**DECEMBER 5**

**Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified**

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

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 5** *(O venerable father)*

O divinely wise Sabbas,

you stand together with the Angels and dwell with the holy monks;

you converse with the Prophets

and are a co-inheritor of the Kingdom with the Martyrs and Apostles.

You dwell in the Light that knows no evening

and shine with His divine light and intense desire.

You stand before Him with boldness and unceasing enlightenment,

delighting in His beauties.

Entreat Christ, O holy Father,//

and implore Him to grant to the Church unity, peace and great mercy!

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

(Repeat: “O divinely-wise Sabbas, you stand…”)

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

(Repeat: “O divinely-wise Sabbas, you stand…”)

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.*

O divinely wise Sabbas,

you are an unquenchable lamp of abstinence,

a radiant beacon for monastics, illumined with rays of love.

You are an unshaken tower of patient endurance,

the support and strength of those who honor you with faith,

a treasury of healings and true dweller in the desert,

which you showed to be the Paradise of God bearing the divine fruit of

salvation.

Entreat Christ, O holy Father,//

and implore Him to grant to the Church unity, peace and great mercy!

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

(Repeat: “O divinely-wise Sabbas, you are an unshakable…”)

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 divinely-wise Sabbas, you are an unshakable…”)

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

O divinely wise Sabbas,

you are a fiery pillar of the virtues,

a beacon guiding men from the sea of life to the harbor of God.

As a pure dwelling of the Holy Spirit, you cast down the spirits of

deception.

You are an instructor of monastics,

a sure measure of abstinence,

a height of humility visible to all,

and a fountain pouring forth a depth of healing.

Entreat Christ, O venerable one,//

and implore Him to grant to the Church unity, peace and great mercy!

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

(Repeat: “O divinely-wise Sabbas, you are a fiery…”)

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

**Tone 6**

You set your mind as master over the deadly passions,

keeping the image unharmed through the ascetic life.

Thus you rose into the perfect likeness,

for, bravely curbing nature, you hastened to subjéct to that which is better:

and made 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 come to you,

a perfect example of virtue.

Now the shadows have been set aside, O Sabbas,

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 8**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven, because of His love for man,

appeared on earth and dwelt with men.

He took flesh from the pure Virgin

and after assuming it, He came forth from her.

The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.

Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,

we confess Christ our God!//

Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

 **Old Testament Readings**

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

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

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

**Litya**

*(If the rector desires the Litya, following the sticheron to the Patron Saint of the Temple,*

*these stichera are sung)*

 **Tone 2** *(Idiomela)*

O Venerable Sabbas,

on earth you established ascetic discipline.

You blunted all the attacks of the passions with the flow of your tears.

Divine and honored ladder leading to heaven,

your God-pleasing life has been made known to all,

for through it you manifested the fruits of piety.

By it you heal the weaknesses of the passions of those who cry out to you

with faith:

“Rejoice, O most golden star of the east;

enlightener and shepherd of monastics!

Rejoice, O ever-praised one,

good and splendid nourishment of the desert and unshaken support of

 the Church!

Rejoice, great guide of those who are led astray!//

Rejoice, for you are our boast and the radiant joy of the inhabited earth!”

Let us honor Sabbas,

an earthly angel and a heavenly man of God,

the blameless adornment of the world,

the delight of the pious, the boast and glory of those who fast!

He was planted in the house of God

and flourished in righteousness like a cedar in the desert.

He increased Christ's flock of rational sheep//

in holiness and righteousness.

O holy Father,

from your birth you were trained in virtue,

becoming an instrument of the Holy Spirit.

From God you received performance of miracles,

and persuaded peoples to despise the pleasures of this life.

Now, being illumined with the Divine Light,//

enlighten also our minds, O Father Sabbas!

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

 **Tone 2** *(by Theophanes)*

You received a desire for the good things past understanding,

and you turned from all the things of pleasure in the world.

As a person well-pleasing to God you were not trapped by the fruit, as

was Adam.

You drove the serpent away with abstinence;

you lived an angelic life,

and now you dwell in the heavens, nourished by the Tree of Life.//

Sanctified Sabbas, entreat God on behalf of us who faithfully celebrate

your memory!

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

**Tone 2** *(Theotokion)*

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!

Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,

who carried in her arms her Creator?

This birth is the will of God!

Since you carried Him as an infant in your arms, O most pure one,

and since you possess motherly boldness before Him,

do not cease praying for us who honor you,//

that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

**Aposticha**

**Tone 5** *(Automelon)*

Rejoice, truly precious vessel of the fragrance of ascetic struggles,

as you took your cross upon your shoulder and offered yourself to Christ

the Master!

Blessed Father, you trampled the base presumption of the flesh,

enlightening your soul with virtues

and taking flight towards desire for God.

Now as we stand around your most holy shrine, O all-blessed Sabbas,

we ask that by your prayers we may receive God’s love for mankind,//

and that the world be granted great mercy.

V. *Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. (Ps. 115:6)*

O God-bearing Sabbas,

in your godly wisdom, O venerable Father,

you approached the fire of the Spirit,

revealing yourself in the world as a divinely glowing ember,

enlightening the souls of those who faithfully come to you

and leading them to the unfading light.

Moistened from on high with the dew of divine grace,

you quenched the burning fire of the desert.

Therefore, Christ, the Lord of divine righteousness,

has openly granted you a crown of victory, O blessed one.//

Entreat Him to grant our souls great mercy!

V. *Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; who greatly delights in His commandments. (Ps. 111:1)*

O divinely wise Sabbas,

your life was manifested as a ladder,

spanning the gulf between earth and the heavens.

You ascended the heights and were counted worthy to converse with

Christ the Master;

having enlightened your mind with this radiance, O most blessed one,

you received a splendor equal to that of the Angels.

Now as you stand before Him, O venerable one,

pray that we who celebrate your divine and most holy memory may stand

with you,//

and that He will grant the world great mercy!

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

**Tone 8**

We honor you, O Sabbas our father,

as the instructor of a multitude of monks.

We have indeed learned to walk rightly in your footsteps.

Blessed are you, for having labored for Christ,

you denounced the power of the enemy.

You were a converser with the Angels and a companion of

the venerable and righteous.//

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

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

**Tone 8** *(Theotokion)*

O unwedded Virgin,

who 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!

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 8** **Troparion**

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,

and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.

By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe.//

Our Father Sabbas, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

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

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

**Tone 8** **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

For our sake You were born of the Virgin

and endured crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death.

Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of Your hand!

Reveal Your love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the Theotokos praying

for us,//

and save the despairing people, O our Savior!

***(at Vigil)***

**Tone 8** **Troparion**

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,

and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.

By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe.//

Our Father Sabbas, pray to Christ God to save our souls! *(twice)*

**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. *(once)*

***(at the Divine Liturgy)***

**Tone 8** **Troparion**

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,

and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.

By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe.//

Our Father Sabbas, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

 **Tone 8** **Kontakion**

From your youth you offered yourself to God as a blameless sacrifice,

having been dedicated to Him before your birth, O blessed Sabbas.

You were an adornment of the righteous and a praiseworthy citizen of the

desert.//

Therefore, we cry to you: “Rejoice, O ever-glorious Father!”

**Tone 7** **Prokeimenon**

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. *(Ps. 115:6)*

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

**Epistle**

 (213) Galatians 5:22-6:2 *(Ven. Sabbas)*

**Tone 6**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

V. *His seed shall be mighty in the land. (Ps. 111:2a)*

 **Gospel**

 (43) Matthew 11:27-30 *(Ven. Sabbas)*

**Communion Hymn**

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

tidings. *(Ps. 111:6)*

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.