

**February 29, 2012**  
**Wednesday of the Second Week of the Great Fast**  
**Our Venerable Father Cassian**

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**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**AT PSALM 140**

*In Tone 1*

10.

O faithful, to undertake a spiritual fast,  
we must speak no deceit with our tongues  
nor place obstacles in the path of each other.  
But by repentance let us brighten the lamp of our souls,  
that with tears we may call out to Christ:  
Forgive our trespasses, for You love humankind.

9.

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we must speak no deceit with our tongues  
nor place obstacles in the path of each other.  
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that with tears we may call out to Christ:  
Forgive our trespasses, for You love humankind.

8.

O martyrs, worthy of praise,  
though the earth may not have covered you, heaven received you,  
opening to you the gates of Paradise, where you dwell,  
delighting in the Tree of Life.  
Beseech Christ to grant our souls peace and great mercy.

*In Tone 3*

7.

Through the prayers of the divine apostles, O righteous Lord,  
grant that this time of the Fast may be well spent.  
In Your kindness grant repentance to our hearts,  
that we all may be saved and give glory to You.

6.

Your coming will be great and fearful, O Lord,  
when You shall sit in just judgment.  
Do not pass sentence on me,  
for I am already condemned;  
but show Your divine favour toward me,  
through the intercession of Your apostles.

*In Tone 6*

5.

O apostles of Christ who shine your light on all mortals,  
you are the treasuries of the holy knowledge of God.  
Through your prayers deliver from temptation those who praise you.  
Guide us successfully through the course of this Fast;  
direct our lives in peace,  
so that with our eyes lifted up to the Passion of Christ,  
we may with courage give praise to our God.

4.

You wisely perceived the deception of passing things, all-glorious one,  
and even after your departure from them to the Lord,  
you have hindered those who demand to have them  
though they are not at all abiding!  
Therefore, as a wise shepherd, Cassian,  
you have passed over to a better life,  
having pleased Christ by your life and deeds!

3.

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2.

You took up your cross in childhood, glorious father,  
treading the honourable, yet hard and narrow, path with eagerness!  
You submitted to the commands of Him who called you.  
Therefore, you have received a double recompense and fitting reward:  
the heavenly kingdom of Christ  
and a place to dance in the light with all the saints, Cassian!  
Together with them, ever pray on behalf of our souls!

1.

Every virtue was a thing of wonder, divinely wise one,  
with which, at first on the earth in the flesh,  
you watched and observed silence, venerable one.  
Later you spoke out in words and deeds, in humility, meekness and innocence,  
as a prophetic and eloquent herald!  
Now that you have hastened to God, you have marvelled all the more,  
and have received the grace of healing!

*In Tone 4, Glory... Now...*

O Mother of Christ our God,  
you who gave birth to the Maker of all,  
deliver us from every danger,  
so that we may cry out to you with one accord:  
Rejoice, O only intercessor for our souls!

#### **PROKEIMENON I, TONE 8**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,\* exult, O you just!  
verse: Blessed are those whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted.

#### **READING I (Genesis 4:16-26)**

Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech. Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah. And Adah bore Jubal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah. Then Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold." And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed." And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

#### **PROKEIMENON II, TONE 1**

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us\* as we have hoped in You.  
verse: Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

**READING II (Proverbs 5:15-6:3)**

Drink water from your own cistern,  
And running water from your own well.  
Should your fountains be dispersed abroad,  
Streams of water in the streets?  
Let them be only your own,  
And not for strangers with you.  
Let your fountain be blessed,  
And rejoice with the wife of your youth.  
As a loving deer and a graceful doe,  
Let her breasts satisfy you at all times;  
And always be enraptured with her love.  
For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman,  
And be embraced in the arms of a seductress?  
For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD,  
And He ponders all his paths.  
His own iniquities entrap the wicked man,  
And he is caught in the cords of his sin.  
He shall die for lack of instruction,  
And in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.  
My son, if you become surety for your friend,  
If you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger,  
You are snared by the words of your mouth;  
You are taken by the words of your mouth.  
So do this, my son, and deliver yourself;  
For you have come into the hand of your friend:  
Go and humble yourself;  
Plead with your friend.