned, whom Rhea bore to be queen of the immortals, of supreme beauty, sister and wife of Zeus the loud-booming; glorious one, whom all of the blessed ones on long Olympus revere and honor no less than Zeus whose sport is the thunderbolt.

- ◆ **Offerings for Zeus and Hera**
- ◆ **Prayers (for blessings for the coming year, etc.)**

- ◆ **Libation poured on the sacrificial fire to Hestia and for all the Gods with prayers**

Then may blessings go with you, and may the Theoi watch benevolently over us and guard us with favorable fortunes!

Adapted from Aeschylus – Libation Bearers – Chorus

- ◆ **Invocation to Hestia: Daughter of Kronos, You whose eternal flame illumines all our worship, I/we have honored You in first place with a libation of honey sweet wine and now honor you in last place with a libation of honey sweet wine:**

Blessed Hestia, Goddess of home and hearth. To you, I offer last of all a libation of honey sweet wine, as a pious mortal should. Tend to those whom we love and guard the houses of the pious. As the Gods will it, so shall it be!

- ◆ **Libation of wine to Hestia**
- ◆ **Extinguishing of the lamp**