

February 23rd

Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Tone 2

Special Melody: *When he took thee*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) When the blame-less Vir-gin's ho-ly Fruit and the Seed whence
all of life spring-eth had fal-len in-to thē earth,
then He shot thee forth as a most fruit-ful
ear of wheat, who didst feed with the words and deeds
of god-ly re-li-gion all his faith-ful
flock, while al-so sanc-ti-fy-ing them
with the god-ly blood of thy con-test,
cleans-ing them as well with the sweet myrrh
of thy priest-ly min-is-try, O Pol-y-carp.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of eight lines of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord markings 'G' and 'F' are placed above the staff at the beginning of the first line, above the fourth line, and above the sixth line. The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are several rests and ties throughout the piece.

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2) Glis - t'ning with the bright - ly flash - ing beams of thy ho - ly
mar - tyr - dom, thou ___ didst set from the world ___ un - to God;
and thou hast ful - filled thy long - ing since thou
hast ___ at - tained to the high - est of all de - sires
and ev - er dost rev - el in that bless - ed
bright - ness, where - of do thou now ___ en - treat
that we may be all made par - tak - ers,
as we cel - e - brate thine all - sa - cred
mem - o - ry, O blest and right - eous Pol - y - carp.

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3) When the True Vine had been lift - ed up hang - ing on the
wood of the Cross, then he put thee forth as a branch
which, on bring - ing forth much fruit, was hewn down
with the scythe of a ven - 'ra - ble mar - try - dom
and ful - ly was trod out in the vat and
wine - press of most pain - ful pun - ish - ments;
hav - ing mixed the wine - bowl of glad - ness
from these things in faith, O wise Fa - ther,
we all glo - ri - fy thy sa - cred con - tests now.