

FEBRUARY 26

St. Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza

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 8 *(from the Menaion, for St. Porphyrius)* *(Oh, most glorious wonder)*

O Venerable Father Porphyrius,
you took the Cross of Christ upon your shoulder,
abandoning all and reaching the desert.
Armed with fasting and prayers,
you battled with the ruler of this world.
Therefore as a temple of the Spirit of God, //
you cast him down together with carnal mindedness.

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

As of old God saved the three Youths from the fire by His Angel,
so now He has saved three youths by you.
They had been dragged down into a pit,
but God bore them up as in a basket,
overshadowing them with the light of a cloud
which formed three crosses on their bodies, //
reproving those who opposed you, O Porphyrius.

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

Who can worthily sing hymns to your temptations and pains, O Porphyrius,
your misfortunes, tribulations, and your struggles for the faith?
You showed that you have great boldness before God.
Therefore, because of that boldness, we entreat you: //
“Pray on our behalf to the Lord that we may be saved!”

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

Tone 8 *(Theotokion)* *(Oh, most glorious wonder)*

The pre-eternal God, Who received flesh of your blood,
has revealed you as the protectress of mankind, O pure Lady.
Therefore, deliver your servants from every distress and adversity,
and from the snares of the Enemy's evil;
grant that all who glorify and venerate you//
may share in your extraordinary radiance!

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.