**MARCH 31**

**Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent**

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (sung on Tuesday, in honor of St. Innocent)**

**Repose of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to the Americas**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 5**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Thy 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 Thy name!*

**Tone 5 Idiomelon** *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Banished from Thy straight path by the passions, O Christ,

in my wretchedness I have fallen down into the pit.

The Levite and the priest both passed me by,

but Thou, O Christ, didst have mercy on me.

Thou didst tear up the handwriting of my sins by the weapon of the Cross,

enlightening me with passionlessness and enthroning me on high with

the Father.

Therefore I cry to Thee://

“O incomprehensible Lord, glory to Thee!”

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

**Tone 8**

I went down from Jerusalem,

slipping away from the commandments that Thou didst write there for all

nations,

and I journeyed to Jericho,

yielding to my lusts like the dwellers there of old,

whom Thou didst give to be slaughtered for their sins by Thy people.

Through disobedience I fell into soul-destroying passions as though into

the hands of thieves;

beating me, they left me almost dead.

But, O Lord, as Thou didst voluntarily endure the nails and the spear because

of man's sin,

and didst work universal salvation through the Cross in Jerusalem,//

heal me, and save me!

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

**Tone 8** *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Joseph) (What shall we call you)*

O faithful, let us control our passions through abstinence;

let us have love as our food!

Let us strive to live a life that is acceptable to God!

For our sake, He was raised upon the Cross,

and His side was pierced by a spear.

In this way we shall enjoy the food of eternal life,//

glorifying the Savior of our souls.

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

Of old, we received death from the tree,

but now we find life again through the Tree of the Cross.

So let us put to death the impulses of the passions!

O faithful, let us entreat the Benefactor,

that, shining with the radiance of divine works, and adorned with virtues,

we may attain the saving Resurrection,//

glorifying the Savior of our souls!

*v. (6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

**Tone 2** *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Theodore)*

We praise Thy life-bearing Cross, O Lord,

the suffering of Thy holy flesh on our behalf,

the spear, the slaughter, the derision,

the spitting, scourging, and the buffeting,

the robe of purple and the crown of thorns.

By these, Thou hast delivered us from the curse.

Therefore, we entreat Thee://

“Enable us to complete the time of the fast in peace!”

*v. (5) For Thy name’s sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

**Tone 6[[1]](#footnote-1)** *(from the Menaion, for St. Innocent)*

Called to the New World by the grace of God

as a skilled helmsman of the ship of Christ,

thou didst endure dangers on the sea,

as thou leddest those adrift in darkness, delusion, and the storms of passions

to the calm harbor of salvation.

Pray for us now, Holy Father Innocent,//

before the Holy Trinity!

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

(Repeat: “Called to the New World…” )

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

A prophet raised up from among the Aleuts

heard from an angel that thou wouldst journey afar,

leaving thy family to speak with a great man.

Once his words had been fulfilled,

by the infinite wisdom and mercy of God

we received thee again as the first bishop to rule our land.//

Intercede now for the flock thou hast gathered!

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

(Repeat: “A prophet raised up…” )

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

People of two continents with different tongues and customs

rejoice today through thee in the mystery of the tongues of Pentecost

and in the fall of the cursed tower of human pride,

which kept at enmity all the nations of the earth,

until they were caught in the net of faith//

worshipping the consubstantial Trinity.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 6** *(from the Menaion, for St. Innocent)*

In mortal danger from a storm at sea,

thou didst look to the North Star of the Church of Christ,

and, through the prayers of St. Herman of Alaska,

thou didst find grace and deliverance.//

With him now intercede for our souls!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Who will not bless thee, O most holy Virgin?

Who will not sing of thy most pure childbearing?

The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,

but from thee He was ineffably incarnate.

God by nature, yet Man for our sake,

not two persons, but one known in two natures.

Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,//

to have mercy on our souls!

**Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge / from generation to generation. *(Ps 89/90:1)*

*v: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the earth and the world were*

*made. (Ps 89/90:2)*

**Reading from Genesis (15:1-15)**

**Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High / will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. (Ps 90/91:1)

 *v: He will say to the Lord: “Thou art my Protector” (Ps 90/91:2)*

**Reading from Proverbs (15:7-19)**

***(“Let my prayer arise …” and then immediately)***

**Tone 1 Prokeimenon**

My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be

 understanding. (Ps 48/49:3)

 *v: Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world! (Ps 48/49:1)*

**Epistle**

 Heb. 7:26-8:2

**Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*v: The mouth of the righteous shall proclaim wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment. (Ps 36/37:30)*

*v: :The Law of God is in his heart, and his steps shall not falter. (Ps 36/37:31)*

**Gospel**

 John 10:9-16

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

**Communion Hymn**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon’s Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.

1. Music for the stichera for St. Innocent from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at [www.oca.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CPhillip%5CDocuments%5C5.%20OCA%20Chancery%5C1.%20Department%20of%20Liturgical%20Music%5CNew%20Packets%20beginning%2002-2020%5C2020-03%20Services%5Cwww.oca.org). This stichera is listed as the Stichera at the Aposticha. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)