

## **Household Devotionals: Icons and Prayers**

Monday, December 5 - Sunday, December 11

### **Venerable Patapius of Thebes** (+8th c.)

December 8

#### Troparion of the Saint Third Tone

In following your divine calling from your youth, you shone forth upon the world with the gift of your ascetical labors. And as one made glorious by the grace of dispassion, you healed diverse passions. O Venerable Father Patapios, entreat Christ God to grant us great mercy.

### **Ambrose of Milan** (+397) December 7

#### Troparion of the Saint First Tone

Let us all honor the glorious Hierarch Ambrose, the namesake of ambrosia, the instructor of Italy, the protector of Christ's Church, and leader of Milan, a son of his diocese, and the greatest supporter of the poor, for he intercedes with the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

### **Nicholas the Wonderworker** **Archbishop of Myra** (+345)

December 6

#### Kontakion of the Saint Third Tone

You were shown forth in Myra as an officiant of the sacred rites, for you fulfilled the Gospel of Christ, O Venerable Nicholas, by laying down your life for your people, and saving the innocent from death. Therefore, you were sanctified as a great initiate of God's grace.

### **Savas the Sanctified** (+532) December 5

#### Apolytikion of the Saint Plagal of the Fourth Tone

With the streams of your tears you cultivated the barrenness of the desert; and by your sighs from the depths, you bore fruit a hundredfold in your labors. You became a luminary, shining upon the world with miracles. O our righteous Father Savva, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

### **Sunday of the Forefathers** Second Sunday Before the Nativity

#### Apolytikion of the Saint Second Tone

By faith You justified the Forefathers, when through them You betrothed Yourself beforehand to the Church of the Gentiles. The saints boast in glory, that from their seed there is a glorious fruit: she who bore You without seed. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

### **Joasaph, Bishop of Belgorod** (+1743)

December 10

#### Apolytikion of the Saint Third Tone

O Hierarch, beloved by God, you were a rule of faith and an example of mercy for the people, through vigil, fasting and prayer, you shone forth as a radiant lamp and were glorified by God. Resting with your incorrupt body, and standing before the Throne of God, you gush forth most glorious miracles.

### **Conception of St. Anna** December 9

#### Apolytikion of the Feast Fourth Tone

Today the bonds of barrenness are broken, God has heard Joachim and Anna. He has clearly promised them that beyond hope, they would bear a divine child, by whom the uncircumscribable One was born as a mortal Man, Who commanded the angel to cry to her: "Hail, O full of grace, the Lord is with you!"

### **Venerable Parthenios of Chios** (+1883)

December 8

#### Apolytikion of the Saint Plagal of the Fourth Tone

In thee, O father, the image of God was preserved, for taking up thy cross, thou didst follow after Christ; by activity thou didst learn to disdain the flesh, as something transient, but to care for thy soul as something immortal. Wherefore, with the angels thy spirit doth rejoice, O venerable Parthenios.

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