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The Service of Matins

for Monday, December 23, 2019

Menaion - December 23
Memory of the Holy Ten Martyrs in Crete

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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Menaion - December 23

Memory of the Holy Ten Martyrs in Crete

MATINS

CHOIR

Mode 4.

God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. [SAAS]

Verse 1: *Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name.*

or: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

Verse 2: *All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I defended myself against them.*

Verse 3: *And this came about from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes.*

Apolytikion. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4.

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. * And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree of life * has in the grotto blossomed forth from the Virgin. * Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually * a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. * And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of old. * Christ is born, so that He might raise up * the formerly fallen image. [SD]

Glory. **For the Martyrs.**

From Menaion - - -

Mode 3. *N/M (Seeing how beautiful.)*

Let us show forth our great praise of Crete/ which brought forth these precious Christians: the pearls of Christ!/ And these blessed ten, the offspring of martyrs,/ who few in number, yet overcame all the deceits of

powerful demons.// Therefore these martyrs of Christ have been crowned with victory! [OCA]

Both now.

Apolytikion. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4.

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. * And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree of life * has in the grotto blossomed forth from the Virgin. * Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually * a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. * And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of old. * Christ is born, so that He might raise up * the formerly fallen image. [SD]

PRIEST

Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

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

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Kathisma I.

From Menaion ---

Mode pl. 1. *N/M (Let us worship the Word.)*

Prepare yourself, Bethlehem, to greet the Virgin Mary,/the Mother of God!/For behold, she comes to you, bearing the infant Christ,/Who is ever equally unoriginate with the Father and the Spirit!/She will give birth to Him in the cave//and after giving birth will be shown to be still a Virgin. [OCA]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

Prepare yourself, Bethlehem, to greet the Virgin Mary,/the Mother of God!/For behold, she comes to you, bearing the infant Christ,/Who is ever equally unoriginate with the Father and the Spirit!/She will give birth to Him in the cave//and after giving birth will be shown to be still a Virgin. [OCA]

Kathisma II.

From Menaion ---

Mode pl. 2. *N/M (You are the good hope.)*

In days of old the kings from Persia/brought gold, myrrh and frankincense to the new-born King and God!/Now with divine wisdom and all our soul,/as we celebrate the prefeast of His nativity,/let us offer Him hope and faith and love,//as we sing hymns to the Virgin! [OCA]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

In days of old the kings from Persia/brought gold, myrrh and frankincense to the new-born King and God!/Now with divine wisdom and all our soul,/as we celebrate the prefeast of His nativity,/let us offer Him hope and faith and love,//as we sing hymns to the Virgin! [OCA]

READER

Psalms 50 (51).

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. For behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord,

in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then You will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. [SAAS]

Kontakion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4. N/M (You appeared.)

The noble struggle of the martyrs/shines forth as the morning star,/shedding brilliant light for us/on the One Who was born in the cave//to Whom the Virgin gave birth without human seed. [OCA]

Oikos.

The soldiers longed for Christ the Giver of life, who for us was born of a Virgin in a cave. They raised us a radiant chorus against Belial; they completely vanquished him, who of old had immensely boasted, and they dashed him to the ground. Now, as luminaries of the noetic Sun, they light the way for those in darkness. Of old it was a star that appeared to the Magi, guiding them to Bethlehem the city in Judah; and now these stars of martyrdom, by their tortures, herald to us the Lord, to whom the Virgin gave birth without human seed. [SD]

Synaxarion.

From the Menaion.

On December 23, we commemorate the holy Ten Martyrs who witnessed in Crete.

On this day we also commemorate our devout father Paul, Archbishop of Neocesaria, one of the 318 holy fathers of the First Council in Nicea.

On this day was the consecration of the holy Great Church of Christ.

On this day we commemorate our holy and God-bearing father Nahum the wonder-worker, the enlightener and preacher of Bulgaria.

St. Schinon the Martyr died by the sword.

By the intercessions of Your Saints, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.

DEACON

Let us honor and magnify in song the Theotokos and the Mother of the light.

CHOIR

Ode ix.

Megalynarion. Mode 3.

Verse: *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.* [NKJV]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify. [SD]

Verse: *For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.* [NKJV]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify. [SD]

Verse: *For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.* [NKJV]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth

to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos.
You do we magnify. [SD]

Verse: *He has shown strength with His arm;
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of
their hearts.* [NKJV]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and
in glory greater beyond compare than the
Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth
to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos.
You do we magnify. [SD]

Verse: *He has put down the mighty from
their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled
the hungry with good things, and the rich He has
sent away empty.* [NKJV]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and
in glory greater beyond compare than the
Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth
to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos.
You do we magnify. [SD]

Verse: *He has helped His servant Israel, in
remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our
fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.* [NKJV]

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and
in glory greater beyond compare than the
Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth
to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos.
You do we magnify. [SD]

Heirmos. Mode 3.

We ever magnify you, the immortal
fountain, that through the saints gives cures
and healings to the human race, for you save
our souls. [SD]

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos,
ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our
God. Greater in honor than the Cherubim,
and in glory greater beyond compare than the

Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth
to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos.
You do we magnify.

DEACON

Again and again, in peace, let us pray to
the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and
protect us, O God, by Your grace.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Commemorating our most holy, pure,
blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and
ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us
commend ourselves and one another and our
whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For all the powers of heaven praise You
and give You glory, to the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to
the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Exaposteilarion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 2. N/M (On the mountain.)

Let us joyfully crown with hymns of
praise the glorious and renowned holy
Martyrs: Theodoulos, Zotikos, Agathopus,
Satorninos, Pompey, Evnikianos, Vasilides,
Efporos, Gelasios, and Evarestos. By their
intercessions may we be freed from our
transgressions, and may we also be crowned
by Christ the Savior. [SD]

For the Forefeast.

Mode 2. N/M (On the mountain.)

Let us who practiced virtue, and who
hastened to mortify the passions by self-

control, now offer praiseworthy action and focused contemplation, as our own gifts, like the shepherds and the Magi, in faith to God, whose good pleasure is our salvation, and who is coming to be born of the Virgin. [SD]

Lauds. Mode pl. 2.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, all you His angels; praise Him, all you His hosts. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you stars and light.

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the Lord's name.

For He spoke, and they were made; He commanded, and they were created.

He established them forever and unto ages of ages; He set forth His ordinance, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you dragons and all the deeps.

Fire and hail, snow and ice, stormy wind, which perform His word.

Mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees and all cedars.

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds.

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth.

Young men and maidens, elders with younger, let them praise the Lord's name, for His name alone is exalted.

His thanksgiving is in earth and heaven. And He shall exalt the horn of His people.

A hymn for all His saints, for the children of Israel, a people who draw near to Him.

Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of His holy ones.

Let Israel be glad in Him who made him, and let the children of Zion greatly rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name with dance; with tambourine and harp let them sing to Him.

For the Lord is pleased with His people, and He shall exalt the gentle with salvation.

The holy ones shall boast in glory, and they shall greatly rejoice on their beds.

The high praise of God shall be in their mouth and a two-edged sword in their hand.

To deal retribution to the nations, reproof among the peoples.

To shackle their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron.

To fulfill among them the written judgment: this glory have all His holy ones.

Praise God in His saints; praise Him in the firmament of His power.

Stichera. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 2. N/M (O angelic powers.)

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness. [SAAS]

The will of the Father before all ages;/ the mystery foretold by the prophets/ is brought to light in the latter days:/ God is made man, taking flesh from the Virgin./ The uncreated one is pleased to create us anew.// Behold, Christ the King of Israel draws near! [OCA]

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet; praise Him with the harp and lyre. [SAAS]

We praise You, O King;/ wrapped in swaddling clothes You have loosed the bonds

of our sins;/You have gloriously robed us
in purity and incorruption:/We are formed
anew and restored to the Father./Therefore
we cry aloud://Christ, the King of Israel,
draws near! [OCA]

*Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise
Him with strings and flute. [SAAS]*

Light sent forth from light,/shining
from the Virgin to those on earth,/You have
enlightened the Magi with a wondrous
star:/Beholding it, they cast away the dark
deceptions of stargazers,/singing in joy to the
newborn God,//blessed is He Who comes, our
God, glory to You! [OCA]

*Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise
Him with triumphant cymbals; let everything that
breathes praise the Lord. [SAAS]*

Herod was mocked by the shrewdness of
the Magi;/in a rage he harvested the tender
shoots of blameless infants;/he raised his
murderous hand against You, O Lord,/but
You departed to sojourn with the men of
Egypt,/dispelling the abyss of their darkness./
With them we sing://Blessed is He Who
comes, our God, glory to You! [OCA]

Glory. *N/M (O angelic powers.)*

Your new Israel, singing a new song to
You,/celebrates in heavenly melody./Be glad,
rejoice exceedingly and dance;/come in truth
to the feast of light!/God appears in the flesh
from the dark and shady mountain;//as a man
He prepares to wash in the streams of Jordan!
[OCA]

Both now. *N/M (O angelic powers.)*

You have appeared on earth, living with
mortal men;/obeying the decree of Caesar,

You were enrolled with your servants./
You came as man; You did not abandon
us,/remaining the true and changeless
God, although incarnate./Glory to your
dispensation!/Worship, praise dominion, and
majesty,//now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen! [OCA]

READER

Doxology (read)

To you belongs glory, O Lord our God,
and to you we send up glory, to the Father
and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and
forever and to the ages of ages. Amen. Glory
to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
good will to men. We praise you, we bless
you, we worship you, we glorify you, and
we thank you, for your great glory. Lord,
King, Heavenly God, Father Almighty; only-
begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ and Holy
Spirit. Lord God, the Lamb of God, the Son
of the Father, who take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us, you who take away
the sins of the world. Accept our supplication,
you who sit at the right of the Father, and
have mercy on us. For you are the only Holy
One, you are the only Lord, Jesus Christ, to the
glory of God the Father. Amen. Every day I
shall bless you, and I shall praise your name
forever, and unto the ages of ages. Lord, you
have become for us a refuge from generation
to generation. I have said: Lord, have mercy
on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against
you. Lord, to you I have fled; teach me to do
your will, for you are my God. For with you
is the fountain of life; in your light we shall
see light. Extend your mercy to those who
know you. Grant, O Lord, that in this day we
may be kept without sin. Blessed are you, O

Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is your name unto the ages. Amen. Let your mercy, Lord, come upon us, just as we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed are you, O Master, make me understand your commandments. Blessed are you, O Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy remains forever, do not turn away from the works of your hands. To you belongs praise, to you belongs a hymn, to you belongs glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

DEACON

Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

(Lord, have mercy.)

That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For that which is good and beneficial for our souls, and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

And let us ask for a Christian end to our life, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For You are the God of mercy and compassion and love for mankind, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

(Amen.)

PRIEST

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

DEACON

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST *(in a low voice)*

Holy Lord, dwelling on high and beholding things below and, with your eye that observes all, keeping watch over the whole creation, to you we have bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we beseech you, O Holy of Holies: Stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling and bless us all. And, as you are good and love humankind, pardon us if we have sinned in anything, voluntarily or involuntarily, granting us

your blessings both of this world and of the world above.

PRIEST

For Yours it is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

(Amen.)

From Menaion - - -

CHOIR

Aposticha.

Mode 1. N/M (O Martyrs, extolled.)

Earth, behold my descent as God and rejoice! / The Magi bear their gifts to Me; / the heavens bear witness by a star; / the hosts of angels glorify in song; / the shepherds from the fields marvel; / the cave, as a fiery throne, receives Me; / my Mother rejoices exceedingly to behold Me! [OCA]

Verse: *God will come from Teman, the Holy One from the mount of shaded leafy trees.* [SAAS]

Light of revelation for the nations! / You came conformed to the image of my lowliness! / My Son without beginning, / offspring flowing from the unoriginate Father! / Desiring to bestow abundant blessings upon the impoverished human race, / You came as a homeless beggar. / I glorify You, O Lord, / the only-compassionate Lover of man! [OCA]

Verse: *Lord, I have heard Your report and was afraid; I considered Your works and was greatly astonished.* [SAAS]

As a Child You behold Me, Mother; / You rejoice as You bear Me asleep in your arms. / I come to take away all the pain of suffering Adam; / deceived by the serpent, he ate the

forbidden fruit. / He was exiled from the riches of paradise, / perishing in his corruption! [OCA]

Glory. **For the Martyrs.**

From Menaion - - -

Mode 3.

O valiant Martyrs, witnesses to the truth, nothing was able to separate you from your love for God, not the force of the tyrant, nor deceptive flattery, nor dismemberment, nor the threat of death. Therefore, as a reward for the painful torments you endured, you have great access to Christ, the God over all, so you can entreat Him, that by your prayers we might receive great mercy from Christ. [SD]

Both now. **For the Forefeast.**

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 4.

The Creator of all comes to be born in Bethlehem; / the King of all ages opens the gates of Eden; / the wall of partition shall be destroyed; / the fiery sword shall turn back! / The powers of heaven join with the dwellers of earth; / angels with men shout for joy and clap their hands. / Let us in purity conduct ourselves with upright hearts! / Let us behold the Virgin as the glorious throne of the cherubim! / She holds in her arms the immortal God, / Who comes to bestow great mercy to the world! [OCA]

PRIEST

It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing to Your name, O Most High, to proclaim Your mercy in the morning and Your truth at night. [SAAS]

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever 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 the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever 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.

PRIEST

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

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Apolytikion. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4.

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. * And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree of life * has in the grotto blossomed forth from the Virgin. * Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually * a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. * And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of

old. * Christ is born, so that He might raise up * the formerly fallen image. ^[SD]

DEACON

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, the hieromonks, the hierodeacons, the monastics, and all our brotherhood in Christ.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep before us, who here have been piously laid to their rest, as well as the Orthodox everywhere.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable church, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people here present who await Your great and rich mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

DEACON

Wisdom.

(Father, bless!)

PRIEST

Blessed are You, Christ our God, always now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Make firm, Lord our God, the holy and pure faith of the pious Orthodox Christians, together with the Holy Church and this city forever.

READER

Amen.

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3) Father, bless!

PRIEST

May 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 loves mankind.

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

(Amen.)