Stichera on “Lord, I Call”
Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ - Second Sunday before Nativity

To-day, as we celebrate the Forefathers’ memory, let us the faithful praise Christ the Redeemer, Who magnified them in all the nations! He is the Lord Who does wondrous deeds, for He is powerful and mighty! Through them He has shown...
us the rod of His strength: she is Mary, the only pure and Virgin Maid-en of God. From her Christ blos-somed, // bringing forth life, eternal salvation and un-end-ing bliss for all.

Sticheron 2

Master, You delivered the Holy Youths from the fire, and Daniel from the mouths of li-ons; You blessed Abraham, Isaac,
Your servant, and Jacob, his son; You consented to become like us by being born of their seed, to be crucified and buried, in order to save our Forefathers, who fell of old. Thus You crushed the bonds of death and raised with Yourself all the dead of ages past, // who worship You, O Christ, King of the ages.
Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

Walking amidst the flames as in a gentle shower of rain,

the Godly Youths exulted in the dew of the Spirit.

By this they mystically prefigured the Trinity and Christ’s incarnation.

Wise through faith, they quenched the power of fire. So also the

righteous Daniel stopped the mouths of lions. Through their
intercessions we beseech you, O Savior, the Lover of mankind:

“Deliver us from the unquenchable and eternal fire, and make us worthy

of Your heavenly Kingdom!”

Standing in a furnace of flaming fire as though in dew,

the Holy Youths mystically prefigured Your coming from a Virgin,
by which we are illuminated but not consumed. So also the righteous Daniel, glorious among the Prophets, clearly revealed Your divine second coming when he cried out: “I saw thrones set up, and the Judge was seated, and the river of fire flowed before Him.”

By their intercessions save us from this fire, Christ our...
Master!