

MARCH 21

St. James the Confessor, Bishop of Catania

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (sung on Wednesday)

"Lord I Call..." Tone 8

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 8 *Idiomelon* *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

While fasting in body, O brethren,

let us also fast in spirit!

Let us loose the bonds of iniquity!

Let us undo the chains of injustice!

Let us break the yoke of oppression!

Let us give food to the hungry!

Let us shelter the poor and homeless,//

so that we may receive great mercy from Christ our God!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Tone 8 *(to the Martyrs)*

Whatever is excellent and worthy of praise
is rightly ascribed to the saints,
for they bowed their necks beneath the sword,
for Your sake, Who bowed the heavens and came down.
They shed their blood for You, Who emptied Yourself,
taking the form of a servant.
They humbled themselves even unto death,
following the example of Your lowliness.
By their prayers have mercy on us, O God, //
according to Your abundant mercy!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

Tone 2 *(to the Apostles, by Joseph)* *(When You appeared)*

Jesus, the true spiritual Sun,
sent you out as lightning into all the world,
O Apostles and eyewitnesses of God.
He dispersed the darkness of error,
enlightening those held fast in the gloom of ignorance. //
Entreat Him to send down on us as well His illumination and great mercy!

v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Glorified by fasting,
Elijah rode in the divine chariot of virtues
and was carried up to the height of heaven.
Eagerly follow his example, O my humble soul!
Fast from every evil and jealousy,
from strife and fleeting pleasures!
Then you will escape the everlasting torment of Gehenna, //
crying out to Christ: "Glory to You, O Lord!"

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 5 *(to the Apostles, by Theodore)* *(O venerable father)*

O Apostles of God, fervent intercessors for the world,
defenders of the Orthodox,
you have power to approach Christ our God with boldness.
Intercede for us, we pray you,
that we may keep the holy fast in peace
and receive the grace of the consubstantial Trinity!//
O great and glorious preachers, worthy of all honor, pray for our souls!

V. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Tone 4* *(from the Menaion, for St. James)* *(You have given a sign)*

You desired the glory that is eternal and does not pass away,
scorning the glory that is transitory and perishing.
You took up your cross and follow after the crucified One,
subjecting your flesh to ascetic struggles//
Therefore, O James, we celebrate your memory.

V. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

You were crucified to the world and to the passions,
preserving your soul undefiled and pure,
untainted by low things, O Father James.
Thus you soared to the heavens with mystical visions.
There you set forth your life as a true friend of Christ,//
O ever-memorable one and a most faithful saint.

V. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

O ever-memorable one,
you were revealed to be innocent, guileless, and merciful,
filled with brotherly love, humility, meekness and charity.
You were adorned with compassion,
gifted with patience, faith and hope.
You were enriched with prayer.//
In holiness, you were illumined by the brightness of God.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

* Music for St. James the Confessor from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org.

Tone 4 *(Theotokion)* *(You have given a sign)*

Wash away the filth of the passions of my heart,
O all-praised Theotokos,
and cleanse all the wounds that come from my sins and their corruption, O pure
one!

Set in order my unstable mind,
so that I, who am condemned and am your worthless servant,//
may magnify your power and great protection!

Tone 5 **Prokeimenon**

You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever.
(Ps. 11:7)

V. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps. 12:1a)

Reading from Genesis (1:24-2:3)

Tone 6 **Prokeimenon**

Consider and answer me, / O Lord my God! *(Ps. 12:3a)*

*V. How long, O Lord, will You forget me forever? How long will You
hide Your face from me? (Ps. 12:1)*

Reading from Proverbs (2:1-22)

(and the rest of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts)

Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.