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The Service of Matins

for Friday, December 20, 2019

Menaion - December 20

**Memory of the Holy Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer; and
Forefeast of the Birth of our Savior**

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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The AGES Digital Chant Stand is supported in part by generous grants from Leadership 100 and the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.

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Menaion - December 20

Memory of the Holy Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer; and Forefeast of the Birth of our Savior

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 Saint.**

Mode 4.

Becoming a partner with the Apostles in way of life and successor to their thrones, O God-inspired Saint, in the active life you found an entrance to contemplation. Hence

you rightly expounded the word of truth, and you shed your blood in struggling for the faith, O Hieromartyr Ignatius. Intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls. [SD]

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 1. N/M (The soldiers.)

He who bowed the heavens and dwelt in the Virgin comes forth in flesh to be born in the Cave of Bethlehem, as it is written, and to be seen as a babe, he who gives life to babes in the womb; rejoicing in him, let us all now go to meet him in uprightness of heart. [EL]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

He who bowed the heavens and dwelt in the Virgin comes forth in flesh to be born in the Cave of Bethlehem, as it is written, and to be seen as a babe, he who gives life to babes in the womb; rejoicing in him, let us all now go to meet him in uprightness of heart. [EL]

Kathisma II.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 1. N/M (The soldiers.)

Sion, be glad, Bethlehem, make ready; the maintainer of all things, sending the Star ahead, reveals his measureless condescension; for he before whom the Powers of heaven tremble is truly being brought to birth from the Virgin without change, the only Lover of mankind. [EL]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

Sion, be glad, Bethlehem, make ready; the maintainer of all things, sending the Star ahead, reveals his measureless condescension; for he before whom the Powers of heaven tremble is truly being brought to birth from the Virgin without change, the only Lover of mankind. [EL]

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. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 3. Automelon.

On this day the Virgin Maid * goes to the grotto to give birth * to the pre-eternal Word * in an ineffable manner. * Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. * Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds * Him who willed that He appear as * a newborn Child, * the pre-eternal God. [SD]

Oikos.

The sacred sayings of the Prophets reach their term. See, a Virgin gives birth to God in the flesh in the city of Bethlehem within the Cave; let all creation be enriched, be glad and dance; the Master of all things is at hand to live among slaves, ransoming us, who are subject to corruption, from the power of the Stranger; and he appears as a babe, swaddled in a manger, a little Child, God before the ages. [EL]

Kontakion. For the Saint.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 3. N/M (On this day.)

The light-bearing day of your radiant struggles proclaims beforehand to all him who was born of a Virgin; for thirsting from love to delight in him, you hastened to be ground by wild beasts; for this you were named Godbearer, glorious Ignatios. [EL]

Oikos.

Abraham once was sacrificing his son, foreshadowing the slaughter of him who

possesses all things and who is now hastening to be born in a Cave; while you, inspired Father, offered your whole self as victim; and becoming fodder for the wild beasts, you appeared as pure wheat for your Creator, and you truly dwell eternally in heavenly barns, and delight in your love, for whom you left all the world behind, all-blessed, and were named Godbearer, glorious Ignatios. [EL]

Synaxarion.

From the Menaion.

On December 20, we commemorate the holy hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer.

On this day we also commemorate our devout father Philogonios, a lawyer who became Bishop of Antioch.

The holy Neo-martyr John, who was from the island of Thasos and witnessed in Constantinople in 1652, died by the sword.

By their holy intercessions, 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 1.

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 1.

‘The ever-flowing life-bearing Fount, the light-bearing Lampstand of grace, the holy Temple, the all golden Tabernacle, wider than heaven and earth, the Mother of God, we faithful magnify’. [EL]

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 3. *N/M (Our Savior, grace and truth.)*

Prepare Bethlehem; Cave make ready; and Manger receive the uncircumscribed God, circumscribed in flesh; for he is coming to be born, as he has been well pleased. [EL]

For the Saint.

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

I am wheat of God and the Saviour, you said, Godbearer Ignatios, and now I must be ground by the teeth of wild beasts, so I shall be seen as sweet and pure bread for the Holy Trinity; as you stand in its presence may you remember those who celebrate your light-bearing memorial, all-wise High Priest and Martyr. [EL]

Another.

Mode 2. *N/M (O Women, hearken.)*

As wounded by the affection of love of your Lord, you cried out: Christ my love has been willingly crucified; and so I thirst to be made thirsty, and as I live my love is to be loved; I long to have become in his passion and his kingdom. [EL]

For the Forefeast.

Mode 2. *N/M (O Women, hearken.)*

Believers, let us now with faith make songs resound for the Forefeast of the Nativity; for Christ is coming, has come to be born in Bethlehem as a mortal from a

Virgin, and to appear as an infant, wrapped in swaddling clothes, he who is before the ages.

[EL]

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, reproving among the peoples.

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

Stichera. For the Forefeast.

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 2. Automelon.

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

O angelic powers, proceed and go before us. * You who are in Bethlehem, make the manger ready. * For lo, the Logos is born, and the Wisdom is coming forth. * You, O Church, accept a salutation, for the joy of the Theotokos. O peoples, let us say: * Blessed are You, our God who has arrived. Glory be to You. [SD]

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

O angelic powers, proceed and go before us. * You who are in Bethlehem, make the manger ready. * For lo, the Logos is born, and the Wisdom is coming forth. * You, O Church, accept a salutation, for the joy of the Theotokos. O peoples, let us say: * Blessed are

You, our God who has arrived. Glory be to You. [SD]

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

The Star of Jacob rises in the Cave. Come, and as we celebrate the Forefeast, let us hasten with the Magi, let us gather with the Shepherds; let us see God in swaddling clothes; let us see a Virgin giving suck. O awesome sight! The King of Israel is at hand. [EL]

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

Hills drop down sweetness; for see, God has come from Theman, Nations be defeated; Prophets and Patriarchs leap for joy; mankind dance inspired by God; the strong and great Prince, Christ is brought to birth; on earth the King of heaven is at hand. [EL]

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

Raising mortals up from earth, the Creator has come, renewing once again the royal image; Powers of things above, rejoice together, sing your hymn; the middle wall of enmity is abolished; he has come for whom it was laid up; for God becomes a mortal; Christ, the King of Israel, is at hand. [EL]

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

Come, believers, let us meet the Creator, who has come to earth to dawn from a Virgin; let us shine with purity, let us blaze with virtues; let us be prepared with trembling and joy to see with the eyes of the mind Christ

become a babe, who in his supreme goodness makes us mortals divine. [EL]

Glory. **Same Melody.**

Christ draws near; Bethlehem prepare in advance; already the salvation of the Nations sheds its light. Make ready the Manger, assemble the Shepherds, summon the Magi from Persia; the Armies of the Bodiless Minds cry out: The King of heaven, Christ is at hand.

[EL]

Both now. **Same Melody.**

Zeal and fire devour you, fool, and truly you err, false accuser of the law; for see, as Isaias said, the Virgin is with child and lays the King in a manger; and so all the powerful of the tribe of Juda fail. [EL]

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. For the Forefeast.

Idiomelon 1. Mode 4.

Bethlehem make ready, city of Sion sing a hymn; desert, betrothed to joy, be glad; for a star comes forth in Bethlehem, revealing that Christ is about to be brought to birth; a Cave receives the wholly uncontainable; and a Manger is being prepared to receive eternal life; to him let us all sing and cry: Save our souls, Jesu God, incarnate for us. ^[EL]

Idiomelon 2. Mode 4.

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

Christ who comes, manifestly our God, will come and not delay; he will appear from a Bride who knows not wedlock, while he will take his rest in a Cave; and you, O Manger of irrational beasts, receive the one whom heaven cannot contain, who is about to be wrapped in swaddling in you, the one who

with a word has delivered us from unreason. A Star reveals, Magi worship, Shepherds abide in the fields, while they see the awesome wonder; and Angels make melody, as they contemplate on earth the redemption of our race. [EL]

Idiomelon 3. Mode 4.

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

Isaias, dance, receive the Word of God; prophesy to the Maiden Mary that a Bush is on fire and is not consumed by the ray of the Godhead. Bethlehem make ready; Eden open your gate; Magi journey to see salvation wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger, whom a Star above the Cave has revealed to be the Lord, the giver of life, who saves our race. [EL]

Glory. **For the Saint.**

From Menaion - - -

Mode 1.

Living monument and breathing image, your yearly festival is here, Godbearer Ignatios, and proclaims your priestly service and your deeds of valour; your resistance to shedding of blood on behalf of the Faith; that blest and revered voice which said: I am God's wheat, and am being ground by the teeth of wild beasts; and so, as you became an imitator of Christ, intercede that our souls may be saved. [EL]

Both now. **For the Forefeast.**

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 2.

Prepare yourself, O Grotto, for the Ewe is coming, carrying Christ in her womb. O Manger, receive Him who released us

earthlings from irrational activity by His word. You shepherds watching by night, witness to the awesome wonder. And you Magi from Persia, offer gold and frankincense and myrrh to the King. For the Lord has appeared from a virgin Mother. And bending over Him, the Mother, as a servant, worshiped Him, and she addressed the Infant in her arms, "How were You sown in me, and how were You implanted in me, O my Redeemer and my God?" [SD]

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, the holy
and glorious hieromartyr Ignatius the God-
bearer, whose memory we are observing; 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.*)