As we the faithful celebrate today the Feast of the Memorial, let us praise Christ the Redeemer and our King, Who magnified them in the midst of all nations upon the earth, and through faith accomplished wondrous signs, performing marvels and miracles since He is powerful and strong, and Who from them hath shown unto us that rod of power and prophecy, the Child of God, who alone had no experience of man, and from whom came the Forerunner, the promised Christ, Who sprang up for all in exceeding haustible delight and our salvation to eternity.
Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
Dec. 18-24
# 5

The Paradise of Eden
Plagal of Fourth Mode

As in a gentle shower midst the flame, the children of God rejoiced as the walked about amidst the Spirit's dew, and in the flame they mystically did prefigure the Trinity and the wondrous Incarnation of Christ. Since they were wise by their faith in God, they quenched the power of the fire; and righteous Noah was also seen to muzzle the lions in the den. Since

Thou, O Friend of man, art entrusted by their prayers in our behalf to rescue us all, O Savior, from the eternal fire that cannot quench and vouchsafe that we attain unto Thy Kingdom in the Heavens, O Lord.
Sunday before the Nativity of Christ
Dec. 18-24
# 6

The Paradise of Eden
Plagal of Fourth Mode

"Hχος λ η Νη

(N)

When in the furnace of the blazing flames Thy holy and faithful youths proved to be as in a cool refreshing dew, then did they mystically portray from before that Thou wast come from a Virgin in whom Thy brightness would not burn. As for Thy coming the second time in Thy dread glory as our God, the wondrous, holy, and righteous man, great Daniel clearly hath foretold when he cried out and said: I beheld until the thrones were set in place and the judges sat for judgment, and then rushed forth the river of that fire, from the which may we be saved by their entreaties, O our Master, Christ."