**JANUARY 17: Venerable and God-bearing St Anthony the Great (356)**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 4**

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

**Tone 4**  *(Called from on high)*

Burning with divine love and radiant with the Spirit,

your soul rose to desire truly infinite love.

You despised flesh and blood and lived apart from the world,

yet you were united to it by great silence and abstinence.

Therefore you were fulfilled as you desired,//

and as a star radiant with blessings, O Anthony, you illumine our souls.

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

(Repeat: “Burning with divine love … “)

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But*

*there is forgiveness with You.*

(Repeat: “Burning with divine love … “)

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

You were radiant with divine light by the grace of the Holy Spirit, O

Father Anthony.

You shattered the flying weapons of the demons.

By your godly teachings you exposed their evil snares.

You were a radiant light for monks:

the first to adorn the desert;

a prayerful and skilled physician of the sick,//

and the first clear example of the ascetic life.

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

(Repeat: “You were radiant … “)

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

(Repeat: “You were radiant … “)

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

O Anthony, pure in heart and soul,

an earthly angel, a heavenly man,

a teacher of chastity, a clear measure of abstinence;

now you live with your Master, O blessed saint.

You offer Him unceasing praise,

as do the Angels, all holy monastics and martyrs.//

Set free from sin and danger those who ever keep your holy memory!

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

(Repeat: “O Anthony, pure in heart and soul … “)

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

 **Tone 6** *(by Sykeotes)*

You set your mind as master over the disturbing passions,

keeping the image intact through the ascetic life.

Thus you rose into the perfect likeness;

for, bravely curbing nature,

you hastened to subjéct what is lower to that which is above,

making the body servant to the spirit.

Therefore you were revealed as the chief of those living the monastic life,

a citizen of the desert, a master teaching those who hasten to you,

a perfect example of virtue.

Now the image has been broken, O Anthony,

and in heaven you behold in purity the Holy Trinity,//

as you pray with boldness for those who honor you with faith and love.

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

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

Who will not bless you, O most holy Virgin?

Who will not sing of your most pure childbearing?

The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,

but from you He was ineffably incarnate.

God by nature, He became Man for our sake,

not divided into two persons but manifest as One in two natures.

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

to have mercy on our souls!

 **Old Testament Readings**

 **Wisdom of Solomon 5:15-6:3**

 **Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9**

 **Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15**

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**Litya**

 **Tone 2** *(by the Studite)*

Having established ascetic training on earth, O venerable Anthony,

you blunted all the attacks of passions by the flood of your tears.

Your God-possessed life was recognized by all

as a divine and holy ladder leading up into the heavens,

for in it you exhibited the fruits of piety,

through which you cure the infirmities of the passions

and the ailments of those faithfully crying out to you:

“Rejoice, brightest morning star gleaming with gold,

the torchbearer and shepherd of those practicing monastic life!

Rejoice, O ever-memorable one,

fairest offspring of the wilderness,

and unshaken support of the Church!

Rejoice, great guide of those who go astray!//

Rejoice, our own boast and the luminous joy of the inhabited earth!”

Let us honor Anthony

as an earthly angel and a heavenly man;

as the adornment of the world and delight of good things and virtues;

as the boast and joy of ascetics.

For, planted in the house of God, he flowered forth righteously;

and, like a cedar in the desert,//

he increased the flocks of Christ’s rational sheep in holiness and

 righteousness.

O venerable Anthony,

having practiced virtue from childhood,

you became an instrument of the Holy Spirit;

and having received from Him the power to work miracles,

you persuaded people to despise pleasures.

And now, being more clearly illumined by the Divine Light,//

illumine also our thoughts, O Father Anthony!

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**Tone 3**  *(by Anatolius)*

O venerable Anthony, as though at rest among material things,

you completed your fervent and valorous pursuit of strictest asceticism;

for, having spiritually joined yourself to the desert places,

you trampled underfoot the burning, fiery quivers of the demons;

and, having gained the upper hand in every virtue,

you dwell with the Angels in the Kingdom of the Heavens.//

Therefore intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls!

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

**Tone 5**

O venerable Father Anthony,

having heard the words of the Gospel of the Lord,

you abandoned the world, counting riches and glory as nothing.

Therefore, you cried out to all:

“Love God and you will find eternal grace;

set nothing higher than His love,

so that when He comes in His glory you may find rest with all the saints!”//

By his supplications, O Christ, protect and save our souls!

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

**Tone 5** *(Theotokion)*

We bless you, O Virgin Theotokos,//

for from you arose the Son of Righteousness, Christ, Who has

great mercy.

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**Aposticha**

**Tone 5** *(Rejoice)*

Rejoice, O Anthony,

companion of the Angelic choirs in the highest,

for you truly learned their virtue, O blessed saint!

You lived on earth and appeared as a clear and undefiled image,

like a mirror that reflected the brilliant lights of the Holy Spirit.

You were enlightened and beheld what was to come:

taught by the divine manifestations of the light of Christ, you foretold all

things.//

Entreat Him to grant our souls great mercy!

*v. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. (Ps 115/116:15)*

Rejoice, O leader of ascetics and their undefeated champion!

For, cutting out the roots of the passions and opposing the attempts of

 devils,

you bravely laid bare their weakness and soul-destroying error.

You displayed the invincible power and might of the Savior's Cross.

Girded with it, you defeated all who reject the divine appearance of Christ

in the flesh.//

Entreat Him to grant our souls great mercy!

*v. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in His commandments. (Ps 111/112:1)*

Strengthened as a shining pillar of virtues,

you were an overshadowing cloud,

leading those in the desert from earth to heaven.

Thus, you were a seer of God.

With the staff of the Cross, you destroyed the sea of the passions,

and having defeated the reasoning of Amalek,

you found the way into heaven and an incorruptible inheritance,

O Blessed One of God.

Rejoicing, you stand with the Angels beside the throne of Christ.//

Entreat Him to grant our souls great mercy!

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

 **Tone 8**

We honor you, O Anthony our father,

the instructor of a multitude of monks.

We have indeed learned to walk rightly in your footsteps!

You are blest, for having labored for Christ,

you denounced the power of the Enemy.

You were a converser with the Angels and a companion of Paul of

Thebes.//

Together with them, entreat the Lord that He may grant mercy to our

souls!

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

**Tone 8** *(Theotokion)*

Unwedded Virgin,

you ineffably conceived God in the flesh.

O Mother of God most high,

accept the cries of your servants, O blameless one!

Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//

Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

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***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 4** **Troparion**

You imitated the ways of zealous Elijah,

and followed the straight path of John the Baptist.

You became a desert dweller

and strengthened the world by your prayers.//

Father Anthony, intercede with Christ God that our souls 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 4** **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

The mystery of all eternity,

unknown even by Angels,

through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:

God incarnate by union without confusion.

He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,

by which He resurrected the first-created man,//

saving our souls from death.

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***(at Vigil)***

**Tone 4** **Troparion**

You imitated the ways of zealous Elijah,

and followed the straight path of John the Baptist.

You became a desert dweller

and strengthened the world by your prayers.//

Father Anthony, intercede with Christ God that our souls may be saved!

 *(twice)*

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

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

**Tone 4 Troparion to the Theotokos**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos,

Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you!

Blessed are you among women,

and blessed is the Fruit of your womb,//

for you have borne the Savior of our souls.

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 ***at the Divine Liturgy)***

**Tone 4** **Troparion**

You imitated the ways of zealous Elijah,

and followed the straight path of John the Baptist.

You became a desert dweller

and strengthened the world by your prayers.//

Father Anthony, intercede with Christ God that our souls may be saved!

 **Tone 2** **Kontakion**

You rejected the tumult of this life

and lived your life to the end in solitude, imitating the Baptist in every

 way.

With him we honor you, most venerable Anthony,//

foundation of the Fathers.

**Tone 7** **Prokeimenon**

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. *(Ps 115/116:15)*

*v: What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me? (Ps 115?116:12)*

**Epistle**

 Hebrews 13:17-21 *(St Anthony)*

 **Tone 6**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. (Ps 111/112:1)*

*v. His seed shall be mighty in the land. (Ps 111/112:2)*

**Gospel**

 Luke 6:17-23 *(St Anthony)*

**Communion Hymn**

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

tidings. *(Ps 111/112:6b-7a)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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), Archimandrite Juvenaly, Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.a