

Vespers Propers, February 3, 2008
Cheesefare Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness)

Our venerable father Isidore of Pelusium, in Egypt, priest, who, notable in his teaching, spurning the world and riches, preferred to imitate the life of John the Baptist in the desert, having taken up the monastic state, founded a monastery at Pelusium, and was held in much esteem as a theologian and a guide of souls. (c. 450)

*All page references are to **The Order of Vespers on Sunday Afternoons in the Great Fast***

Hymn

melody: Pod tvoj pokrov/We Hasten to Your Patronage



1. "For - give our sins as we for - give," You taught us, Lord, to pray,
2. In blaz - ing light Your Cross re - veals The truth we dim - ly knew:
3. As we be - gin the Fast once more, We pray You, Lord of all:



But You a - lone can grant us grace To live the words we say.
What triv - ial debts are owed to us, How great our debt to You!
Take far from us in - dif - fer - ence, De - spair, and pow - er's call.



How can Your par - don reach and bless The un - for - giv - ing heart
Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And bid re - sent - ment cease;
In - stead, be - stow in - teg - ri - ty, Hu - mil - i - ty and love;



That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
Then, bound to all in bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.
Let me not judge my neigh - bor's fault! Grant mer - cy from a - bove.

stanzas one and two: Rosamund Herklots, b. 1905; © Oxford University Press

stanza three: J. Michael Thompson

Psalm 140 and Stichera of Forgiveness, Tone 3, p. 32

Stichera of Cheesefare Sunday, p. 56

Cantor: (Tone 4) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the Venerable Father Isidore - Tone 4 samohlasen

③

Lift-ing your-self up to God by con-tem-ple-tion and the prac-tice of the vir-tues,
O bless-ed fa-ther Is-i-dore, you led a ho-ly life,
ap-proach-ing the vi-sion of God by the lad-der of your works and cher-ish-ing
the su-preme Ob-ject of all your de-sires. Now, pos-sess-ing fore-ever that which you
de-sired, you en-joy the blessed-ness and the light of the Tri-ple Ra-di-ance.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations; **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him, all you peoples!

②

O ho-ly fa-ther, by the streams of grace and the rain of your sa-cred words,
you re-fresh all the faith-ful in the Lord. Ap-proach-ing the cup of Wis-dom

from on high, you drank from it in abundance, as from a well.

By your writings, your admonishing and your teachings, you spread your radiant

doctrine everywhere, O father Isidore, worthy of our praise.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

By temperance, you mortified the arrogance of the flesh, as you clothed yourself

in the life-giving crucifixion. Expanding the dispositions of your soul, O

blessed Isidore, you have been able to receive the graces of the Holy

Spirit; and you have become a repository of divinely-inspired

doctrine, a treasury of wisdom which surpasses our understanding.

Cantor: (Tone 3) Glory...now and ever...

Theotokion - Tone 3 samohlasen



O Most Pure One, you reign over all crea-tures. By your warm intercession



and your moth-er-ly prayer, free me because I am ruled by my pas-sions



be-yond all com-pre-hen-sion. Free me that I may serve your Son and God.

The service continues on page 9.

Prokeimenon: "Hide not your face..." p. 10

Aposticha of Cheesefare Sunday, p. 59