

February 27

SAINT RAPHAEL BISHOP OF BROOKLYN

If the Feast falls on Wednesday or Friday of Cheesefare Week, it is transferred to Thursday of Cheesefare Week. If the Feast falls during the first week of the Great Fast, it may be transferred to Thursday of Cheesefare Week or to Saturday of the first week of the Great Fast. If the Feast falls after the first week of the Great Fast, the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts may be served in churches dedicated to the saint, or where his holy relics are preserved; otherwise, stikhera may be added to the services of the Triodion.

GREAT VESPERS

Kathisma 1 - “Blessed is the man...”

“Lord, I Call...”

Tone 2 (Special Melody: *When Arimathaias took You down from the Wood*)

Let all the choirs of Orthodox Christians in America
sing hymns in honor of the holy bishop Raphael!
By birth an Arab, nourished by streams of Greek theology,
he was consecrated by the Church of Russia, which had adopted us all.
True to his name, he brings God's healing to us
as we celebrate his holy memory.

As the Archangel Raphael guided Tobit in a foreign land long ago,
Bishop Raphael kept his flock on the true path in a land far from their homes.
Always imitating the Good Shepherd, he fed his many sheep
from a table which the Lord prepared in the presence of their enemies.
So now, nourished by his teaching and example,
we pray that he continue to intercede for us with Christ our God.

Let us sing hymns of praise to the holy bishop Raphael,
who shone forth from Brooklyn and enlightened those in darkness.
To those who were wounded by sin, he brought healing in Christ;
to those who were deceived, he brought the truth of Orthodoxy;
he gathered his scattered sheep safely into the fold of the Church.
Therefore, we praise him as a worthy bishop and a citizen of Heaven.

Tone 1 (Special Melody: *O marvelous wonder*)

Holy father Raphael, you embodied the love of Christ from your youth.
Sent to America, O son of Antioch, you were an apostle to the lost sheep of Syria.
Without concern for your own comfort, you labored night and day,
traversing the continent, never pausing to rest.
As you have boldness before Christ our God, entreat Him to save our souls.

Holy father Raphael,
You acted as a good shepherd,
searching far and near for your lost sheep.
Binding their wounds in love as their father in the Spirit,
you carried them to Christ on your own shoulders.
As you have boldness before Christ our God, entreat Him to save our souls.

In you, good shepherd Raphael
the faithful found sustenance for their souls and protection from their foes.
Keeping your eyes not on obstacles but on the prize from above,
you counted earthly gain as loss, and imitated Christ by laying down your life for
your flock.
As you have boldness before Christ our God, entreat Him to save our souls.

Glory... **Tone 6**

Your children praise you as a wise hierarch of the Church in America,
who unified the faithful from every land,
and who defended the oppressed and guarded the Faith.
You held the high and the humble in equal esteem,
treating all with Christ's own gentleness.
Now as you stand among the saints, holy father Raphael,
never cease to intercede for us with Christ our God.

Both now and ever... **Dogmatikon - Tone 6**

Who will not bless you, most holy Virgin?
Who will not sing of your most pure Child?
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,
but from you He was ineffably incarnate.
God by nature, He became man for our sake,
not divided into two persons, but manifested as one in two natures.
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,
to have mercy on our souls.

Entrance with censer

"O Gladsome Light..."

Prokeimenon of the day

Readings from the Old Testament (3)

Reading 1: The reading from Proverbs (COMPOSITE - Ch. 10, 3, 8)

The memory of the righteous is with praise and the blessing of the Lord is upon his head. Blessed is the man who has found wisdom and the mortal who has understanding, for it is better to purchase her than treasuries of gold and silver. She is more precious than precious stones and all that is precious is unworthy of her. For length of days and years of life are in her right hand; and in her left hand are riches and glory. Out of her mouth proceeds righteousness and she bears law and mercy upon her tongue.

Hear me, O child, for I will speak noble things. Blessed is the man who keeps my ways, for my ways are the ways of life, and in them is prepared favor from the Lord. Therefore, I pray you, and utter my voice to the sons of men: For I, wisdom, have dwelt with counsel and knowledge and I have called upon understanding. Counsel and safety are mine, understanding and strength are mine. I love those who love me and those seeking me shall find grace.

Understand craftiness, O you who are simple, and imbibe knowledge, you who are untaught. Hear me again, for I will speak noble things: I will open my mouth and from my lips shall come what is right. For my throat shall meditate truth; false lips are an abomination before me. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing in them that is twisted or perverse. They are all straight to him who understands and right to those who find knowledge.

I shall instruct you in truth, so that your hope will be in the Lord and you shall be filled with the Spirit.

Reading 2: The reading from Proverbs (Ch.10: 31-11: 12)

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut off. The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked, what is perverse.

A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight. When pride comes, then comes disgrace; but with the humble is wisdom. The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death. The righteousness of the blameless keeps his way straight, but the wicked falls by his own wickedness. The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the treacherous are taken captive by their lust. When the wicked dies, his hope perishes, and the expectation of the godless comes to naught. The righteous is delivered from trouble, and the wicked gets into it instead. With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor, but by knowledge the righteous are delivered. When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness. By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked. He who belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent.

Reading 3: The reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (Ch. 4: 7-15)

But the righteous man, though he die early, will be at rest. For old age is not honored for length of time, nor measured by number of years; but understanding is grey hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age. There was one who pleased God and was loved by him, and while living among sinners he was taken up. He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul. For the fascination of wickedness obscures what is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. Being perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. Yet the peoples saw and did not understand, nor take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are with his elect, and he watches over his holy ones.

Litiya

Stikheron of the Temple

and of the Saint - Tone 5

Rising in distant Syria, ascending through the land of Russia,
a bright star has appeared over the New World.
Shining with divine knowledge and radiating the love of Christ,
the luminous Raphael overcomes every deception of the Enemy.
Now crowned among the saints, he intercedes for us before the throne of God.

Glory... **Tone 5**

Enlightened by the memory of the holy Raphael,
we celebrate his sacred feast.
For, having been made divinely wise,
he draws us all into Christ's own net,
as he entreats His great mercy for our souls.

Both now and ever...Theotokion - Tone 5

We faithful Christians call you blessed, O Virgin Theotokos,
and we rightly glorify you
as our unshakable fortress and invincible rampart,
our unfailing protectress
and the refuge of our souls.

Apostikha

Tone 2 (Special Melody: *House of Ephratha*)

Holy hierarch Raphael, / who can describe your many labors?
Who can count the hardships you endured?
As a shepherd of Christ's rational flock,
pray that He preserve His Church in peace.

Verse: Let Your priests be clothed in righteousness, and let Your saints rejoice.

Holy father Raphael, / who can speak of your sorrows?
Who can recount your noble deeds?
Friend of the needy and protector of orphans,
intercede with Christ for our salvation.

*Verse: The righteous man will flourish like a palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon
will he grow.*

Glorious Raphael, great light from Antioch,
seeker of the lost children of the Church,
model for bishops in North America,
entreat Christ's great mercy for us all.

Glory... Tone 4

Today a great festival shines like the sun over all the world.
as we celebrate the memory of the holy bishop Raphael,
apostle to the lost sheep of North America.
Let us rejoice on this festive day and cry out unto him:
"Hail, new Moses, who led your people into the promised land!
Hail, new Elijah, who bequeathed a double portion of your spirit to us!
Hail, new Ezra, who built a temple of God in our midst!
Hail, new apostle of Christ our God, drawing us closer to Him!
As you stand among the saints before the throne of God,
never cease to intercede for us who honor you.

Both now and ever...Theotokion - Tone 4

Having you, O Theotokos, as our hope and protection,
we are not dismayed by the schemes of the Enemy,
for you ever intercede for our souls.

Hymn of St. Symeon

Trisagion Prayers

After "Our Father": if it is Saturday evening "Rejoice, O Virgin," is sung twice and the apolytikion (troparion) to St. Raphael once. On any other day of the week, the apolytikion to St. Raphael is sung twice followed by "Rejoice, O Virgin" once. However, if litiya is not sung, then the apolytikion to St. Raphael is sung once, followed by "Glory...both now and ever," and the theotokion as below.

Apolytikion

Tone 1

Your proclamation has gone forth throughout North America,
calling the scattered sheep into the unity of the Church.
Hearing your voice, they responded to your teaching,
and through your writings you instructed them in piety.
Now guided by your example, O father Raphael,
we sing hymns of praise to Christ our God:
Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a crown!
Glory to Him Who, through you, grants healing to all!

*Glory... Both now and ever...***Theotokion - Tone 1**

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, "Rejoice,"
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in you, O holy Ark.
As the righteous David said,
your womb became more spacious than the heavens,
bearing your Creator.
Glory to Him Who took abode in you.
Glory to Him Who came from you.
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you.

And the rest of Vespers.

MATINS

“God is the Lord...”

Apolytikion - Tone 1

Your proclamation has gone forth throughout North America,
calling the scattered sheep into the unity of the Church.
Hearing your voice, they responded to your teaching,
and through your writings you instructed them in piety.
Now guided by your example, O father Raphael,
we sing hymns of praise to Christ our God:
Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a crown!
Glory to Him Who, through you, grants healing to all!

Glory...

Your proclamation has gone forth...

***Both now and ever...* Theotokion - Tone 1**

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, “Rejoice,”
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in you, O holy Ark.
As the righteous David said,
your womb became more spacious than the heavens,
bearing your Creator.
Glory to Him Who took abode in you.
Glory to Him Who came from you.
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you.

First Stikhologion

Kathisma - Tone 1 (Special Melody: *The soldiers keeping watch*)

O father Raphael, worthy of all praise,
you showed yourself to be a faithful servant of the Master
when you answered His call to preach in foreign lands.
You tended the flock which Christ had entrusted to you,
and while living in this world you became a citizen of Heaven.
Therefore we honor you as a shepherd of souls and a teacher of righteousness.

Glory... Both now and ever...

O pure unwedded Virgin Theotokos,
the only intercessor and protection of the faithful:
Deliver those who trust in you from affliction and calamity,
and through your holy intercessions, save our souls.

Second Stikhologion

Kathisma - Tone 3 (Special Melody: *Awed by the beauty*)

From your youth you denied yourself and took up your cross;
ever following our Savior, nothing could separate you from the love of Christ.
Having died to the world, you found a new life of grace with the Lord.
Since you have found favor with God,
we entreat you to intercede with Him
for the salvation of our souls.

Glory... Both now and ever...Tone 3

Awed by the beauty of your virginity
and the exceeding radiance of your purity,
Gabriel stood amazed and cried to you, O Theotokos:
What praise may I offer you that is worthy of your beauty?
By what name shall I call you?
I am lost and bewildered;
but I shall greet you as I was commanded,
'Hail, you who are full of grace!

Polyeleos

Magnification

We magnify you,
hierarch and father Raphael,
and we honor your holy memory,
for you pray to Christ our God for us

Verse: Hear this, all nations, give ear, all you that dwell upon the earth.

Kathisma - tone 1 (Special Melody: *Let the angelic choir*)

Let the angelic choir
Together with the faithful who have gathered today
Honor with spiritual songs
Your blessed memory, holy hierarch Raphael.
Though far from your earthly homeland of Syria,
You chose to build up Christ's undivided Body in the New World.
Now you dwell in the heavenly Kingdom.

Glory...Tone 4 (Special Melody: "You appeared today")

You have been revealed to the world as a wise archpastor,
A good shepherd of those entrusted to you.
Your flock knew your voice, holy hierarch Raphael,
For you traveled far and wide tending them with love.

Both now and ever...

You have been revealed to the world as a mighty refuge
And a guardian of those who place their trust in you.
We run to your protection, O Pure Theotokos,
As children running to their mother's embrace.

Hymn of degrees: first antiphon - Tone 4 ("From my Youth")

Prokeimenon - Tone 4

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

Verse: *What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has rendered to me?*

GOSPEL: John 10: 1-9

Festal Stikheron - Tone 5

Rising in distant Syria, ascending through the land of Russia,
a bright star has appeared over the New World.
Shining with divine knowledge and radiating the love of Christ,
the luminous Raphael overcomes every deception of the Enemy.
Now crowned among the saints, he intercedes for us before the throne of God.

CANON - Tone 6

Ode 1

HEIRMOS: When Israel passed on foot over the sea as if it were dry land, and beheld their pursuer Pharaoh drowning in the sea, they cried aloud to God: Let us sing a song of victory.

Refrain: *Holy hierarch father Raphael, pray to God for us.*

Free my mind from worldly cares, O Lord, enlighten me with the light of wisdom.
Grant me boldness of speech, O Word, that I might praise Your servant Raphael.

We entreat You, most merciful God, to grant us Your heavenly blessings, the forgiveness of our sins, and everlasting life, through the prayers of Your servant Raphael.

The Lord, Who glorifies those who glorify Him, has revealed you as our heavenly intercessor. Remember us who have recourse to you in faith and love; by your prayers, protect us from the Enemy's deceit.

Glory...

Let us praise the Divine Ruler, God in Three Persons, One single nature, Form without change: He is good and loves mankind, and grants us cleansing from our offenses.

Both now and ever...

The Spiritual Sun came forth from your womb, O Theotokos, and he has shone upon us with the threefold light of the Godhead. Singing His praises with reverence, we call you blessed.

Ode 3

HEIRMOS: There is none so holy as You, O Lord my God, who have exalted the power of Your faithful, O Blessed One, and have established us upon the rock of Your confession.

Today we extol our holy father Raphael, who received the gift of healing from God, for he raises the sick from their beds and reconciles those at enmity.

Tobit remembered the words of the Archangel, and so the Lord preserved his life. We remember our holy father Raphael as our teacher and guide, since he instructed us with the words of everlasting life.

You inclined your ear to wisdom, O father Raphael, and applied your heart to understanding. You guided your flock on the paths of righteousness not only by your words, but also by your example.

Glory...

O Father, Mind without beginning, O Word of God identical in form, and Holy Spirit, good and right, watch over those who sing in faith the praises of Your power, for You are merciful.

Both now and ever....

Becoming man in substance within your womb, O pure Lady, my God has destroyed the pastures of corruption, and He alone has set free from their former condemnation the first members of mankind.

Kathisma - Tone 4 (Special Melody: *Joseph marveled*)

With your tears, you watered the seeds of virtue
which the Lord had planted in your soul,
nurturing them with your holy labors until you reaped the fruits of the Spirit.
Bearing your own afflictions with patience and joy,
you were a compassionate shepherd to your flock,
bringing peace to those who had been enemies.
Now, holy father Raphael,
you have inherited the Kingdom of Heaven.

Glory... Both now and ever... Theotokion (same tone and melody)

Most pure Virgin who gave birth to the Eternal God,
with the hierarch Raphael,
entreat Him to forgive our sins and grant us the grace of repentance before the
end,
O Lady worthy of all praise.

Ode 4

HEIRMOS: 'Christ is my power, my Lord and God!' The venerable Church sings,
befitting God, with a pure understanding, feasting in the Lord.

O holy hierarch Raphael, although we have had countless instructors, we honor
you today as our true father in Christ, for you begot many children for the Church
in the saving waters of Baptism.

As a priest, you traveled throughout North America in order to preach the Gospel
and to nourish your flock with the holy Mysteries of Christ. As a bishop, you
increased your labors and your ministry bore much fruit. Therefore, we honor
your holy memory, most glorious Raphael.

Enduring malice and slander, although your life was blameless, you regarded
your enemies as benefactors. Having proved faithful in a few things, you were
given charge over many things, and now you have entered into the joy of your
Lord.

Glory...

Raise up our thoughts, O Unity of Threefold Light, and be swift to uplift the souls
and hearts of those who sing Your praise, and make them worthy of Your
enlightenment and Your radiance.

Both now and ever...

He, Who by nature is the uncreated and everlasting God, accepted the created
nature of man and took form in your holy womb, O ever-virgin Theotokos.

Ode 5

HEIRMOS: Illumine with Your divine light, O Good One, the souls of those who
keep vigil in love, so that they may know You, O Word of God, as the true God
Who recalls them from the darkness of sin.

Your spiritual gifts were manifested more fully as the needs of your flock
increased. You consoled the sorrowful, encouraged the faint-hearted, and taught
the young. As our fervent intercessor before Christ, entreat Him to preserve our
land in peace, and to save our souls.

You instructed immigrants and their children in the law of God, guiding them on the path of salvation. Through your written words, you were a teacher of those in remote places. Now you entreat Christ, the Word of God, to forgive our sins.

You behaved as a father rather than a ruler, and as a servant rather than a master. You attained the heights of virtue through your humility. By distributing your own funds to the poor, you laid up for yourself treasures in heaven. Holy father Raphael, our benefactor, intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

Glory...

God, Father without beginning, Son co-eternal and Holy Spirit, Sovereign Trinity, confirm those who praise You, and deliver them from every abuse and oppression.

Both now and ever...

O unchanging Word of God, Who support and preserve all things by Your all-powerful hand, through the intercessions of the Mother of God who bore You, guard and preserve those who glorify You.

Ode 6

HEIRMOS: Beholding the sea of life surging with the storm of temptations, and taking refuge in Your calm haven and I cry unto You: Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One.

You were a sea wall against a flood of strange doctrines, protecting your flock from the destructive waves of false teachings. Now pilot us through the stormy sea of the passions, and guide us to the calm haven of salvation.

You left the land of your birth, O father Raphael, and became a stranger and a sojourner on earth, enduring every hardship and sorrow for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.

With apostolic zeal, O father Raphael, you proclaimed the Good News in Brooklyn, where you established the church of St. Nicholas for the worship of the only true God. There you served without compensation, and now you have received your reward from Christ our Savior.

Glory...

Give wisdom and understanding to Your singers, O Sovereign Godhead in threefold Light, and in Your goodness be pleased to enlighten all men by the fair rays of Your bright energy.

Both now and ever...

In you, O ever-virgin, did the Maintainer and Lord of all come to dwell; He taught men to worship the one Form in threefold Light of the Godhead.

Kontakion - Tone 8

You were a guardian and a defender of the Church's teaching, you protected your flock from false doctrines and confirmed them in the true faith. O holy father Raphael, son of Syria and glory of North America, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved.

Oikos

With hymns of praise let us honor Raphael our holy father, a true shepherd and teacher of Christ's flock in North America. He is the bright adornment of hierarchs, the boast of priests, and delight of the faithful. Now, as he stands before the throne of the Holy Trinity, he always intercedes before the Lord that our souls may be saved.

SYNAXARION

On the 27th day of the month, the remembrance of our Father among the saints, Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn, the first Orthodox hierarch consecrated in North America.

Through the prayers of the holy hierarch Raphael, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Ode 7

HEIRMOS: An angel made the furnace cool with dew for the godly youths, and God's command to burn the Chaldeans made the tyrant cry: Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers.

By birth, you were an Arab, by education a Greek, by residence an American and a Russian at heart, O father Raphael, but you ministered to all Orthodox Christians in North America. Blessing the use of English in the divine services, you taught your flock to sing: "Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers."

The holy hierarch Tikhon beheld your many labors and blessed you for your zeal. When you were chosen to serve your people as an archpastor, you cried out to Christ our Savior: "Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers."

You were the first hierarch to be consecrated on American soil, O father Raphael, and your ministry as bishop revealed you as an imitator of the holy Apostles. Faithfully tending your flock, you taught them to sing: "Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers."

Glory...

O Trinity, we glorify You as God, single in nature, co-eternal, one in essence: the difference between Your three Persons is preserved in simplicity without confusion, while Your form remains plainly identical in each.

Both now and ever...

In His love for mankind, the transcendent God plainly received from your pure womb our substance, O undefiled Lady, and He has taught all to cry aloud: "Blessed are You, O God of our Fathers."

Ode 8

HEIRMOS: You made dew flow from the flames for the godly youths, and the sacrifice of a righteous man You consumed with water! You make all things, O Christ, as You desire! We exalt You throughout all ages!

You are a shining spiritual lamp set upon a stand, O Raphael most wise. Dispel the darkness of my soul and enlighten my mind, so that I might glorify Christ throughout all ages.

Holy father Raphael, you drew living water from the Gospel of Christ and the Tradition of the God-bearing Fathers, and gave drink to those who were thirsting for salvation. We honor your holy memory and glorify God, singing His praise and exalting Him throughout all ages.

The Land of Immigrants rejoices today, for through the labors of the hierarch Raphael, the fruitful tree of Orthodoxy took root in America. We give thanks to God for His great mercy, blessing Him throughout all ages.

We bless the Lord: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In faith, we glorify the Word that was born of the Father, co-eternal Light from the Light eternal, together with the Light that proceeds forth, even the Spirit; and we praise them above all forever.

Both now and ever...

O Undefiled, you have borne a physician for mankind, the all-powerful Who cures from the ancestral wound all those who praise Him above all forever.

Refrain: *We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.*

Ode 9

HEIRMOS: It is not possible for men to see God, upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze; but through you, O all-pure One, was the Word incarnate revealed unto men; Whom magnifying, together with the heavenly hosts, we call you blessed.

Let us who love this festival rejoice in spirit today, and glorify the holy hierarch Raphael. As we light our lamps and candles, let us adorn our souls with heavenly virtues so that our minds can receive the light of Christ, the eternal and radiant Wisdom of God.

Blessed father Raphael, entreat Christ our God to have mercy on us, His unprofitable servants, and to receive us into His Kingdom just as Abraham received the beggar Lazarus into his bosom.

Holy father Raphael, accept our humble hymns of praise for they are all we have. Do not despise the poverty of our offering, as we celebrate your bright festival with love.

Glory...

Unable to gaze upon the glory of Your beauty, O Master, the hierarchy of the cherubim cover themselves with their wings and ceaselessly cry aloud the thrice-holy hymn, glorifying the sovereign might of Your Godhead, One in Three Persons.

Both now and ever....

Your Son, O Virgin, in His wisdom created man of old: and when man fell, He restored him once again through you whom all men sing. He has filled with the brightness of the divine light that never sets all those who in faith glorify Thee as the true Theotokos.

Exapostellarion - Tone 2 (Special Melody: *Hearken, O women*)

Reflecting the brilliance of the Triune Sun,
you became an unfailing beacon;
you illumined the path that led to the Church
returning many back to their ancestral faith.
Now, Holy Hierarch Raphael,
you dwell in the splendor of heaven.

Glory...Both now and ever... **Tone 2 (same melody)**

The golden candlestick of the Temple
prefigured you, O virgin,
for Christ, the radiance of the glory of God, shone forth from you
to enlighten those in darkness,
Entreat Him to have mercy on us
who turn to you in faith.

The Praises

Tone 4 (Special Melody: *Unto those who fear you*)

You dedicated the temple of St. Nicholas as a house of spiritual refuge for your flock,
sanctifying it with your labors and prayers while you lived on earth,
and with your holy relics at your repose.
Now you stand before the throne of God,
entreating Christ to save our souls.

Holy hierarch Raphael,
you worked out your own salvation by laboring for the salvation of your flock.
Teaching your rational sheep that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom,
you lifted their minds from the cares of this life to the contemplation of Heaven.
Now you stand before the throne of God,
entreating Christ to save our souls.

In order to strengthen your spiritual children in the Orthodox Faith,
you translated the holy prayers and divine services of the Church
into the language of their adopted homeland.
Now you stand before the throne of God,
entreating Christ to save our souls.

O thrice-blessed Raphael,
having received grace from God,
you let your light shine so brightly in our land
that all of those who had been in darkness gave glory to our Father in Heaven.
Now you stand before the throne of God,
entreating Christ to save our souls

Glory... **Tone 5**

Let us honor the holy hierarch Raphael,
a man of gentle words, an advocate of truth, and a lover of virtue.
The radiance of his holy life shines more brightly than gold,
for he was purified through repentance
and enlightened by divine grace.
As a faithful shepherd of Christ's rational flock
he comforted them in their sorrows and reconciled those who were at enmity.
Therefore, we cry out to him with love:
"Holy father Raphael, entreat Christ our God to save our souls!"

Both now and ever... **Theotokion**

Beneath your compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos.
Despise not our prayers in our necessity,
but deliver us from harm,
only pure, only blessed one.

Great Doxology

Apolytikion - Tone 1

Your proclamation has gone forth throughout North America,
calling the scattered sheep into the unity of the Church.
Hearing your voice, they responded to your teaching,
and through your writings you instructed them in piety.
Now guided by your example, O father Raphael,
We sing hymns of praise to Christ our God:
"Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a crown!
Glory to Him Who, through you, grants healing to all!"

Glory... Both now and ever

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, "Rejoice,"
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in you, O holy ark.
As the righteous David said,
your womb became more spacious than the heavens,
bearing your Creator.
Glory to Him Who took abode in you.
Glory to Him Who came from you.
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you.

Matins concludes as usual.

DIVINE LITURGY

the Antiphons are sung in accordance with the Typikon.

Entrance Hymn

Come let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Holy God....

Prokeimenon - Tone 1

My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Verse: *Hear this, all nations; give ear, all inhabitants of the world.*

Epistles: for the day and for the saint (*Hebrews 13: 17-21*)

Alleluia - Tone 2

The mouth of the righteous will meditate wisdom, and his tongue will speak of judgment.

The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps do not slip.

Gospels: for the day and for the saint (*John 10: 9-16*)

Communion Hymn

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear evil tidings.

His heart is ready to trust in the Lord; his heart is established.

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear evil tidings.

He shall not fear, until he looks down upon his enemies.

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear evil tidings.

He has dispersed abroad, he has given to the poor, his righteousness endures unto ages of ages; his horn shall be exalted with glory.

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance; he shall not fear evil tidings.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

The Divine Liturgy concludes as usual.