

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

TONE 4

Cheesefare Sunday (Forgiveness Sunday) – The Expulsion of Adam from Paradise, Repose of St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn

"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. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

Tone 4 *(for the Resurrection)*

We glorify Your Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,
by always honoring Your life-creating Cross;
by it, You have renewed the corrupted nature of man,
O almighty One.
By it, You have renewed our entrance to heaven,//
for You are good and the Lover of man.

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

You loosed the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Savior,
by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.
By descending to hell, O almighty God,
You broke the bonds of death.
Therefore, we adore Your Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://
"Glory to You, O all powerful Lord!"

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

You smashed the gates of hell, O Lord,
and by Your death You demolished the kingdom of death.
You delivered the race of men from corruption,//
granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

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

Tone 2 *(for St. Raphael) (Joseph of Arimathea)*

Let all the choirs of Orthodox Christians in America
sing hymns in honor of the holy Bishop Raphael!
By birth an Arab, nourished by streams of Greek theology,
he was consecrated by the Church of Russia, which had adopted us all.
True to his name, he brings God's healing to us//
as we celebrate his holy memory.

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

As the Archangel Raphael guided Tobit in a foreign land long ago,
Bishop Raphael kept his flock on the true path in a land far from their homes.
Always imitating the Good Shepherd,
he fed his many sheep from a table that the Lord prepared in the presence of
their enemies.
So now, as we are fed by his teaching and example//
we pray that he continue to intercede for us with Christ our God.

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.

Let us sing hymns of praise to the holy Bishop Raphael,
who shone forth from Brooklyn and enlightened those in darkness!
To those who were wounded by sin, he brought healing in Christ;
to those who were deceived, he brought the truth of the Orthodox Faith;
he gathered his scattered sheep safely into the fold of the Church.//
Therefore we praise him as a worthy bishop and a citizen of Heaven.

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

Tone 6* *(from the Lenten Triodion)* *(Having placed all their hope)*

The Lord took a handful of dust from the earth.
He breathed into it and created me, a living man.
He made me lord and master of all things on earth;
truly I enjoyed the life of the angels.
But Satan the deceiver tempted me in the guise of a serpent;
I ate the forbidden fruit and forfeited the glory of God.
Now I have been delivered to the earth through death.//
O my compassionate Lord, call me back to Eden!

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

When the Enemy tempted me,
I disobeyed Your command, O Lord.
I exchanged the glory of my mortal body for shame and nakedness.
Now I must wear garments of skins and fig-leaves;
I am condemned to eat the bread of bitter hardship by the sweat of my brow.
The earth is cursed and brings forth thorns and husks for me.
O Lord, You took on flesh from the Virgin in the fullness of time;//
call me back and restore me to Eden!

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

O Paradise, garden of delight and beauty,
dwelling-place made perfect by God,
unending gladness and eternal joy,
the hope of the prophets and the home of the saints,
by the music of your rustling leaves beseech the Creator of all
to open the gates which my sins have closed,
that I may partake of the Tree of Life and Grace//
which was given to me in the beginning!

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

* Music for the Sunday of the Expulsion of Adam from Paradise from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org.

Adam was exiled from Paradise through disobedience;
he was driven from eternal bliss, deceived by the words of Eve;
he sat naked and weeping before the gates of Paradise.
Let us hasten to enter the season of fasting;
let us carefully obey the Gospel commands,
that we may be made acceptable to Christ our God, //
and regain our home in Eden!

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

Tone 6 *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Adam sat before the gates of Eden,
bemoaning his nakedness and crying out:
“Woe to me! I have listened to wicked deceit;
I have lost my glory, and now am driven away!
Woe to me! My open-mindedness hath left me naked and confused!
No longer will I enjoy your delights, O Paradise;
no longer can I see my Lord, my God and Creator.
He formed me from dust, and now to the dust I return!
I beg You, O compassionate Lord: //
Have mercy on me who have fallen!”

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

Tone 4 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord
through you, O Virgin.
He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in you:
“At Your right hand stood the Queen,”
Your Mother, the mediatrix of life,
since God was freely born of her without a father.
He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder
and brought it to His Father,
joining it to the heavenly pow’rs. //
Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

Old Testament Readings

Composite 2 *(selections from Proverbs 10, 3, 8)*

Proverbs 10:31-11:12

Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15

Aposticha

Tone 4 (for the Resurrection)

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,
You have annulled our ancestral curse.
By descending to hell, You have freed the eternal prisoners,
granting incorruption to the human race.//
Therefore in songs we glorify Your life-creating and saving Resurrection.

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,
You shook all of creation.
By being laid in the tomb You have raised those who dwelt in the tombs,
granting life and incorruption to the human race.//
Therefore in songs we glorify Your rising on the third day.

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

The lawless people, O Christ,
handed You over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,
thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.
But voluntarily You endured burial,
rising by Your own power on the third day as God,//
granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

V. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

With tears the women reached Your tomb,
searching for You, but not finding You.
They wept with wailing and lamented:
“Woe to us! Our Savior, King of all,
how were You stolen?
What place can hold Your life-bearing body?”
An Angel replied to them:
“Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen,//
granting us joy as the only compassionate One!”

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

Tone 4 *(for St. Raphael)*

Today a great festival shines like a sun over all the world,
as we celebrate the memory of the holy Bishop Raphael,
apostle to the lost sheep of North America.

Let us rejoice on this festive day and cry out unto him:

“Hail, new Moses, who lead your people to the Promised Land!

Hail, new Elijah, who bequeathed a double portion of your spirit to us!

Hail, new Ezra, who built a temple of God in our midst!

Hail, new apostle of Christ our God, drawing us closer to Him!

As you stand among the saints before the throne of God, //
never cease to intercede for us who honor you!”

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

Tone 6 *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Adam ate the forbidden fruit and was driven from Paradise.

He sat outside, weeping bitterly:

“Woe to me! What will become of me, a worthless man?

I disobeyed one command of my Master and lost every good thing!

O holy Paradise, planted for me by God, and closed by the weakness of Eve,
grant that I may once again gaze on the flowers of your gardens!”

The Savior said to him:

“I do not wish the death of My creation!

I desire that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, //
for him who comes to Me I shall never cast out!”

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 4 **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ God is risen, //

granting the world great mercy!”

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

Tone 1 Troparion (*St. Raphael*)

Your proclamation has gone out through North America,
calling the scattered sheep into the unity of the Church.
Hearing your voice, they respond to your teaching,
and through your writings you instructed them in piety.
Now guided by your example, O Father Raphael,
we sing hymns of praise to Christ our God:
“Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//
Glory to Him Who, through you, grants healing to all!”

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

Tone 1 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!”
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in ^you,
the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!
Your womb became more spacious than the heavens,
for you carried your Creator.
Glory to Him Who took abode in you!
Glory to Him Who came ^forth from you!//
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 4 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

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Tone 8 Kontakion *(St. Raphael)*

You were a guardian and a defender of the Church’s teaching,
you protected your flock from false doctrines and confirmed them in the true
faith!
O holy Father Raphael, son of Syria and glory of North America,//
always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

Tone 6 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

O Master, Teacher of wisdom,
Bestower of virtue,
Who teach the thoughtless and protect the poor,
strengthen and enlighten my heart!
O Word of the Father,
let me not restrain my mouth from crying to You:
“Have mercy on me, a transgressor,//
O merciful Lord!”

Tone 8 Prokeimenon

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! *(Ps. 75:10a)*

V. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

Tone 1 Prokeimenon *(St. Raphael)*

My mouth shall speak wisdom; / the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. *(Ps. 48:3)*

Epistle

(112) Romans 13:11-14:4

(335) Hebrews 13:17-21 *(St. Raphael)*

Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. (Ps. 91:1)

V. To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night. (Ps. 91:2a)

Tone 2

V. The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment. (Ps. 36:31)

Gospel

(17) Matthew 6:14-21

(36) John 10:9-16 *(St. Raphael)*

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*

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.