

Μηνναῖον - ΤΗΙ ΚΖ' ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ

Μνήμη τοῦ Ἁγίου Πρωτομάρτυρος
Στεφάνου

ΛΕΙΤΟΥΡΓΙΑ

Ἀντίφωνον Α'. Ἦχος β'. Ψαλμοὶ 9, 110.

Στίχ. α'. Ἐξομολογήσομαί σοι, Κύριε,
ἐν ὅλῃ καρδίᾳ μου, διηγῆσομαι πάντα τὰ
θαυμάσιά σου.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. β'. Ἐν βουλῇ εὐθέων καὶ συναγωγῇ,
μεγάλα τὰ ἔργα Κυρίου.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. γ'. Ἐξεζητημένα εἰς πάντα τὰ
θελήματα αὐτοῦ.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. δ'. Ἐξομολόγησις καὶ
μεγαλοπρέπεια τὸ ἔργον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡ
δικαιοσύνη αὐτοῦ μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ
αἰῶνος.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Δόξα· καὶ νῦν.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ,
σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Menaion - December 27

Memory of the Holy Proto-martyr
Stephen.

LITURGY

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Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalms 9, 110.

Verse 1: *I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your wondrous things.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 2: *In the council of the upright and in the assembly. Great are the works of the Lord.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 3: *Sought out in all things with regard to His will.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 4: *Thanksgiving and majesty are His work, and His righteousness continues unto ages of ages.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Glory. Both now.

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Ἀντίφωνον Β'. Ἦχος β'. Ψαλμὸς 111.

Στίχ. α'. Μακάριος ἀνὴρ ὁ φοβούμενος
τὸν Κύριον, ἐν ταῖς ἐντολαῖς αὐτοῦ θελήσει
σφόδρα.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐκ Παρθένου
τεχθεὶς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. β'. Δυνατὸν ἐν τῇ γῇ ἔσται τὸ
σπέρμα αὐτοῦ.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐκ Παρθένου
τεχθεὶς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. γ'. Δόξα καὶ πλοῦτος ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ
αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡ δικαιοσύνη αὐτοῦ μένει εἰς τὸν
αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐκ Παρθένου
τεχθεὶς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. δ'. Ἐξανέτειλεν ἐν σκότει φῶς τοῖς
εὐθέσιν.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱὲ Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐκ Παρθένου
τεχθεὶς, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Ἀλληλούϊα.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι.

Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν
αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Ὁ Μονογενὴς Υἱὸς καὶ Λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ,
ἀθάνατος ὑπάρχων καὶ καταδεξάμενος διὰ
τὴν ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν σαρκωθῆναι ἐκ τῆς
ἀγίας Θεοτόκου καὶ ἀειπαρθένου Μαρίας,
ἀτρέπτως ἐνανθρωπήσας, σταυρωθεὶς τε,
Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας,
εἰς ὧν τῆς Ἁγίας Τριάδος, συνδοξαζόμενος
τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, σῶσον
ἡμᾶς.

Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalm 111.

Verse 1: Blessed is the man who fears
the Lord; he will delight exceedingly in His
commandments. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were born of
a Virgin. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 2: His seed shall be mighty on earth.
[SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were born of
a Virgin. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 3: Glory and riches shall be in his
house, and his righteousness continues unto ages
of ages. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were born of
a Virgin. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 4: For the upright, light springs up in
darkness. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were born of
a Virgin. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy
Spirit. [HC]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen. [HC]

Only begotten Son and Logos of God,
being immortal, You condescended for
our salvation to take flesh from the holy
Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and, without
change, became man. Christ, our God, You
were crucified and conquered death by death.
Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with
the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us. [GOA]

Ἀντίφωνον Γ'. Ἦχος δ'. Ψαλμὸς 109.

Στίχ. α'. Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τῷ Κυρίῳ
μου· Κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου, ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς
ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου.

Στίχ. β'. Ράβδον δυνάμεως ἐξαποστελεῖ
σοι Κύριος ἐκ Σιών.

Στίχ. γ'. Μετὰ σοῦ ἡ ἀρχὴ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ
τῆς δυνάμεώς σου, ἐν ταῖς λαμπρότησι τῶν
ἀγίων σου.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς. Ἦχος δ'.

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν,
ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως·
ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες,
ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν,
τὸν ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ
γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα
σοι.

Antiphon III. Mode 4. Psalm 109.

Verse 1: The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at
My right hand, until I make your enemies the
footstool of Your feet." [SAAS]

Verse 2: The Lord shall send forth the rod of
Your power from Zion. [SAAS]

Verse 3: With You is the beginning in the
day of Your power, in the brightness of Your
saints. [SAAS]

Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode 4.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has
caused the light of knowledge to rise upon
the world. For therein the worshippers of the
stars were by a star instructed to worship
You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know
You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O
Lord. [SD]

Ἡ, ἀντί τῶν Ἀντιφώνων, κατὰ τὸ τυπικόν, ψάλλονται τὰ Τυπικά καὶ οἱ Μακαρισμοί.

Ψαλμὸς 102.

Ψαλμὸς 145.

Οἱ Μακαρισμοί.

Ἦχος α'.

Ἐν τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου μνήσθητι ἡμῶν
Κύριε, ὅταν ἔλθῃς ἐν τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου.
Μακάριοι οἱ πτωχοὶ τῷ πνεύματι, ὅτι αὐτῶν
ἐστὶν ἡ Βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Μακάριοι οἱ πενθοῦντες, ὅτι αὐτοὶ
παρακληθήσονται.

Μακάριοι οἱ πραεῖς, ὅτι αὐτοὶ
κληρονομήσουσι τὴν γῆν.

Μακάριοι οἱ πεινῶντες καὶ διψῶντες τὴν
δικαιοσύνην, ὅτι αὐτοὶ χορτασθήσονται.

Κανὼν Α' τῆς Ἑορτῆς.

Τοῦ Μηναίου - - -

Ὦδὴ γ'. Ἦχος α'. Τῷ πρὸ τῶν αἰώνων.

Μακάριοι οἱ ἐλεήμονες, ὅτι αὐτοὶ
ἐλεηθήσονται.

Ὁ τῆς ἐπιπνοίας, μετασχὼν τῆς
ἀμείνω Ἀδὰμ χοϊκός, καὶ πρὸς φθορὰν
κατολισθήσας, γυναικεία ἀπάτη, Χριστὸν
γυναικὸς βοᾷ ἐξορῶν, ὁ δι' ἐμὲ κατ' ἐμὲ
γεγονώς, ἅγιος εἶ Κύριε.

Μακάριοι οἱ καθαροὶ τῇ καρδίᾳ, ὅτι αὐτοὶ
τὸν Θεὸν ὄψονται.

Ὁ τῆς ἐπιπνοίας, μετασχὼν τῆς
ἀμείνω Ἀδὰμ χοϊκός, καὶ πρὸς φθορὰν
κατολισθήσας, γυναικεία ἀπάτη, Χριστὸν
γυναικὸς βοᾷ ἐξορῶν, ὁ δι' ἐμὲ κατ' ἐμὲ
γεγονώς, ἅγιος εἶ Κύριε.

An optional alternative to the Antiphons are the Typika (Psalms 102 and 145), and the Beatitudes with the appointed troparia, which are provided here.

Psalm 102.

Psalm 145.

The Beatitudes.

Mode 1.

In Your kingdom. Remember us, O Lord,
when You come in Your kingdom. Blessed are
the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven [RSV]

Blessed are those who mourn, for they
shall be comforted. [RSV]

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit
the earth. [RSV]

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

[RSV]

Canon 1 of the Feast.

From Menaion - - -

Ode iii. Mode 1. To the Son.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain
mercy. [RSV]

Made of dust was Adam, * while enjoying
superior insufflation. * But through seduction
by the woman, * he slipped into corruption.
* Gazing at Christ born of woman, he cries: *
You who for me have become now like me, *
only You are holy, O Lord. [SD]

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see
God. [RSV]

Made of dust was Adam, * while enjoying
superior insufflation. * But through seduction
by the woman, * he slipped into corruption.
* Gazing at Christ born of woman, he cries: *

Μακάριοι οἱ εἰρηνοποιοί, ὅτι αὐτοὶ Υἱοὶ
Θεοῦ κληθήσονται.

Σύμμορφος πηλίνης, εὐτελοῦς διαρτίας
Χριστὲ γεγονώς, καὶ μετοχῇ σαρκὸς τῆς
χείρω, μεταδοὺς θείας φύτλης, βροτὸς
πεφυκώς, καὶ μείνας Θεός, καὶ ἀνυψώσας
τὸ κέρας ἡμῶν, Ἅγιος εἶ Κύριε.

Μακάριοι οἱ δεδιωγμένοι ἕνεκεν
δικαιοσύνης, ὅτι αὐτῶν ἐστὶν ἡ Βασιλεία τῶν
οὐρανῶν.

Βηθλεὲμ εὐφραίνου, Ἡγεμόνων Ἰούδα
βασιλεία· τὸν Ἰσραὴλ γὰρ ὁ ποιμαίνων,
Χερουβὶμ ὁ ἐπ' ὤμων, ἐκ σοῦ προελθὼν
Χριστὸς ἐμφανῶς, καὶ ἀνυψώσας τὸ κέρας
ἡμῶν, πάντων ἐβασίλευσεν.

Κανὼν τοῦ Προτομάρτυρος.

Τοῦ Μηναιίου ---

Ὡδὴ C'. Ἦχος πλ. α'. Μαινομένην κλύδωνι

Μακάριοι ἐστὲ ὅταν ὀνειδίσωσιν ὑμᾶς,
καὶ διώξωσι, καὶ εἴπωσι πᾶν πονηρὸν ῥῆμα
καθ' ὑμῶν, ψευδόμενοι ἕνεκεν ἐμοῦ.

Ὁ κλεινὸς ταξίαρχος τῶν Μαρτύρων,
Στέφανος πιστοί, τοὺς θεσμοὺς τῆς
φύσεως τῇ χάριτι, ἐκβεβηκώς, τῇ θείᾳ δόξῃ
αὐγάζεται.

Χαίρετε καὶ ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, ὅτι ὁ μισθὸς
ὑμῶν πολὺς ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς.

Μιμητὴς πανάριστος χρηματίσας,
Δέσποτα Χριστέ, τοῦ τιμίου πάθους σου
ὁ Στέφανος, τοὺς φονευτάς, δι' εὐλογίας
ἀμύνεται.

You who for me have become now like me, *
only You are holy, O Lord. [SD]

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be
called sons of God.* [RSV]

Through participation * in inferior flesh,
You, O Christ, did impart * divine nature.
And conforming * to ignoble clay formation,
* You were born human and remained God,
* and have exalted the horn of our strength. *
Only You are holy, O Lord. [SD]

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of
heaven.* [RSV]

Bethlehem, be merry, * as the Queen of
the rulers of Judah; for lo, * Israel's shepherd
who is seated * on the Cherubim's shoulders,
* Christ who manifestly hails from you * and
who exalted the horn of our strength, * has
reigned as King over all. [SD]

Canon for the Proto-martyr.

From Menaion ---

Ode vi. Mode pl. 1. N/M ()

*Blessed are you when men revile you and
persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against
you falsely [for my sake].* [RSV]

O believers, Stephen, the illustrious
marshal of the Martyrs, by grace exceeded the
bounds of nature, and he shines with divine
glory. [SD]

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great
in heaven.* [RSV]

O Christ our Master, St. Stephen became
the excellent imitator of Your revered Passion,
and he repaid his murderers with a blessing.

[SD]

Δόξα.

Μιαιφόνου πράξεως, ἀμετόχους,
φύλαττε Χριστέ, καὶ τοῦ Πρωτομάρτυρος
ἀξιώσον, τοὺς ὑμνητάς, τῆς κληρουχίας ὡς
εὐσπλαγχνος.

Καὶ νῦν. **Θεοτοκίον.**

Παγκοσμίου γέγονε σωτηρίας, Δέσποτα
Χριστέ, ἀπαρχὴ ὁ τόκος σου, καὶ Μάρτυσι,
θεοπρεποῦς, ὁμολογίας ὑπόθεσις.

Glory.

O Christ, preserve us who sing the Proto-
Martyr's praises from any blood-guilty deed,
but rather make them worthy of his lot, since
You are compassionate. [SD]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

O Christ our Master, Your Nativity is
the first-fruit of universal salvation, and the
subject of the godly confession of the Martyrs.

[SD]

Εἰσοδικόν. Ἦχος β'.

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν καὶ
προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ. Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱέ
Θεοῦ, ὁ ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθείς, ψάλλοντάς
σοι, Ἀλληλουῖα.

**Ὑμνοι μετὰ τὴν Μικρὰν Εἴσοδον
Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

Ἦχος δ'.

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν,
ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως·
ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἀστροῖς λατρεύοντες,
ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν,
τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ
γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα
σοι.

Τοῦ Πρωτομάρτυρος.

Τοῦ Μηναίου --

Ἦχος δ'. Ταχὺ προκατάλαβε.

Βασίλειον διάδημα, ἐστέφθη σὴ κορυφή,
ἐξ ἄθλων ὧν ὑπέμεινας, ὑπὲρ Χριστοῦ τοῦ
Θεοῦ, μαρτύρων Πρωτόαθλε· σὺ γὰρ τὴν
Ἰουδαίων ἀπελέγξας μανίαν, εἶδές σου τὸν
Σωτῆρα, τοῦ Πατρὸς δεξιόθεν. Αὐτὸν οὖν
ἐκδυσώπει αἰεὶ, ὑπὲρ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν.

Τοῦ Ναοῦ.

(Τὸ Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ.)

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

Κοντάκιον.

Ἦχος γ'. Αὐτόμελον.

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν ὑπερούσιον
τίκτει, καὶ ἡ γῆ τὸ Σπήλαιον, τῷ ἀπροσίτῳ
προσάγει. Ἄγγελοι μετὰ Ποιμένων
δοξολογοῦσι. Μάγοι δὲ μετὰ ἀστέρος

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Come, let us worship and bow down
before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who
were born of a Virgin. We sing to You,
Alleluia. [GOA]

**Hymns After the Small Entrance.
Apolytikion of the Feast.**

From Menaion ---

Mode 4.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has
caused the light of knowledge to rise upon
the world. For therein the worshippers of the
stars were by a star instructed to worship
You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know
You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O
Lord. [SD]

For the Proto-martyr.

From Menaion ---

Mode 4. Come quickly.

O Stephen, a crown of royalty was laid
on your head * for contests you courageously
endured for Christ our God, * as first among
Martyr saints. * You stood in accusation of the
raging Judeans; * and you saw your Savior at
the right hand of the Father. * We pray that
you will ever entreat Him to save our souls.

[SD]

Apolytikion of the Parish Church

(The text of the Apolytikion of the local
church goes here.)

From Menaion ---

Kontakion.

Mode 3. Automelon.

On this day the Virgin gives * birth to the
Super-essential. * To the Unapproachable, *
earth is providing the grotto. * Angels sing
and with the shepherds offer up glory. *
Following a star the Magi are still proceeding.

όδοιποροῦσι· δι' ἡμᾶς γὰρ ἐγεννήθη,
Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

Ο ΤΡΙΣΑΓΙΟΣ ΥΜΝΟΣ

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.

Ἅγιος Ἀθάνατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος

Τοῦ Πρωτομάρτυρος.

Προκεείμενον. Ἦχος δ'. Ψαλμὸς 18.

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος
αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγοῦνται δόξαν Θεοῦ.

Πρ 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, Στέφανος
πλήρης πίστεως καὶ δυνάμεως ἐποίει
τέρατα καὶ σημεῖα μεγάλα ἐν τῷ λαῷ.
Ἀνέστησαν δέ τινες τῶν ἐκ τῆς συναγωγῆς
τῆς λεγομένης Λιβερτίνων καὶ Κυρηναίων
καὶ Ἀλεξανδρέων καὶ τῶν ἀπὸ Κιλικίας
καὶ Ἀσίας συζητοῦντες τῷ Στεφάνῳ, καὶ
οὐκ ἴσχυον ἀντιστῆναι τῇ σοφίᾳ καὶ τῷ
Πνεύματι ᾧ ἐλάλει. Τότε ὑπέβαλον ἄνδρας
λέγοντας ὅτι· Ἀκηκόαμεν αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος
ῥήματα βλάσφημα εἰς Μωϋσῆν καὶ τὸν
Θεόν· συνεκίνησάν τε τὸν λαὸν καὶ τοὺς
πρεσβυτέρους καὶ τοὺς γραμματεῖς, καὶ
ἐπιστάντες συνήρπασαν αὐτὸν καὶ ἤγαγον
εἰς τὸ συνέδριον, ἔστησάν τε μάρτυρας
ψευδεῖς λέγοντας· Ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὗτος οὐ
παύεται ῥήματα βλασφημα λαλῶν κατὰ
τοῦ τόπου τοῦ ἁγίου τούτου καὶ τοῦ νόμου·

* He was born for our salvation, a newborn
Child, the pre-eternal God. [SD]

THE TRISAGION HYMN

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Epistle

For the Proto-martyr.

Prokeimenon. Mode 4. Psalm 18.

His proclamation went forth into all the
earth,. [SAAS]

Verse: *The heavens declare the glory of God.*
[SAAS]

Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60

In those days, Stephen, full of grace
and power, did great wonders and signs
among the people. Then some of those who
belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen
(as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and
of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia
and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen.
But they could not withstand the wisdom
and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then
they secretly instigated men, who said, "We
have heard him speak blasphemous words
against Moses and God." And they stirred
up the people and the elders and the scribes,
and they came upon him and seized him
and brought him before the council, and
set up false witnesses who said, "This man
never ceases to speak words against this holy
place and the law; for we have heard him say

ἀκηκόαμεν γὰρ αὐτοῦ λέγοντος ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος οὗτος καταλύσει τὸν τόπον τοῦτον καὶ ἀλλάξει τὰ ἔθνη ἃ παρέδωκεν ἡμῖν Μωϋσῆς. Καὶ ἀτενίσαντες εἰς αὐτὸν ἅπαντες οἱ καθεζόμενοι ἐν τῷ συνεδρίῳ εἶδον τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ ὡσεὶ πρόσωπον ἀγγέλου. Εἶπε δὲ ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς· εἰ ἄρα ταῦτα οὕτως ἔχει; Ὁ δὲ ἔφη· Ἄνδρες ἀδελφοὶ καὶ πατέρες, ἀκούσατε. ὁ Θεὸς τῆς δόξης ὥφθη τῷ πατρὶ ἡμῶν Ἀβραάμ ὄντι ἐν τῇ Μεσοποταμίᾳ, πρὶν ἢ κατοικῆσαι αὐτὸν ἐν Χαρρῶν, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτόν· ἔξελθε ἐκ τῆς γῆς σου καὶ ἐκ τῆς συγγενείας σου, καὶ δεῦρο εἰς γῆν ἣν ἄν σοι δείξω. Τότε ἔξελθὼν ἐκ γῆς Χαλδαίων κατώκησεν ἐν Χαρρῶν. Κἀκεῖθεν μετὰ τὸ ἀποθανεῖν τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ μετώκισεν αὐτὸν εἰς τὴν γῆν ταύτην εἰς ἣν ὑμεῖς νῦν κατοικεῖτε· καὶ οὐκ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ κληρονομίαν ἐν αὐτῇ οὐδὲ βῆμα ποδός. Σολομὼν δὲ ὠκοδόμησεν αὐτῷ οἶκον. Ἀλλ' οὐχ ὁ ὑψιστος ἐν χειροποιήτοις ναοῖς κατοικεῖ, καθὼς ὁ Προφήτης λέγει· ὁ οὐρανός μοι θρόνος, ἡ δὲ γῆ ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν μου· ποῖον οἶκον οἰκοδομήσετε μοι, λέγει Κύριος, ἢ τίς τόπος τῆς καταπαύσεώς μου; Οὐχὶ ἡ χεὶρ μου ἐποίησε ταῦτα πάντα; Σκληροτράχηλοι καὶ ἀπερίτμητοι τῇ καρδίᾳ καὶ τοῖς ὠσίν, ὑμεῖς ἀεὶ τῷ Πνεύματι τῷ Ἁγίῳ ἀντιπίπτετε, ὡς οἱ πατέρες ὑμῶν καὶ ὑμεῖς. Τίνα τῶν προφητῶν οὐκ ἐδίωξαν οἱ πατέρες ὑμῶν; καὶ ἀπέκτειναν τοὺς προκαταγγείλαντας περὶ τῆς ἐλεύσεως τοῦ δικαίου, οὗ νῦν ὑμεῖς προδότες καὶ φονεῖς γεγέννησθε· οἵτινες ἐλάβετε τὸν νόμον εἰς διαταγὰς ἀγγέλων, καὶ οὐκ ἐφυλάξατε. Ἀκούοντες δὲ ταῦτα διεπρίοντο ταῖς καρδίαις αὐτῶν καὶ ἔβρουχον ἐπ' αὐτόν τοὺς ὀδόντας. Ὑπάρχων δὲ πλήρης Πνεύματος

that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel. And the high priest said, "Is this so?" And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Depart from your land and from your kindred and go into the land which I will show you.' Then he departed from the land of the Chaldeans, and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living; yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him in possession and to his posterity after him, though he had no child. But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is my throne, and earth my footstool. What house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?' You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth against him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the

Ἁγίου, ἀτενίσας εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εἶδε δόξαν Θεοῦ καὶ Ἰησοῦν ἐστῶτα ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Θεοῦ, καὶ εἶπεν· ἰδοὺ θεωρῶ τοὺς οὐρανοὺς ἀνεωγμένους καὶ τὸν Υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐστῶτα. Κράξαντες δὲ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ συνέσχον τὰ ὦτα αὐτῶν καὶ ὥρμησαν ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπ' αὐτόν, καὶ ἐκβαλόντες ἔξω τῆς πόλεως ἐλιθοβόλουν. Καὶ οἱ μάρτυρες ἀπέθεντο τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτῶν παρὰ τοὺς πόδας νεανίου καλουμένου Σαύλου, καὶ ἐλιθοβόλουν τὸν Στέφανον, ἐπικαλούμενον καὶ λέγοντα· Κύριε Ἰησοῦ, δέξαι τὸ πνεῦμά μου. Θεὶς δὲ τὰ γόνατα ἔκραξε φωνῇ μεγάλῃ· Κύριε, μὴ στήσης αὐτοῖς τὴν ἁμαρτίαν ταύτην. Καὶ τοῦτο εἰπὼν ἐκοιμήθη.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἦχος β'. Ψαλμὸς 88.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. α'. Ἐξομολογήσονται οἱ οὐρανοὶ τὰ θαυμάσιά σου, Κύριε.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. β'. Ὁ Θεὸς ἐνδοξαζόμενος ἐν βουλῇ ἁγίων.

Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα. Ἀλληλούϊα.

Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον

Τοῦ Πρωτομάρτυρος.

Ματ κα' 33 - 42

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· ἄνθρωπος τις ἦν οἰκοδεσπότης, ὅστις ἐφύτευσεν ἀμπελῶνα καὶ φραγμὸν αὐτῷ περιέθηκε καὶ ὥρυξεν ἐν αὐτῷ ληνὸν καὶ ᾠκοδόμησεν πύργον, καὶ ἐξέδοτο αὐτὸν γεωργοῖς, καὶ ἀπεδήμησεν. ὅτε δὲ ἤγγισεν ὁ καιρὸς τῶν καρπῶν, ἀπέστειλε τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ πρὸς τοὺς γεωργοὺς λαβεῖν τοὺς καρποὺς αὐτοῦ.

glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep. [RSV]

Alleluia. Mode 2. Psalm 88.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *The heavens shall confess Your wonders, O Lord.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *God is glorified in the counsel of saints.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

For the Proto-martyr.

Mt. 21:33-42

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other

καὶ λαβόντες οἱ γεωργοὶ τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ ὃν μὲν ἔδειραν, ὃν δὲ ἀπέκτειναν, ὃν δὲ ἐλιθοβόλησαν. πάλιν ἀπέστειλεν ἄλλους δούλους πλείονας τῶν πρώτων, καὶ ἐποίησαν αὐτοῖς ὡσαύτως. ὕστερον δὲ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτοὺς τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ λέγων· ἐντραπήσονται τὸν υἱόν μου. οἱ δὲ γεωργοὶ ἰδόντες τὸν υἱὸν εἶπον ἐν ἑαυτοῖς· οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ κληρονόμος· δεῦτε ἀποκτείνωμεν αὐτὸν καὶ κατὰσχωμεν τὴν κληρονομίαν αὐτοῦ. καὶ λαβόντες αὐτὸν ἐξέβαλον ἔξω τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος καὶ ἀπέκτειναν. ὅταν οὖν ἔλθῃ ὁ κύριος τοῦ ἀμπελῶνος, τί ποιήσῃ τοῖς γεωργοῖς ἐκείνοις; λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· Κακοὺς κακῶς ἀπολέσει αὐτούς, καὶ τὸν ἀμπελῶνα ἐκδώσεται ἄλλοις γεωργοῖς, οἵτινες ἀποδώσουσιν αὐτῷ τοὺς καρποὺς ἐν τοῖς καιροῖς αὐτῶν. λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Οὐδέποτε ἀνέγνωτε ἐν ταῖς γραφαῖς, λίθον ὃν ἀπεδοκίμασαν οἱ οἰκοδομοῦντες, οὗτος ἐγενήθη εἰς κεφαλὴν γωνίας· παρὰ Κυρίου ἐγένετο αὕτη, καὶ ἔστι θαυμαστὴ ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν;

Ὑμνος εἰς τὴν Θεοτόκον.

Ἄξιόν ἐστιν ὡς ἀληθῶς μακαρίζειν σε τὴν Θεοτόκον, τὴν ἀειμακάριστον καὶ παναμώμητον καὶ μητέρα τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν. Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ καὶ ἐνδοξοτέραν ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφείμ, τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν, τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

Κοινωνικόν. Ψαλμὸς 18.

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φόγγος αὐτοῦ καὶ εἰς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης τὰ ῥήματα αὐτοῦ. Ἀλληλούϊα.

servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it was marvelous in our eyes?'" [RSV]

Hymn to the Theotokos.

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true Theotokos. [GOA]

Communion Hymn. Psalm 18.

His proclamation went forth into all the earth, and his words to the ends of the world. Alleluia. [SAAS]

Ὑμνος μετὰ τὴν Θ. Κοινωνίαν.

Ἦχος β'.

Εἶδομεν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινόν, ἐλάβομεν
Πνεῦμα ἐπουράνιον, εὗρομεν πίστιν ἀληθῆ,
ἀδιαίρετον Τριάδα προσκυνοῦντες· αὕτη
γὰρ ἡμᾶς ἔσωσεν.

ΑΠΟΛΥΣΙΣ

Ὁ ἐν σπηλαίῳ γεννηθεὶς, καὶ
ἐν φάτνῃ ἀνακλιθεὶς, 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
όσιων καὶ θεοφόρων Πατέρων ἡμῶν· **(τοῦ**
Ἁγίου τοῦ Ναοῦ)· τῶν ἁγίων καὶ δικαίων
Θεοπατόρων Ἰωακείμ καὶ Ἄννης, καὶ τοῦ
Ἁγίου Πρωτομάρτυρος, καὶ Ἀρχidiaκόνου
Στεφάνου, οὗ καὶ τὴν μνήμην ἐπιτελοῦμεν·
καὶ πάντων τῶν Ἁγίων, ἐλεῆσαι καὶ σῶσαι
ἡμᾶς, ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος.

Κανόνας Νηστείας

Κατάλυσις εἰς πάντα.

Εἶναι τὸ Δωδεκαήμερον.

Hymn after Holy Communion.

Mode 2.

We have seen the true light; we have
received the heavenly Spirit; we have found
the true faith, worshipping the undivided
Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us. [GOA]

THE DISMISSAL

May He who was born in a cave and lay
in a manger 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 the holy Proto-martyr
and Archdeacon Stephen, whose memory we
celebrate, and of all the saints, have mercy
on us and save us, for He is good and loves
mankind.

Fasting Rule

Fast Free: All foods allowed.

It is the Twelve Days of Christmas