**MARCH 31**

**Fifth Monday of Great Lent**

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

**Vespers (sung on Sunday)**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 3**

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 3[[1]](#footnote-1)** *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Joseph) (Great is the power)*

In this season of abstinence, O believers,

let us exert every effort,

that we may attain great glory, escaping the fire of hell,//

by the mercy of God, the great King!

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

(Repeat: “In this season of abstinence…”)

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

Having passed the middle point of this holy Fast,

let us clearly show forth the beginning of divine glory!

Let us fervently hasten to the achievement of good behavior,//

that we may receive the eternal joy!

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

**Tone 7** *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Theodore)*

Having passed beyond the middle point of this holy Fast,

let us strive to its end, rejoicing with steadfastness!

Let us anoint ourselves with the oil of charity,

that we may be worthy to adore the noble Passion of Christ our God,//

and attain His most honored and holy Resurrection!

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

**Tone 2[[2]](#footnote-2)** *(from the Menaion, for St. Innocent)*

O Holy Father Innocent,

like the Apostles long ago,

thou didst accept the Lord’s command to baptize all peoples in His name;

thou didst leave thy homeland to proclaim His truth

to an island people sitting in darkness.//

With them lead us down the path to the Kingdom of Heaven!

V. (5) *For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Like the betrothed of the Theotokos,

thou didst work with thy hands in humility;

and through thee, like Constantine, churches blossomed throughout the land,

built for the feeding of the flock//

that thou didst gather and lead into the Kingdom of Heaven.

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

Like the Holy Brothers[[3]](#footnote-3) from Thessalonica,

who brought illumination to thy forefathers,

thou didst labor to bring this same inheritance

to untaught peoples placed in thy care;

that, worshipping the One True God in words of many tongues,//

they might, by the Word, be led into the Kingdom of Heaven.

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

**Tone 2** *(from the Menaion, for St. Innocent)**(With what crowns)*

With what crowns of praise shall we adorn the wise Apostle of our land?

With the radiant Gospel of salvation he came bodily to enlighten an island people,

who sat in darkness and ignorance;

by planting there the Orthodox Faith,//

he brought to them great mercy from Christ our God.

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

With what songs of praise shall we now bless Innocent, our Teacher wise in God?

As the first archpastor to rule our land,

by word and deed he taught us the way we must go

to attain the glorious Kingdom, won and promised to us by Christ,//

from Whom we have great mercy.

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

With what songs of virtue shall we exalt our Father Innocent?

By his word he brought heathen worship to an end

in the distant reaches of Alaska and Siberia.

Then, like the Holy Apostle Paul before him,

bound in chains of obedience to the will of God,

he brought comfort to believers in the ancient capital,

who through his prayers and exhortations//

receive great mercy from Christ our God.

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

**Tone 2** *(from the Menaion, for St. Innocent)*

Truly the Lord guided thee along paths of many labors,

through many lands, to many peoples,

to enlighten a multitude of hearts,

and to guide and counsel an army of souls//

down the narrow path that alone leads into the Kingdom of Heaven.

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

**Tone 2**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;

as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,

so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.

The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.//

Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

**Tone 8 Great Prokeimenon**

Turn not away Thy face from Thy child, for I am afflicted: / hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it! *(Ps. 68:21-22a)*

V. *Let Thy salvation, O God, uphold me!* *(Ps. 68:34b)*

V. *Let the poor see and be glad! (Ps. 68:37a)*

V. *Seek God, and thy soul shall live! (Ps. 68:37b)*

 **Old Testament Readings** *(St. Innocent)*

 **Composite 2** *(Proverbs 10:7,6; 3:13-16; 8:6,32,4,12,14,17,5-9; 1:23)*

 **Composite 3** *(Wisdom 4:7, 16, 17, 119; 20:5-7)*

 **Composite 4** *(Prov. 10:11; Wisdom 6:12-16; 7:30; 8:2-4, 7-9, 21; 9:1-4, 10, 11, 14)*

**Aposticha**

**Tone 7** *Idiomelon (from the Lenten Triodion)*

The Savior Who planted the vineyard and called the laborers is near indeed.

Come, therefore, O workers in the Fast:

let us receive our wages, for the Giver is rich and merciful!//

Even if we have labored little we receive great mercy.

V. *To Thee I lift up mine eyes, O Thou Who art enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps 122:1-2)*

**Tone 6** *Idiomelon**(from the Lenten Triodion, by Stephen)*

When Adam fell among the robbers of thought,

he was robbed of his mind;

his soul was wounded, and he was cast out naked and without any aid.

The priest who came before the Law did not listen to him.

The Levite who came after the Law had no compassion on him:

only Thou, O God, Who camest not from Samaria but from the Theotokos!//

O Lord, glory to Thee!

V. *Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122:3-4)*

**Tone 6** *(for the Martyrs)*

Thy martyrs, O Lord,

did not deny Thee,

nor did they forsake Thy commandments.//

By their intercessions, have mercy on us!

*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,

found grace and deliverance.//

With him now intercede for our souls!

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

**Tone 6** *(Theotokion)*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,

was born of thee, O most pure Virgin.

By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.

Unceasingly we magnify thee as the Mother of God!

Rejoice, O celestial Joy!

Rejoice, O Lady://

the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 4** **Troparion[[4]](#footnote-4)** *(St. Innocent)*

O Holy Father Innocent,

in obedience to the will of God,

thou didst accept dangers and tribulations,

bringing many peoples to the knowledge of truth.

Thou didst show us the way;

now by thy prayers help lead us//

into the Kingdom of Heaven!

*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 thee, O 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.

***[Alternate Troparion]***

**Tone 2** **Troparion** *(St. Innocent)*

Thou didst evangelize the Northern people of America and Asia,

proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to the natives in their own tongues,

O Holy Hierarch, Father Innocent,

Enlightener of Alaska and All America, whose ways were ordered by the

Lord.//

Pray to Him for the salvation of our souls in His Heavenly Kingdom!

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

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

**Tone 2** **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

All beyond thought, all most glorious,

are thy mysteries, O Theotokos.

Sealed in purity, preserved in virginity,

thou wast revealed to be the true Mother who gavest birth to the True God.//

Entreat Him to save our souls.

*Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.*

1. Music for the stichera from the Lenten Triodion can be downloaded at <http://oca.org/liturgics/music-downloads/lenten-triodion>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Sts. Cyril and Methodius [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. An alternate troparion and the corresponding Theotokion are presented below. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)