March 21st

Venerable Confessor James the New, Bishop of Catania

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Tone 2
Special Melody: When he took thee

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Fleeing from the turmoil of the world, thou didst keep thy mind in true freedom from every passion, O James;

and amidst the tempests and commotions of this life, thou didst keep it from wandering and senselessly roaming, but didst raise it up with longing to the Master on high,

looking to the heights with divine love to the Benefactor of all men,

O worthily blessed Hierarch of the Lord.
2) Since, O Father, thou didst lead a life distant from the world's troubled tumult, while being guarded by grace, thou wast made a free man from the passions' servitude; with ascetical diligence and shafts of divine light, thou didst turn back hordes of demons in defeat and shame.

Having lived the life of the Angels, with them now thou dost in gladness round about the Lord, the mighty King of all.
3) Thou didst live outside the world and flesh, heeding the invisible glory and how it far doth surpass all things seen; and thou didst bring to mind the heavenly tabernacle, O Father James, majestic and splendid, and the lofty beauty that no mind can comprehend.

Now as thou art filled with its fairness, intercede with Christ God to save us, who with faith and longing praise and honor thee.