

December 20th

Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer, bishop of Antioch

Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone 4

Special melody: *Thou who wast called from on high*

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih



1) Thou who wast wor - thi - ly sur - named The God - bear - er,
2) *Thou who with ho - ly and per - fect love wast wound - ed,*
3) With Christ wast thou cru - ci - fied, O blest Ig - na - tius,



when the Mas - ter, in His mer - cy, took thee in His arms
when that burn - ing love in - flamed thy great and ar - dent soul
when thou didst cry out those fa - mous words in - spired of God:



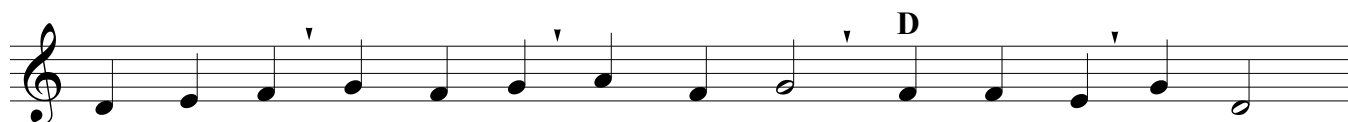
and man - i - fest - ly showed un - to thee the loft - y doc - trines
and pressed thee for - ward, to go thy way un - to the Mas - ter,
My Love is cru - ci - fied, where - fore I make haste with ar - dor



of the most high and sub - lime phi - los - o - phy,
O sa - cred Fa - ther, Ig - na - tius graced of God,
that I might al - so share in His suf - fer - ings.



then didst thou re - ceive that beam - ing splen - dor in thy - self,
then didst thou cry out those cel - e - brat - ed words of thine:
Then, O sa - cred teach - er, like the sun that is - su - eth



whose riv - ers, thou, like a sponge, didst draw deep - ly with - in thee
I am the wheat of my Fash - ion - er, and must be ful - ly
out of thē East to the farth - est West, thou went - est for - ward,

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E

from thē a - byss of di - vine en - light - en - ment.
ground up and milled by the teeth of sav - age beasts,
 fil - ling with light ev - 'ry place that thou didst pass;

D

Hence, blest Ig - na - tius, when He called to thee,
that I may thus ap - pear as most pure bread
 and thou wast made fair with the di - a - dem

thou didst fol - low the foot - steps of Christ our God.
in the pres - ence of Je - sus the Word, our God.
 of the King - dom when of - fered up un - to Christ.

G

Do thou there - fore en - treat Him
Do thou there - fore en - treat Him
 Do thou there - fore en - treat Him

E

to en - light - en and to save our souls.
to en - light - en and to save our souls.
 to en - light - en and to save our souls.