

First Saturday in November
St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone 1
Special Melody: *What a marvelous wonder*
(Ω του παραδόξου Θαύματος)

Bishop BASIL (Essey)

O ho - ly Fa - ther Ra - pha - el, thou didst in -
- car - nate the love of Christ Je - sus from thy youth, O
son of the Church of An - ti - och sent to A - mer - i - ca.
Not be - ing con - cerned with thine own ease, thou wast A -
- pos - tle to the lost sheep of Sy - ri - a. From ho - ly
Rus - sia thou didst come, trav - ling from East to the West and from the
North to South, and didst give thy - self no re - pose, but
la - bored night and day. As thou hast bold - ness be - fore
God, in - ter - cede with Him to save our souls.

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Thou didst con - duct thine af - fairs like a good shep -
herd, trav - el - ing by land and sea. Thou didst
cross plains and moun - tains, and didst roam near and far in
search of Christ's lost sheep. To bind their wounds with thy
fa - ther - ly and Christ - like love, and car - ry them in thine arms,
59 and re - u - nite them to the ho - ly flock of
Christ, thou didst bear the heat and la - bor of day,
and the chill and length of night. As thou hast bold - ness be - fore
God, in - ter - cede with Him to save our souls.

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Or - tho - dox be - liev - ers found in thee, O good shep - herd Ra - pha - el,
sus - te - nance for their souls, and ad - mo - ni - tion for the
lost and a de - fense a - gainst their foes. Thou
didst not view thē ob - sta - cles, but kept thine eyes up - on the
prize and high call of God. While count - ing all things as naught
thou didst_ suf - fer loss in or - der to find Christ.
Of - fring up thy life_ for thy flock, thou art now_ glo - ri - fied.
As thou hast bold - ness be - fore God, in - ter - cede with Him to
save_ our_ souls.