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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**

**Texts in Greek and English**

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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**Μηναῖον - ΤΗ Κ' ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ**

Μνήμη τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἱερομάρτυρος  
Ἰγνατίου τοῦ Θεοφόρου· καὶ Προεόρτια τῶν  
Γενεθλίων τοῦ Σωτῆρος ἡμῶν.

**ΟΡΘΟΣ**

**ΧΟΡΟΣ**

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Θεὸς Κύριος καὶ ἐπέφανεν ἡμῖν.  
Εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐρχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι  
Κυρίου.

**Στίχ. α'.** Ἐξομολογεῖσθε τῷ Κυρίῳ καὶ  
ἐπικαλεῖσθε τὸ ὄνομα τὸ ἅγιον αὐτοῦ.

*ἦ· Ἐξομολογεῖσθε τῷ Κυρίῳ, ὅτι ἀγαθός,  
ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ.*

**Στίχ. β'.** Πάντα τὰ ἔθνη ἐκύκλωσάν με,  
καὶ τῷ ὀνόματι Κυρίου ἡμυνάμην αὐτούς.

**Στίχ. γ'.** Παρὰ Κυρίου ἐγένετο αὕτη καὶ  
ἔστι θαυμαστή ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν.

**Ἀπολυτίκιον. Προεόρτιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Ἑτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ, ἡνοικταὶ πᾶσιν  
ἡ Ἑδέμ. Εὐτρεπίζου Ἐφραθᾶ, ὅτι τὸ ξύλον  
τῆς ζωῆς, ἐν τῷ Σπηλαίῳ ἐξήνθησεν ἐκ τῆς  
Παρθένου. Παράδεισος καὶ γάρ, ἡ ἐκείνης  
γαστήρ, ἐδείχθη νοητός, ἐν ᾧ τὸ θεῖον  
φυτόν, ἐξ οὗ φαγόντες ζήσομεν, οὐχὶ δὲ ὡς  
ὁ Ἀδὰμ τεθνηξόμεθα. Χριστὸς γεννᾶται,  
τὴν πρὶν πεσοῦσαν, ἀναστήσων εἰκόνα.

Δόξα. **Τοῦ Ἁγίου.**

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Καὶ τρόπων μέτοχος, καὶ θρόνων  
διάδοχος, τῶν Ἀποστόλων γενόμενος, τὴν  
πρᾶξιν εὗρες Θεόπνευστε, εἰς θεωρίας  
ἐπίβασιν· διὰ τοῦτο τὸν λόγον τῆς ἀληθείας

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**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

ὀρθοτομῶν, καὶ τῇ πίστει ἐνήθλησας μέχρις αἵματος, Ἱερομάρτυς Ἰγνάτιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Καὶ νῦν.

**Ἀπολυτίκιον. Προεόρτιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Ἐτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ, ἡνοικταὶ πασὶν ἡ Ἐδέμ. Εὐτρεπίζου Ἐφραθᾶ, ὅτι τὸ ξύλον τῆς ζωῆς, ἐν τῷ Σπηλαίῳ ἐξηνθήσεν ἐκ τῆς Παρθένου. Παράδεισος καὶ γάρ, ἡ ἐκείνης γαστήρ, ἐδείχθη νοητός, ἐν ᾧ τὸ θεῖον φυτόν, ἐξ οὗ φαγόντες ζήσομεν, οὐχὶ δὲ ὡς ὁ Ἀδὰμ τεθνηξόμεθα. Χριστὸς γεννᾶται, τὴν πρὶν πεσοῦσαν, ἀναστήσων εἰκόνα.

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ**

Ἔτι καὶ ἔτι ἐν εἰρήνῃ τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον.)

Ἀντιλαβοῦ, σῶσον, ἐλέησον καὶ διαφύλαξον ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς τῇ σῇ χάριτι.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον.)

Τῆς Παναγίας ἀχράντου, ὑπερευλογημένης, ἐνδόξου Δεσποίνης ἡμῶν Θεοτόκου καὶ ἀειπαρθένου Μαρίας μετὰ πάντων τῶν Ἁγίων μνημονεύσαντες, ἑαυτοὺς καὶ ἀλλήλους καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν ζωὴν ἡμῶν Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ παραθώμεθα.

(Σοί, Κύριε.)

Ὅτι σὸν τὸ κράτος καὶ σοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία καὶ ἡ δύναμις καὶ ἡ δόξα, τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

(Ἀμήν.)

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.)

**ΧΟΡΟΣ**

**Κάθισμα Α'.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος α'.** *Τὸν τάφον σου Σωτήρ.*

Ὁ κλίνας οὐρανούς, καὶ Παρθένω  
οἰκήσας, προέρχεται σαρκί, Βηθλεὲμ ἐν  
Σπηλαίῳ, τεχθῆναι καθὼς γέγραπται,  
ὄραθῆναί τε νήπιος, ὁ τὰ νήπια, ζωογονῶν  
ἐν τῇ μήτρᾳ τούτῳ χαίροντες, νῦν  
ὑπαντήσωμεν πάντες, καρδίας εὐθύτητι.

Δόξα· καὶ νῦν. **Τὸ αὐτό.**

Ὁ κλίνας οὐρανούς, καὶ Παρθένω  
οἰκήσας, προέρχεται σαρκί, Βηθλεὲμ ἐν  
Σπηλαίῳ, τεχθῆναι καθὼς γέγραπται,  
ὄραθῆναί τε νήπιος, ὁ τὰ νήπια, ζωογονῶν  
ἐν τῇ μήτρᾳ τούτῳ χαίροντες, νῦν  
ὑπαντήσωμεν πάντες, καρδίας εὐθύτητι.

**Κάθισμα Β'.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος α'.** *Τὸν τάφον σου Σωτήρ.*

Ἀγάλλου ἡ Σιών· Βηθλεὲμ εὐτρεπίζου, ὁ  
πάντων συνοχεύς, τὸν Ἀστέρα προπέμψας,  
μηνύει τὴν ἄμετρον, ἑαυτοῦ συγκατάβασιν·  
ὄν γὰρ τρέμουσι, τῶν οὐρανῶν αἱ Δυνάμεις,  
ὄντως τίκεται, ἐκ τῆς Παρθένου ἀτρέπτως,  
ὁ μόνος Φιλάνθρωπος.

Δόξα· καὶ νῦν. **Τὸ αὐτό.**

Ἀγάλλου ἡ Σιών· Βηθλεὲμ εὐτρεπίζου, ὁ  
πάντων συνοχεύς, τὸν Ἀστέρα προπέμψας,  
μηνύει τὴν ἄμετρον, ἑαυτοῦ συγκατάβασιν·  
ὄν γὰρ τρέμουσι, τῶν οὐρανῶν αἱ Δυνάμεις,  
ὄντως τίκεται, ἐκ τῆς Παρθένου ἀτρέπτως,  
ὁ μόνος Φιλάνθρωπος.

**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]

**ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ**

**Ψαλμὸς Ν' (50).**

Ἐλέησόν με, ὁ Θεός, κατὰ τὸ μέγα ἔλεός σου, καὶ κατὰ τὸ πλῆθος τῶν οἰκτιρμῶν σου ἐξάλειψον τὸ ἀνόμημά μου. Ἐπὶ πλεῖον πλύνόν με ἀπὸ τῆς ἀνομίας μου, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς ἁμαρτίας μου καθάρισόν με. Ὅτι τὴν ἀνομίαν μου ἐγὼ γινώσκω, καὶ ἡ ἁμαρτία μου ἐνώπιόν μου ἐστὶ διὰ παντός. Σοὶ μόνῳ ἤμαρτον καὶ τὸ πονηρὸν ἐνώπιόν σου ἐποίησα, ὅπως ἂν δικαιωθῇς ἐν τοῖς λόγοις σου, καὶ νικήσης ἐν τῷ κρίνεσθαί σε. Ἴδου γὰρ ἐν ἀνομίαις συνελήφθην, καὶ ἐν ἁμαρτίαις ἐκίσσησέ με ἡ μήτηρ μου. Ἴδου γὰρ ἀλήθειαν ἠγάπησας, τὰ ἄδηλα καὶ τὰ κρύφια τῆς σοφίας σου ἐδήλωσάς μοι. Ραντιεῖς με ὕσσῳ, καὶ καθαρισθήσομαι, πλυνεῖς με, καὶ ὑπὲρ χιόνα λευκανθήσομαι. Ἀκουτιεῖς μοι ἀγαλλίασιν καὶ εὐφροσύνην· ἀγαλλιάσονται ὅστέα τεταπεινωμένα. Ἀπόστρεψον τὸ πρόσωπόν σου ἀπὸ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μου καὶ πάσας τὰς ἀνομίας μου ἐξάλειψον. Καρδίαν καθαρὰν κτίσον ἐν ἐμοί, ὁ Θεός, καὶ πνεῦμα εὐθὲς ἐγκαίνισον ἐν τοῖς ἐγκάτοις μου. Μὴ ἀπορρίψῃς με ἀπὸ τοῦ προσώπου σου καὶ το Πνεῦμά σου τὸ ἅγιον μὴ ἀντανέλῃς ἀπ' ἐμοῦ. Ἀπόδος μοι τὴν ἀγαλλίασιν τοῦ σωτηρίου σου καὶ πνεύματι ἡγεμονικῶ στήριζόν με. Διδάξω ἀνόμους τὰς ὁδοὺς σου, καὶ ἄσεβεῖς ἐπὶ σὲ ἐπιστρέψουσι. Ρῦσαί με ἐξ αἰμάτων, ὁ Θεός, ὁ Θεὸς τῆς σωτηρίας μου· ἀγαλλιάσεται ἡ γλῶσσά μου τὴν δικαιοσύνην σου. Κύριε, τὰ χεῖλη μου ἀνοίξεις, καὶ τὸ στόμα μου ἀναγγελεῖ τὴν αἴνεσίν σου. Ὅτι εἰ ἠθέλησας θυσίαν, ἔδωκα ἄν· ὁλοκαυτώματα οὐκ εὐδοκήσεις. Θυσία τῷ Θεῷ πνεῦμα συντετριμμένον, καρδίαν

**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,



συντετριμμένην καὶ τεταπεινωμένην ὁ Θεὸς οὐκ ἐξουδενώσει. Ἀγάθυνον, Κύριε, ἐν τῇ εὐδοκίᾳ σου τὴν Σιών, καὶ οἰκοδομηθήτω τὰ τείχη Ἱερουσαλήμ. Τότε εὐδοκήσεις θυσίαν δικαιοσύνης, ἀναφορὰν καὶ ὀλοκαυτώματα. Τότε ἀνοίσουσιν ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριόν σου μόσχους.

**Κοντάκιον. Προεόρτιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος γ'. Αὐτόμελον.**

Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, τὸν προαιώνιον Λόγον, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ ἔρχεται, ἀποτεκεῖν ἀπορρήτως. Χόρευε ἡ οἰκουμένη ἀκουτισθεῖσα, δόξασον μετὰ Ἀγγέλων καὶ τῶν Ποιμένων, βουληθέντα ἐποφθῆναι, Παιδίον νέον, τὸν πρὸ αἰώνων Θεόν.

**Ὁ Οἶκος.**

Ἱεραὶ Προφητῶν ῥήσεις, τὸ πέρας δέχονται Παρθένος ἰδού, τίκτει Θεὸν ἐν σαρκί, Βηθλεὲμ ἐν πόλει ἔνδον τοῦ Σπηλαίου· ἡ κτίσις πᾶσα καταπλουτίσθητι, ἀγάλλου καὶ χόρευε, μετὰ δούλων συναναστρέφεσθαι, πάντων ὁ Δεσπότης παραγέγονε, τῆς δεσποτείας τοῦ ἄλλοτρίου ἀπολυτρούμενος ἡμᾶς, καθυπαχθέντας τῇ φθορᾷ· καὶ ὀρᾶται ὡς βρέφος σπαργανούμενον ἐν φάτνῃ, Παιδίον νέον, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων Θεός.

**Κοντάκιον. Τοῦ Ἁγίου.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος γ'. Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον.**

Τῶν λαμπρῶν ἀγώνων σου, ἡ φωτοφόρος ἡμέρα, προκηρύττει ἅπασιν, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα· τούτου γὰρ διψῶν ἐκ πόθου κατατρύφῃσαι, ἔσπευσας ὑπὸ θηρίων ἀναλωθῆναι· διὰ τοῦτο Θεοφόρος, προσηγορεύθης Ἰγνάτιε ἔνδοξε.

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]

**Ὁ Οἶκος.**

Ἀβραὰμ μὲν ποτε τὸν υἱὸν ἐθυσίαζε,  
τὴν σφαγὴν προτυπῶν τοῦ τὰ πάντα  
κατέχοντος, καὶ νῦν ἐν Σπηλαίῳ  
σπεύδοντας τεχθῆναι, σὺ δὲ θεόφρον,  
ὅλον προσήγαγες σαυτὸν ὥσπερ σφάγιον,  
καὶ τῶν θηρίων βρῶμα γενόμενος,  
σῖτος καθαρὸς ὥφθης τῷ Κτίστη σου,  
ἐν ἀποθήκαις ἐπουρανίαις διαιώνιζων  
ἀληθῶς, καὶ τοῦ σοῦ ἔρωτος τρυφῶν· δι' ὃν  
πάντα τὸν κόσμον καταλείψας παμμάκαρ,  
Θεοφόρος προσηγορεύθης, Ἰγνάτιε ἔνδοξε.

**Συναξάριον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου.

Τῇ Κ' τοῦ αὐτοῦ μηνὸς μνήμη τοῦ ἁγίου  
Ἱερομάρτυρος Ἰγνατίου τοῦ Θεοφόρου.

Τῇ αὐτῇ ἡμέρᾳ μνήμη τοῦ ὁσίου  
Πατρὸς ἡμῶν Φιλογονίου, γενομένου ἀπὸ  
Δικολόγου Ἐπισκόπου Ἀντιοχείας.

Ὁ ἅγιος Νεομάρτυς Ἰωάννης, ὁ  
καταγόμενος ἐκ τῆς νήσου Θάσου, καὶ ἐν  
Κωνσταντινουπόλει μαρτυρήσας κατὰ τὸ  
ἄχνηβ', ξίφει τελειοῦται.

Ταῖς αὐτῶν ἁγίαις πρεσβείαις, ὁ Θεός,  
ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Ἀμήν.

**ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ**

Τὴν Θεοτόκον καὶ μητέρα τοῦ φωτὸς ἐν  
ὑμνοῖς τιμῶντες μεγαλύνωμεν.

**ΧΟΡΟΣ**

**Ὠδὴ θ'.**

**Μεγαλυνάριον. Ἦχος α'.**

**Στίχ.** Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχὴ μου τὸν Κύριον,  
καὶ ἠγαλλίασε τὸ πνεῦμά μου ἐπὶ τῷ Θεῷ τῷ  
σωτῆρί μου.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ, καὶ  
ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφείμ,

**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



τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν,  
τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

**Στίχ.** Ὅτι ἐπέβλεψεν ἐπὶ τὴν ταπείνωσιν  
τῆς δούλης αὐτοῦ· ἰδοὺ γάρ, ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν  
μακαριοῦσί με πᾶσαι αἱ γενεαί.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ, καὶ  
ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεείμ,  
τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν,  
τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

**Στίχ.** Ὅτι ἐποίησέ μοι μεγαλεῖα ὁ  
Δυνατός, καὶ ἅγιον τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, καὶ το  
ἔλεος αὐτοῦ εἰς γενεάν, καὶ γενεάν τοῖς  
φοβουμένοις αὐτόν.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ, καὶ  
ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεείμ,  
τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν,  
τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

**Στίχ.** Ἐποίησε Κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ,  
διεσκόρπισεν ὑπερηφάνους διανοία καρδίας  
αὐτῶν.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ, καὶ  
ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεείμ,  
τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν,  
τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

**Στίχ.** Καθεῖλε δυνάστας ἀπὸ θρόνων,  
καὶ ὕψωσε ταπεινοὺς, πεινῶντας ἐνέπλησεν  
ἀγαθῶν, καὶ πλουτοῦντας ἐξαπέστειλε  
κενοῦς.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ, καὶ  
ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεείμ,  
τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν,  
τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

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

**Στίχ.** Ἀντελάβετο Ἰσραὴλ παιδὸς αὐτοῦ, μνησθῆναι ἐλέους, καθὼς ἐλάλησε πρὸς τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν, τῷ Ἀβραάμ, καὶ τῷ σπέρματι αὐτοῦ ἕως αἰῶνος.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβεὶμ, καὶ ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεὶμ, τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν, τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

### Ὁ Εἰμός. Ἦχος α'.

Τὴν ζωοδόχον πηγὴν τὴν ἀέναον, τὴν φωτοφόρον λυχνίαν τὴν πάγχρυσον, τὸν ναὸν τὸν ἔμψυχον, τὴν σκηνὴν τὴν ἄχραντον, τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καὶ τῆς γῆς τὴν πλατυτέραν, τὴν Θεοτόκον ἐν ὕμνοις τιμήσωμεν.

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

### ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Ἐτι καὶ ἔτι ἐν εἰρήνῃ τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον.)

Ἀντιλαβοῦ, σῶσον, ἐλέησον καὶ διαφύλαξον ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς τῇ σῇ χάριτι.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον.)

Τῆς Παναγίας ἀχράντου, ὑπερευλογημένης, ἐνδόξου Δεσποίνης ἡμῶν Θεοτόκου καὶ ἀειπαρθένου Μαρίας μετὰ πάντων τῶν Ἁγίων μνημονεύσαντες,

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

**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.* <sup>[NKJV]</sup>

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. <sup>[SD]</sup>

### 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’. <sup>[EL]</sup>

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

ἑαυτοὺς καὶ ἀλλήλους καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν ζωὴν  
ἡμῶν Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ παραθώμεθα.

(Σοί, Κύριε.)

### ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Ὅτι σὲ αἰνοῦσι πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν  
οὐρανῶν καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν ἀναπέμπουσι,  
τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ καὶ τῷ ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι,  
νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

(Ἀμήν.)

### ΧΟΡΟΣ

#### Ἑξαποστειλᾶριον.

Τοῦ Μηναίου ---

**Ἦχος γ'.** Ἐπεσκέψατο ἡμᾶς.

Ἐτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ· Σπήλαιον  
εὐτρεπίσθητι, ὑπόδεξαι καὶ ἡ Φάτνη,  
τὸν ἀπερίγραπτον Θεόν, σαρκὶ  
περιγραφόμενον· ἔρχεται γὰρ τεχθῆναι,  
καθὼς περ εὐδόκησε.

#### Τοῦ Ἁγίου.

**Ἦχος β'.** Τοῖς Μαθηταῖς συνέλθωμεν.

Σῆτος ὑπάρχω ἔλεγες, τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ  
Σωτῆρος, καὶ δεῖ με νῦν ἀλήθεσθαι, δι'  
ὀδόντων θηρίων, Ἰγνάτιε Θεοφόρε, ὅπως  
ἄρτος ἡδύς τε, καὶ καθαρὸς ὀφθήσομαι,  
τῇ Ἀγίᾳ Τριάδι· ἢ παρεστώς, μνημονεῦοις  
πάνσοφε τῶν τελούντων, τὴν φωτοφόρον  
μνήμην σου, Ἱεράρχα καὶ Μάρτυς.

#### Ἔτερον.

**Ἦχος β'.** Γυναῖκες ἀκουτίσθητε.

Ὡς τετρωμένος ἔρωτι, ἀγάπης τοῦ  
Κυρίου σου. Ὁ ἐμὸς ἔρως ἐβόας, Χριστὸς  
ἐσταύρωται θέλων· διὸ διψῶ τοῦ διψᾶσθαι,  
καὶ ζῶν ἐρῶ τοῦ ἐρᾶσθαι· οὗ κοινωνὸς  
γεννηθῆναι, ἐπιποθῶ καὶ τοῦ πάθους, καὶ  
τῆς αὐτοῦ βασιλείας.

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]

**Προεόρτιον.**

**Ἦχος β'. Γυναῖκες ἀκουτίσθητε.**

Πιστοὶ τὰ προεόρτια, τῶν Γενεθλίων ἄσματα, νῦν προηχήσωμεν πίστει· ἔρχεται ἡκεῖ γὰρ Χριστός, ἐν Βηθλεὲμ τοῦ τεχθῆναι, ὡς βροτὸς ἐκ Παρθένου, καὶ ὁραθῆναι νήπιος, σπαργάνοις ἐνειλημένος, ὁ πρὸ αἰώνων ὑπάρχων.

**Οἱ Αἶνοι. Ἦχος πλ. β'.**

Πᾶσα πνοὴ αἰνεσάτω τὸν Κύριον. Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν· αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν τοῖς ὑψίστοις. Σοὶ πρέπει ὕμνος τῷ Θεῷ.

Αἰνεῖτε αὐτόν, πάντες οἱ ἄγγελοι αὐτοῦ· αἰνεῖτε αὐτόν, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ. Σοὶ πρέπει ὕμνος τῷ Θεῷ.

Αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἥλιος καὶ σελήνη, αἰνεῖτε αὐτόν πάντα τὰ ἄστροι καὶ τὸ φῶς.

Αἰνεῖτε αὐτόν οἱ οὐρανοὶ τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ τὸ ὕδωρ τὸ ὑπεράνω τῶν οὐρανῶν. Αἰνεσάτωσαν τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου.

Ὅτι αὐτὸς εἶπε, καὶ ἐγενήθησαν, αὐτὸς ἐνετείλατο, καὶ ἐκτίσθησαν.

Ἔστησεν αὐτὰ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα καὶ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος· πρόσταγμα ἔθετο, καὶ οὐ παρελεύσεται.

Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Κύριον ἐκ τῆς γῆς, δράκοντες καὶ πᾶσαι ἄβυσσοι.

Πῦρ, χάλαζα, χιών, κρύσταλλος, πνεῦμα καταγίδος, τὰ ποιοῦντα τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ.

Τὰ ὄρη καὶ πάντες οἱ βουνοί, ξύλα καρποφόρα καὶ πᾶσαι κέδροι.

Τὰ θηρία καὶ πάντα τὰ κτήνη, ἔρπετά καὶ πετεινὰ πτερωτά.

Βασιλεῖς τῆς γῆς καὶ πάντες λαοί, ἄρχοντες καὶ πάντες κριταὶ γῆς.

**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.

Νεανίσκοι καὶ παρθένοι, πρεσβύτεροι μετὰ νεωτέρων· αἰνεσάτωσαν τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου, ὅτι ὑψώθη τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ μόνου.

Ἡ ἐξομολόγησις αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ γῆς καὶ οὐρανοῦ. καὶ ὑψώσει κέρασ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Ὑμνος πᾶσι τοῖς ὁσίοις αὐτοῦ, τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ, λαῶ ἐγγίζοντι αὐτῷ.

Ἀσατε τῷ Κυρίῳ ἄσμα καινόν, ἢ αἶνεσις αὐτοῦ ἐν ἐκκλησίᾳ ὁσίων.

Εὐφρανθήτω Ἰσραὴλ ἐπὶ τῷ ποιήσαντι αὐτόν, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Σιών ἀγαλλιᾶσθωσαν ἐπὶ τῷ βασιλεῖ αὐτῶν.

Αἰνεσάτωσαν τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ ἐν χορῷ, ἐν τυμπάνῳ καὶ ψαλτηρίῳ ψαλάτωσαν αὐτῷ.

Ὅτι εὐδοκεῖ Κύριος ἐν τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ καὶ ὑψώσει πρᾶεις ἐν σωτηρίᾳ.

Καυχῆσονται ὅσοι ἐν δόξῃ καὶ ἀγαλλιᾶσονται ἐπὶ τῶν κοιτῶν αὐτῶν.

Αἱ ὑψώσεις τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν τῷ λάρυγγι αὐτῶν, καὶ ὁρμαῖαι δίστομοι ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτῶν.

Τοῦ ποιῆσαι ἐκδίκησιν ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν, ἐλεγμοὺς ἐν τοῖς λαοῖς.

Τοῦ δῆσαι τοὺς βασιλεῖς αὐτῶν ἐν πέδαις καὶ τοὺς ἐνδόξους αὐτῶν ἐν χειροπέδαις σιδηραῖς.

### Στιχηρά. Προεόρτια.

Τοῦ Μηναίου - - -

**Ἦχος πλ. β'. Αντόμελον.**

Τοῦ ποιῆσαι ἐν αὐτοῖς κρῖμα ἔγγραπτον· δόξα αὕτη ἔσται πᾶσι τοῖς ὁσίοις αὐτοῦ.

Αἱ Ἀγγελικαί, προπορεύεσθε Δυνάμεις, οἱ ἐν Βηθλεέμ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν Φάτνην· ὁ λόγος γὰρ γεννᾶται, ἡ σοφία προέρχεται, δέχου ἀσπασμὸν ἡ Ἐκκλησία, εἰς τὴν χαρὰν τῆς Θεοτόκου, λαοὶ εἴπωμεν· Εὐλογημένος ὁ ἐλθὼν, Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

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]



Αἰνεῖτε τὸν Θεὸν ἐν τοῖς ἁγίοις αὐτοῦ,  
αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν στερεώματι τῆς δυνάμεως  
αὐτοῦ.

Αἱ Ἀγγελικαί, προπορεύεσθε Δυνάμεις,  
οἱ ἐν Βηθλεέμ, ἐτοιμάσατε τὴν Φάτνην· ὁ  
λόγος γὰρ γεννᾶται, ἡ σοφία προέρχεται,  
δέχου ἄσπασμόν ἡ Ἐκκλησία, εἰς τὴν χαρὰν  
τῆς Θεοτόκου, λαοὶ εἰπώμεν· Εὐλογημένος ὁ  
ἐλθὼν, Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐπὶ ταῖς δυναστείαις  
αὐτοῦ, αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν κατὰ τὸ πλήθος τῆς  
μεγαλωσύνης αὐτοῦ.

Ανίσχει ὁ Ἀστὴρ, Ἰακώβ ἐν τῷ  
Σπηλαίῳ. Δεῦτε καὶ ἡμεῖς, προσέορτια  
τελοῦντες, συνδράμωμεν τοῖς Μάγοις,  
τοῖς Ποιμέσι συνέλθωμεν· ἴδωμεν Θεὸν  
ἐν τοῖς σπαργάνοις, ἴδωμεν Παρθένον  
γαλουχοῦσαν, φρικτὸν θέαμα! Ὁ Βασιλεὺς  
τοῦ, Ἰσραὴλ, Χριστὸς παραγίνεται.

Αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν ἤχῳ σάλπιγγος, αἰνεῖτε  
αὐτὸν ἐν ψαλτηρίῳ καὶ κιθάρᾳ.

Βουνοὶ γλυκασμόν, σταλαξάτωσαν·  
Ἰδοὺ γάρ, ἦκει ὁ Θεός, ἐκ Θαιμᾶν Ἔθνη  
ἠττάσθη· Προφῆται Πατριάρχαι σκιρτήσατε·  
ἄνθρωποι χορεύσατε ἐνθέως, ὁ ἰσχυρὸς καὶ  
μέγας Ἀρχὼν, Χριστὸς τίκτεται· ὁ Βασιλεὺς  
τῶν οὐρανῶν, ἐν γῇ παραγίνεται.

Αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν τυμπάνῳ καὶ χορῷ,  
αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν χορδαῖς καὶ ὀργάνῳ.

Γῆθεν ἀνυψῶν, τοὺς βροτοὺς ὁ Πλάστης  
ἦκει, τὴν βασιλικήν, καινουργῶν αὐθις  
εἰκόνα· συγχαρήτε τῶν ἄνω, αἱ Δυνάμεις  
ύμνήσατε· ἔχθρας τὸ μεσότοιχον ἐλύθη,  
ἦλθεν ὧ ἀπέκειτο· Θεὸς γάρ, βροτὸς

*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



γίνεται, ὁ Βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, Χριστὸς  
 παραγίνεται.

*Αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν κυμβάλοις εὐήχοις,  
 αἰνεῖτε αὐτὸν ἐν κυμβάλοις ἀλαλαγμοῦ.  
 Πᾶσα πνοὴ αἰνεσάτω τὸν Κύριον.*

Δεῦτε οἱ πιστοί, ὑπαντήσωμεν τῷ  
 ἐκ Κτίστη, ἥκοντι εἰς γῆν, Παρθένου  
 ἀνατεῖλαι· ἀγνεία λαμπρυνθῶμεν,  
 ἀρεταῖς ἀπαστράψωμεν, τρόμῳ καὶ  
 χαρᾷ ἐτοιμασθῶμεν, Χριστόν ιδέσθαι  
 βρεφωθέντα, νοὸς ὄμμασιν, ἡμᾶς θεοῦντα  
 τοὺς βροτούς, ἄκρα ἀγαθότητι.

Δόξα. **Ὅμοιον.**

Ἐγγίζει ὁ Χριστός, Βηθλεὲμ  
 προετοιμάζου· ἤδη τῶν Ἐθνῶν, τὸ σωτήριον  
 αὐγάξει. Εὐτρέπισον τὴν φάτνην, τοὺς  
 Ποιμένας συνάγαγε, κάλεσον τοὺς Μάγους  
 ἐκ Περσίδος, αἱ Στρατιαὶ τῶν Ἀσωμάτων,  
 Νοῶν κράζουσιν· ὁ Βασιλεὺς τῶν οὐρανῶν,  
 Χριστὸς παραγίνεται.

Καὶ νῦν. **Ὅμοιον.**

Ζῆλός τε καὶ πῦρ, καταφάγεται σε  
 ἄφρον, πλάνε ἀληθῶς, καὶ τοῦ νόμου  
 συκοφάντα· ἰδοὺ γὰρ ἡ Παρθένος, Ἡσαΐας  
 ὥς ἔφησεν, ἔσχεν ἐν γαστρὶ καὶ ἐπὶ φάτνης,  
 ἀνακλινεῖ τὸν Βασιλέα· διὸ ἅπαντες, οἱ ἐξ  
 Ἰούδα τῆς φυλῆς, δυνάσται ἐκλείψουσιν.

## ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ

**Δοξολογία** (διαβαστά)

Σοὶ δόξα πρέπει, Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν,  
 καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν ἀναπέμπομεν, τῷ Πατρὶ,  
 καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ, καὶ τῷ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, νῦν,  
 καὶ αἰεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.  
 Ἀμήν. Δόξα ἐν ὑψίστοις Θεῷ, καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς  
 εἰρήνη ἐν ἀνθρώποις εὐδοκία. Ὑμνοῦμέν  
 σε, εὐλογοῦμέν σε, προσκυνοῦμέν σε,

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

δοξολογοῦμέν σε, εὐχαριστοῦμέν σοι, διὰ  
τὴν μεγάλην σου δόξαν. Κύριε Βασιλεῦ,  
ἐπουράνιε Θεέ, Πάτερ παντοκράτορ·  
Κύριε Υἱὲ μονογενές, Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ, καὶ  
Ἅγιον Πνεῦμα. Κύριε ὁ Θεός, ὁ Ἀμνὸς  
τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Πατρὸς, ὁ αἰρὼν τὴν  
ἀμαρτίαν τοῦ κόσμου, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς, ὁ  
αἰρὼν τὰς ἀμαρτίας τοῦ κόσμου. Πρόσδεξαι  
τὴν δέησιν ἡμῶν, ὁ καθήμενος ἐν δεξιᾷ  
τοῦ Πατρὸς, καὶ ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Ὅτι σὺ εἶ  
μόνος Ἅγιος, σὺ εἶ ὁ μόνος Κύριος, Ἰησοῦς  
Χριστός, εἰς δόξαν Θεοῦ Πατρὸς. Ἀμήν.  
Καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν εὐλογήσω σε,  
καὶ αἰνέσω τὸ ὄνομά σου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα,  
καὶ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος. Κύριε,  
καταφυγὴ ἐγενήθης ἡμῖν ἐν γενεᾷ καὶ  
γενεᾷ. Ἐγὼ εἶπα· Κύριε, ἐλέησόν με·  
ἴασαι τὴν ψυχὴν μου, ὅτι ἥμαρτόν σοι.  
Κύριε, πρὸς σὲ κατέφυγον· δίδαξόν με  
τοῦ ποιεῖν τὸ θέλημά σου, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Θεός  
μου. Ὅτι παρὰ σοὶ πηγὴ ζωῆς· ἐν τῷ φωτί  
σου ὁψόμεθα φῶς. Παράτεινον τὸ ἔλεός  
σου τοῖς γινώσκουσί σε. Καταξίωσον,  
Κύριε, ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ταύτῃ ἀναμαρτήτους  
φυλαχθῆναι ἡμᾶς. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Κύριε,  
ὁ Θεὸς τῶν Πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ αἰνετὸν  
καὶ δεδοξασμένον τὸ ὄνομά σου εἰς  
τοὺς αἰῶνας. Ἀμήν. Γένοιτο, Κύριε, τὸ  
ἔλεός σου ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, καθάπερ ἠλπίσαμεν  
ἐπὶ σέ. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Κύριε· δίδαξόν  
με τὰ δικαιώματά σου. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ,  
Δέσποτα· συνέτισόν με τὰ δικαιώματά  
σου. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Ἅγιε· φώτισόν με τοῖς  
δικαιώμασί σου. Κύριε, τὸ ἔλεός σου εἰς τὸν  
αἰῶνα· τὰ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου μὴ παρίδης.  
Σοὶ πρέπει αἶνος, σοὶ πρέπει ὕμνος, σοὶ  
δόξα πρέπει, τῷ Πατρί, καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ, καὶ τῷ

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.

Ἀγίῳ Πνεύματι, νῦν, καὶ ἀεί, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

### ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Πληρώσωμεν τὴν ἑωθινὴν δέησιν ἡμῶν τῷ Κυρίῳ.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον.)

Ἀντιλαβοῦ, σῶσον, ἐλέησον καὶ διαφύλαξον ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς τῇ σῇ χάριτι.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον.)

Τὴν ἡμέραν πᾶσαν τελείαν, ἀγίαν, εἰρηνικὴν καὶ ἀναμάρτητον, παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου αἰτησώμεθα.

(Παράσχον, Κύριε.)

Ἄγγελον εἰρήνης, πιστὸν ὁδηγόν, φύλακα τῶν ψυχῶν καὶ τῶν σωμάτων ἡμῶν, παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου αἰτησώμεθα.

(Παράσχον, Κύριε.)

Συγγνώμην καὶ ἄφεσιν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν καὶ τῶν πλημμελημάτων ἡμῶν, παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου αἰτησώμεθα.

(Παράσχον, Κύριε.)

Τὰ καλὰ καὶ συμφέροντα ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἡμῶν καὶ εἰρήνην τῷ κόσμῳ, παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου αἰτησώμεθα.

(Παράσχον, Κύριε.)

Τὸν ὑπόλοιπον χρόνον τῆς ζωῆς ἡμῶν ἐν εἰρήνῃ καὶ μετανοίᾳ ἐκτελέσαι, παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου αἰτησώμεθα.

(Παράσχον, Κύριε.)

Χριστιανὰ τὰ τέλη τῆς ζωῆς ἡμῶν, ἀνώδυνα, ἀνεπαίσχυντα, εἰρηνικά, καὶ καλὴν ἀπολογίαν τὴν ἐπὶ τοῦ φοβεροῦ βήματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ αἰτησώμεθα.

(Παράσχον, Κύριε.)

Τῆς Παναγίας ἀχράντου, ὑπερευλογημένης, ἐνδόξου Δεσποίνης ἡμῶν Θεοτόκου καὶ ἀειπαρθένου Μαρίας

### 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

μετὰ πάντων τῶν Ἁγίων μνημονεύσαντες,  
ἐαυτοὺς καὶ ἀλλήλους καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν ζωὴν  
ἡμῶν Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ παραθώμεθα.

(Σοί, Κύριε.)

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ**

Ὅτι Θεὸς ἐλέους, οἰκτιρμῶν, καὶ  
φιλανθρωπίας ὑπάρχεις, καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν  
ἀναπέμπομεν, τῷ Πατρὶ, καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ, καὶ τῷ  
Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, νῦν, καὶ ἀεί, καὶ εἰς τοὺς  
αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

(Ἀμήν.)

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ**

Εἰρήνη πᾶσι.

(Καὶ τῷ πνεύματί σου.)

**ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ**

Τὰς κεφαλὰς ἡμῶν τῷ Κυρίῳ κλίνομεν.

(Σοί, Κύριε.)

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ** (χαμηλοφώνως)

Κύριε, Ἄγιε, ὁ ἐν ὑψηλοῖς κατοικῶν καὶ τὰ  
ταπεινὰ ἐφορῶν, καὶ τῷ παντεφύρῳ σου ὄμματι  
ἐπιβλέπων ἐπὶ πᾶσαν τὴν κτίσιν, σοὶ ἐκλίναμεν τὸν  
αὐχένα τῆς ψυχῆς καὶ τοῦ σώματος, καὶ δεόμεθά σου  
Ἄγιε Ἁγίων· ἔκτεινον τὴν χειρὰ σου τὴν ἀόρατον ἐξ  
ἀγίου κατοικητηρίου σου, καὶ εὐλόγησον πάντας  
ἡμᾶς· καὶ εἴτι ἡμάρτομεν ἐκουσίως ἢ ἀκουσίως,  
ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος Θεὸς συγχώρησον,  
δωρούμενος ἡμῖν τὰ ἐγκόσμια καὶ ὑπερκόσμια  
ἀγαθὰ σου.

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ**

Σὸν γὰρ ἐστὶ τὸ ἐλεεῖν καὶ σώζειν  
ἡμᾶς, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν  
ἀναπέμπομεν, τῷ Πατρὶ, καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ, καὶ τῷ  
Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι, νῦν, καὶ ἀεί, καὶ εἰς τοὺς  
αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

(Ἀμήν.)

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.)

Τοῦ Μηναιίου ---

**ΧΟΡΟΣ**

**Ἀπόστιχα. Προεόρτια.**

**Ἰδιόμελον Α'. Ἦχος δ'.**

Βηθλεὲμ εὐτρεπίζου, ὕμνησον Πόλις  
Σιών· ἀγάλλου ἢ ἔρημος, προμνηστευθεῖσα  
τὴν χαρὰν· ἀστὴρ γὰρ προέρχεται, ἐν  
Βηθλεὲμ μηνύων, μέλλοντα τίκτεσθαι  
Χριστόν· καὶ Σπήλαιον δέχεται, τὸν  
ἀχώρητον παντί· καὶ Φάτνη ἐτοιμάζεται,  
ὕποδέξασθαι ζωὴν τὴν αἰώνιον· αὐτῷ  
πάντες ἄσωμεν καὶ βοήσωμεν· Σῶσον τὰς  
ψυχὰς ἡμῶν, Ἰησοῦ ὁ Θεός, ὁ σαρκωθείς δι'  
ἡμᾶς.

**Ἰδιόμελον Β'. Ἦχος δ'.**

**Στίχ.** Ὁ Θεὸς ἀπὸ Θαμὰν ἦξει, καὶ ὁ  
Ἅγιος ἐξ ὄρων κατασκίου δασέος.

Χριστὸς ὁ ἐρχόμενος, ἐμφανῶς Θεὸς  
ἡμῶν, ἦξει καὶ οὐ χρονιεῖ, ἐξ ἀπειρογάμου  
Νύμφης ὀφθήσεται, ἐν Σπηλαίῳ δὲ  
λοιπὸν προσαναπαύσεται· καὶ Φάτνη τῶν  
ἀλόγων, ὃν οὐκ ἐχώρει οὐρανός, ὑποδέχου,  
μέλλοντα σπαργανοῦσθαι ἐν σοί, τὸν τῷ  
λόγῳ λύσαντα, τῆς ἀλογίας ἡμᾶς. Ἀστὴρ  
μηνύει, Μάγοι προσκυνοῦσι, Ποιμένες  
ἀγραυλοῦσι, θαῦμα ὁρῶντες τὸ φρικτόν, καὶ  
Ἄγγελοι μέλπουσιν, ἐπὶ γῆς θεώμενοι, τὴν  
ἀπολύτρωσιν τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν.

**Ἰδιόμελον Γ'. Ἦχος δ'.**

**Στίχ.** Κύριε, εἰσακήκοα τὴν ἀκοήν σου,  
καὶ ἐφοβήθην, Κύριε, κατενόησα τὰ ἔργα σου,  
καὶ ἐξέστην.

Ἡσαΐα χόρευε, Λόγον Θεοῦ ὑπόδεξαι·  
προφήτευσον τῇ Κόρῃ Μαριάμ, Βάτον πυρὶ  
καίεσθαι, καὶ μὴ καταφλέγεσθαι, τῇ αἴγλῃ  
τῆς Θεότητος, Βηθλεὲμ εὐτρεπίζου, ἄνοιγε

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;  
prophecy to the Maiden Mary that a Bush  
is on fire and is not consumed by the ray of  
the Godhead. Bethlehem make ready; Eden



πύλην ἢ Ἐδέμ, καὶ Μάγοι πορεύεσθε, ἰδεῖν  
τὴν σωτηρίαν, ἐν φάτνῃ σπαργανούμενον,  
ὃν Ἀστὴρ ἐμήνυσεν, ἐπάνω τοῦ Σπηλαίου,  
ζωοδότην Κύριον, τὸν σῶζοντα τὸ γένος  
ἡμῶν.

Δόξα. **Τοῦ Ἁγίου.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου - -

**Ἦχος α'.**

Στήλη ἔμψυχος, καὶ ἔμπνους εἰκὼν,  
ἢ ἐτήσιός σου ἐπέστη ἑορτή, Θεοφόρε  
Ἰγνάτιε, τὰς μυσταγωγίας σου, καὶ τὰς  
ἀριστείας σου κηρύττουσα, τὴν ὑπὲρ τῆς  
Πίστεως μέχρις αἵματος ἀντικατάστασιν,  
τὴν μακαρίαν ἐκείνην, καὶ ἀοίδιμον φωνήν,  
τὴν, Ὅτι σῖτός εἰμι Θεοῦ λέγουσαν, καὶ δι'  
ὀδόντων θηρίων ἀλήθομαι· διὸ μιμητὴς τοῦ  
Χριστοῦ σὺ γεγονώς, πρέσβευε σωθῆναι τὰς  
ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Καὶ νῦν. **Προεόρτιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου - -

**Ἦχος πλ. β'.**

Σπήλαιον εὐτρεπίζου· ἡ Ἀμνὰς γὰρ  
ἤκει, ἔμβρυον φέρουσα Χριστόν. Φάτνῃ  
δὲ ὑποδέχου, τὸν τῷ λόγῳ λύσαντα τῆς  
ἀλόγου πράξεως, ἡμᾶς τοὺς γηγενεῖς.  
Ποιμένες ἀγραυλοῦντες, μαρτυρεῖτε θαῦμα  
τὸ φρικτόν, καὶ Μάγοι ἐκ Περσίδος, χρυσὸν  
καὶ λίβανον καὶ σμύρναν, τῷ Βασιλεῖ  
προσάξατε· ὅτι ὤφθη Κύριος ἐκ Παρθένου  
Μητρός, ὃν περ καὶ κύψασα, δουλικῶς ἢ  
Μήτηρ προσεκύνησε, καὶ προσεφθέγγατο  
τῷ ἐν ἀγκάλαις αὐτῆς. Πῶς ἐνεσπάρης μοι,  
ἢ πῶς μοι ἐνεφύης, ὁ λυτρωτὴς μου καὶ  
Θεός;

**ΙΕΡΕΥΣ**

Ἀγαθὸν τὸ ἐξομολογεῖσθαι τῷ Κυρίῳ  
καὶ ψάλλειν τῷ ὀνόματί σου, Ὑψιστε· τοῦ

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



ἀναγγέλλειν τῷ πρωῒ τὸ ἔλεός σου καὶ τὴν ἀλήθειάν σου κατὰ νύκτα.

### ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ

#### Τρισάγιον.

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.

Παναγία Τριάς, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς. Κύριε, ἱλάσθητι ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις ἡμῶν. Δέσποτα, συγχώρησον τὰς ἀνομίας ἡμῖν. Ἄγιε, ἐπίσκεψαι καὶ ἰᾶσαι τὰς ἀσθενείας ἡμῶν, ὅτι ἐνεκεν τοῦ ὀνόματός σου.

Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι. Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς, ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου. Ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου. Γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου, ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς. Τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον δὸς ἡμῖν σήμερον. Καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν. Καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν, ἀλλὰ ρῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ.

### ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Ὅτι σοῦ ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία καὶ ἡ δύναμις καὶ ἡ δόξα τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

(Ἀμήν.)

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.)

**ΧΟΡΟΣ**

**Ἀπολυτίκιον. Προεόρτιον.**

Τοῦ Μηναίου - - -

**Ἦχος δ'.**

Ἐτοιμάζου Βηθλεέμ, ἡνοικταὶ πᾶσιν  
ἡ Ἐδέμ. Εὐτρεπίζου Ἐφραθα, ὅτι τὸ ξύλον  
τῆς ζωῆς, ἐν τῷ Σπηλαίῳ ἐξήνθησεν ἐκ τῆς  
Παρθένου. Παράδεισος καὶ γάρ, ἡ ἐκείνης  
γαστήρ, ἐδείχθη νοητός, ἐν ᾧ τὸ θεῖον  
φυτόν, ἐξ οὗ φαγόντες ζήσομεν, οὐχὶ δὲ ὡς  
ὁ Ἀδὰμ τεθνηξόμεθα. Χριστὸς γεννᾶται,  
τὴν πρὶν πεσοῦσαν, ἀναστήσων εἰκόνα.

**ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ**

Ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς κατὰ τὸ μέγα  
ἐλεός Σου, δεόμεθά Σου, ἐπάκουσον καὶ  
ἐλέησον.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ τῶν εὐσεβῶν καὶ  
ὀρθοδόξων χριστιανῶν.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ τοῦ (ἀρχιερατικοῦ  
βαθμοῦ) ἡμῶν (τοῦ δεῖνος).

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ τῶν ἀδελφῶν ἡμῶν,  
τῶν ἱερέων, ἱερομονάχων, ἱεροδιακόνων καὶ  
μοναχῶν, καὶ πάσης τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ ἡμῶν  
ἀδελφότητος.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ ἐλέους, ζωῆς,  
εἰρήνης, υἱείας, σωτηρίας, ἐπισκέψεως,  
συγχωρήσεως καὶ ἀφέσεως τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν  
τῶν δούλων τοῦ Θεοῦ, πάντων τῶν  
εὐσεβῶν καὶ ὀρθοδόξων χριστιανῶν, τῶν  
κατοικούντων καὶ παρεπιδημούντων ἐν

**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

τῇ (πόλει, κώμῃ), ταύτῃ, τῶν ἐνοριτῶν,  
ἐπιτρόπων, συνδρομητῶν καὶ ἀφιερωτῶν  
τοῦ ἁγίου ναοῦ τούτου.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ τῶν μακαρίων  
καὶ αἰορίμων κτιτόρων τῆς ἁγίας  
Ἐκκλησίας ταύτης, καὶ ὑπὲρ πάντων τῶν  
προαναπαυσασμένων πατέρων καὶ ἀδελφῶν  
ἡμῶν, τῶν ἐνθάδε εὐσεβῶς, κειμένων, καὶ  
ἀπανταχοῦ ὀρθοδόξων.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

Ἔτι δεόμεθα ὑπὲρ τῶν  
καρποφορούντων καὶ καλλιεργούντων  
ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ καὶ πανσέπτῳ ναῷ τούτῳ,  
κοπιώντων, ψαλλόντων καὶ ὑπὲρ τοῦ  
περιεστῶτος λαοῦ, τοῦ ἀπεκδεχομένου τὸ  
παρὰ σοῦ μέγα καὶ πλούσιον ἔλεος.

(Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Κύριε,  
ἐλέησον.)

### ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Ὅτι ἐλεήμων καὶ φιλόανθρωπος Θεὸς  
ὑπάρχεις, καὶ σοὶ τὴν δόξαν ἀναπέμπομεν,  
τῷ Πατρὶ καὶ τῷ Υἱῷ καὶ τῷ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι,  
νῦν καὶ αἰεὶ καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.

(Ἀμήν.)

### ΔΙΑΚΟΝΟΣ

Σοφία.

(Εὐλόγησον.)

### ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

Ὁ ὢν εὐλογητός, Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν,  
πάντοτε, νῦν, καὶ αἰεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας  
τῶν αἰώνων. (Ἀμήν.)

Στερεώσαι, Κύριος ὁ Θεός, τὴν ἁγίαν  
καὶ ἀμώμητον πίστιν τῶν εὐσεβῶν καὶ  
ὀρθοδόξων Χριστιανῶν, σὺν τῇ ἁγίᾳ αὐτοῦ  
Ἐκκλησίᾳ καὶ τῇ πόλει ταύτῃ εἰς αἰῶνας  
αἰώνων.

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.

## ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ

Αμήν.

Τὴν τιμιωτέραν τῶν Χερουβείμ, καὶ ἐνδοξοτέραν, ἀσυγκρίτως τῶν Σεραφεείμ, τὴν ἀδιαφθόρως, Θεὸν Λόγον τεκοῦσαν, τὴν ὄντως Θεοτόκον, σὲ μεγαλύνομεν.

Δόξα Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ καὶ Ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι. Καὶ νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Κύριε, ἐλέησον. (ἐκ γ') Εὐλόγησον.

## ΙΕΡΕΥΣ

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 ὁσίων καὶ θεοφόρων Πατέρων ἡμῶν· (τοῦ Ἁγίου τοῦ Ναοῦ)· τῶν ἁγίων καὶ δικαίων Θεοπατόρων Ἰωακεὶμ καὶ Ἄννης, καὶ τοῦ ἁγίου ἐνδόξου Ἱερομάρτυρος Ἰγνατίου τοῦ Θεοφόρου, οὗ καὶ τὴν μνήμην ἐπιτελοῦμεν καὶ πάντων τῶν Ἁγίων, ἐλεῆσαι καὶ σῶσαι ἡμᾶς, ὡς ἀγαθὸς καὶ φιλόανθρωπος.

Δι' εὐχῶν τῶν ἁγίων πατέρων ἡμῶν, Κύριε Ἰησοῦ Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, ἐλέησον καὶ σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

(Ἀμήν.)

## 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.)