

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*

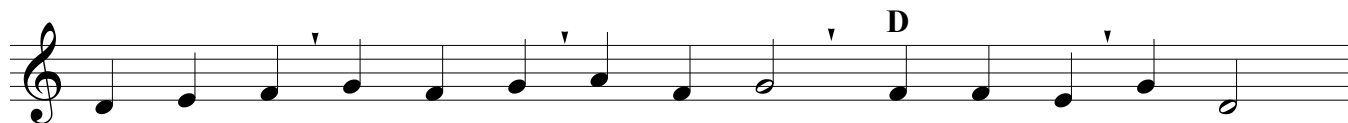
Adapted by Dn. John El Massih



1) Thou who wast wor - thi - ly sur - named The God - bear - er,



when the Mas - ter, in His mer - cy, took thee in His arms



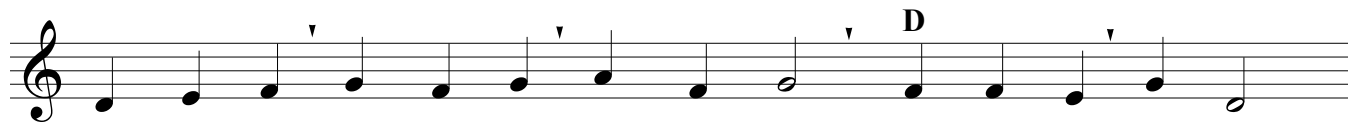
and man - i - fest - ly showed un - to thee the loft - y doc - trines



of the most high and sub - lime phi - los - o - phy,



then didst thou re - ceive that beam - ing splen - dor in thy - self,



whose riv - ers, thou, like a sponge, didst draw deep - ly with - in thee



from thē a - byss of di - vine en - light - en - ment.

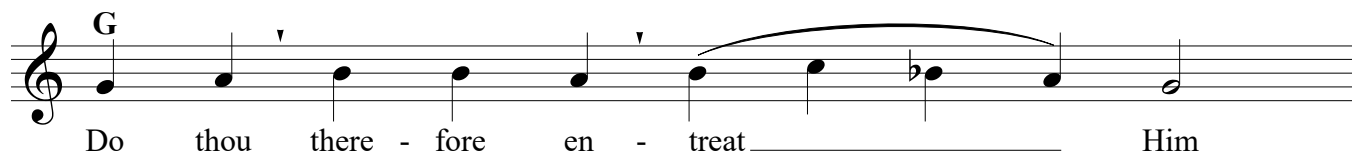


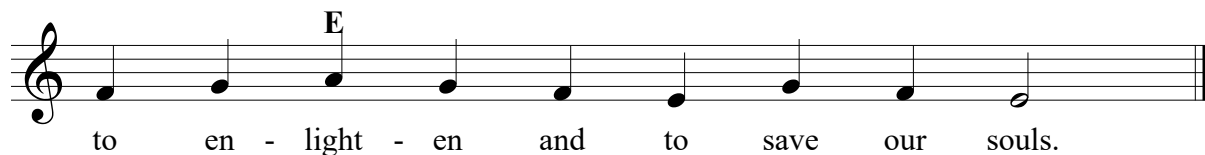
Hence, blest Ig - na - tius, when He called to thee,

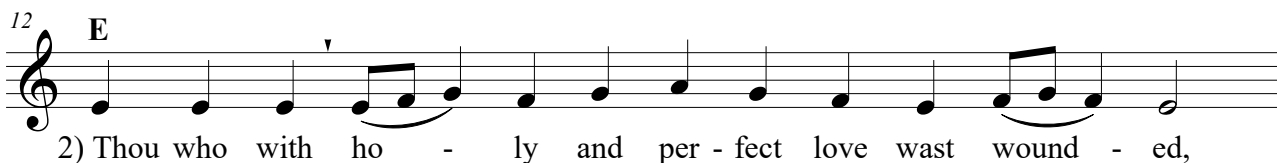


thou didst fol - low the foot - steps of Christ our God.

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G

 Do thou there - fore en - treat Him

E

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

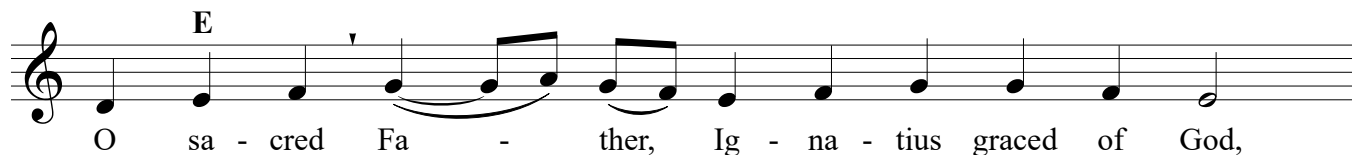
¹² E

 2) Thou who with ho - ly and per - fect love wast wound - ed,

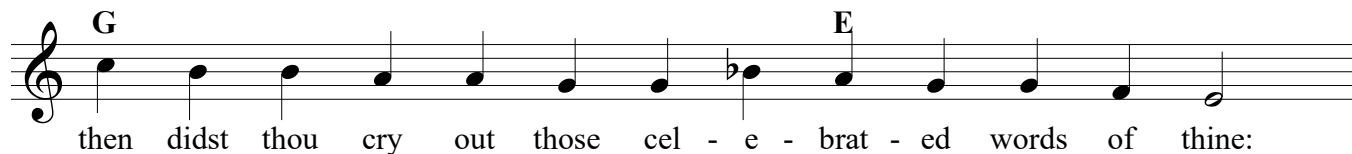
G E

 when that burn - ing love in - flamed thy great and ar - dent soul

D

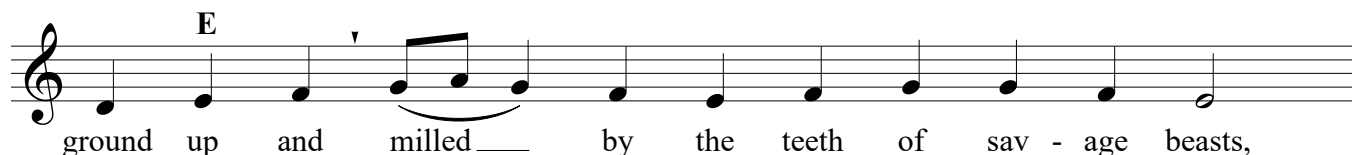
 and pressed thee for - ward, to go thy way un - to the Mas - ter,

E

 O sa - cred Fa - ther, Ig - na - tius graced of God,

G E

 then didst thou cry out those cel - e - brat - ed words of thine:

D

 I am the wheat of my Fash - ion - er, and must be ful - ly

E

 ground up and milled by the teeth of sav - age beasts,

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that I may thus appear as most pure bread
in the presence of Jesus the Word, our God.
Do thou therefore entreat Him
to enlighten and to save our souls.

23
3) With Christ wast thou crucified, O blest Ignatius,
when thou didst cry out those famous words inspired of God:
My Love is crucified, wherefore I make haste with ardor
that I might also share in His sufferings.
Then, O sacred teacher, like the sun that issueth
out of the East to the farthest West, thou wentest forward,

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E
fil - ling with light _____ ev - 'ry place that thou didst pass;

D
and thou wast made _____ fair with the di - a - dem

of the King - dom when of - fered up un - to Christ.

G
Do thou there - fore en - treat _____ Him

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