**MARCH 12**

**Thursday of the Second Week of Great Lent**

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (sung on Wednesday)**

**Venerable Theophanes the Confessor of Sigriane (818)**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 1**

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!*

**Tone 1 Idiomelon** *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Let us keep a spiritual fast, O brothers!

Let us speak no lies or deceit with our tongue!

Let us not give each other cause for stumbling,

but by repentance let the lamp of our soul shine brightly!//

Forgive us our sins in Your love for mankind!

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

(Repeat: “Let us keep a spiritual fast, O brothers…”)

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

**Tone 1** *(to the Martyrs)*

O Martyrs, truly worthy of praise,

although you were dishonored on earth,

the heavens received you.

The gates of Paradise opened to you,

and now you enjoy the Tree of Life.//

Entreat Christ to grant us peace and His great mercy!

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

**Tone 3** *(from the Triodion, by Joseph) (Great is the power of Your Cross)*

Through the prayers of Your divine Apostles, O Lord,

grant us to spend this time of fasting with compunction of heart,//

that being saved we may glorify You, O compassionate One!

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

Great and awesome is Your coming, O Lord,

when You will sit in righteous judgment.

Despite my guilt, do not condemn me, O God,//

but by the prayers of Your Apostles, spare me!

*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.*

**Tone 6** *(from the Triodion, by Theodore) (Having placed all their hope)*

O Apostles of Christ,

lights for those born on earth,

rich treasuries of the knowledge of God,

by your holy prayers deliver from temptations us, who praise you.

Guide us safely through the course of the Fast,

and keep our lives in peace,

so that we may reach Christ’s Passion unharmed//

and with boldness offer hymns of praise to our God!

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

**Tone 8** *(for Ven. Theophanes) (O most glorious wonder)*

O godly-minded Father Theophanes,

named for the Theophany of Christ,

you followed in His life-bearing footsteps.

Forsaking all the delights of life,

you contemplated the beauty for which you desired.

You were deified in excellent perfection by divine inclination to Him,//

O most wonderful saint.

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

(Repeat “O godly-minded Father Theophanes, named for the Theophany…”)

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

O godly-minded Father Theophanes,

you were steadfast in afflictions of the flesh.

With patience you endured bitter exile for the sake of the precious icons,

taking no pity on your body, O all-praiseworthy saint.

You were banished by the wrath of lions whose counsels you disdained,//

convicting the folly of their arguments as foolish and senseless.

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

O godly-minded Father Theophanes,

the Bestower of good things has indeed abundantly granted to you

rewards for your pains and labors.
He has bestowed on you the power, O thrice-blessed saint,

to drive out demons and to heal infirmities;

He counted you worthy of inexpressible joy,

where the ranks of Angles sing in chorus,//

and where you ever behold the face of the Almighty.

*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)*

Rejoice, O resting place of the divine Light,

brightest star, and veil of sanctification!

You shine forth the Light Who illumines us from your all-pure womb.

You enlighten the ends of the world with your own grace.

Rejoice, O most pure Virgin, source of salvation;//

rejoice, awesome report and word to those who hope in you!

**Tone 6 Prokeimenon**

Be glad in the Lord, / and rejoice, O you righteous! *(Ps 31/32:11)*

*v: Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven. (Ps 31/32:1)*

**Reading from Genesis (4:16-26)**

**Tone 1 Prokeimenon**

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on You! *(Ps 32/33:22)*

*v: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! (Ps 32/33:1)*

**Reading from Proverbs (5:15-6:3)**

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

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.