

16 May
**BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR,
ABBOT OF CLONFERT**

At Great Vespers

On O Lord, I have cried, Stichera from the Pentecostarion, and then, for the Saint in Tone 2:

O NAVIGATOR of the Lord's Sea you forsook the comfort and certainty of the shore of this world and by faith you crossed over waves of doubt and despair. You navigated the trackless seas, trusting in God's provision. O Holy Abbot Brendan, pray to the Lord that we may also trust in Him.

Monks have marveled at your wisdom, shining down through the ages. You sailed in faith and built your craft of prayers, meditation buoyed it up, intercession strengthened it, and the breath of the Holy Spirit propelled it. Your rudder was the Word of God, so that you could rightly divide the dark waters of doubt. O Holy Abbot Brendan, pray for us to the Lord our God.

O Holy Abbot Brendan, you protected those given to you as a wise father, holding the brothers in your care to your course through the waves of the world. You did not let them sink into doubt or fear, but by your strong example, helped them steer the ship of their souls to the promise that had been given you. O wise abbot of Clonfert, pray to God for us.

Glory. *Tone 1:*

O wise Abbot Brendan, you listened to God as you set forth from the

comfort of the shore of the world, and thrusting out into an ocean of doubt, you and your brothers sailed by faith, trusting in God for your sustenance and provision, and for where you would travel. You were shown wonders at the hand of God, and were brought to the land promised to you, so that you could labor in a vineyard He had prepared for you. Glory to Him Who showed you such wonders! Glory to Him Who has given you such grace! Glory to Him Who grants us His wondrous grace and great mercy through your prayers.

Now. *From the Pentecostarion*

Readings: 1. Genesis 12:1-8. 2. Genesis 28:10-22. 3. Exodus 4:27-31

At the Lity, Tone 6:

YOUR seven year voyage, O wise Father Brendan, carried you to far distant lands. You saw many wonders and miracles, great fish and winged birds with Angelic voices. Your labors in the land prepared for you continues to bring a bountiful harvest. With all the Angels and saints, we honor you, and we give glory to God Who has glorified you!

Aposticha, Tone 6:

YOUR voice has been heard through the ages, for you have recounted tales of wonders unknown to mortals during your seven year voyage. Today we celebrate with you as the wonders unfold, and God's grace and mercy are revealed.



✠ Those who go down to the sea in ships, laboring in many waters, behold the Lord's works and His wonders in the deep.

Oblessed Abbot Brendan, the Lord shielded you with understanding and great mercy. Pray for us, that we may know the both sign of your holy life and the mercies of your intercession.

✠ O give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

Like Abraham of old you listened to God and ventured out to unknown places, trusting that He would provide all your needs. With loud voices we cry aloud in wonder for all the marvels He did at your hands, O wise Abbot!

Glory. *Tone 4:*

You trusted in God when you accepted His call to the Monastic Life. You trusted in God when you set sail in a boat with no rudder. You trusted in God when you only provisioned your boat for forty days. Pray for us to the Lord our God that He may give us the faith needed to trust in Him for this, our voyage through life.

Now. *From the Pentecostarion*

Troparion, Tone 4:

O HOLY Father and Navigator Brendan, the winds of heaven carried you as you sailed across the face of the sea, and the Holy Spirit guided you as you sailed across the sea of life. A holy angel spoke with you, giving you a rule of life for your disciples. Oblessed Abbot of Clonfert, pray for the salvation of our souls.

And then for the Pentecostarion.

Matins

First Sessional Hymn from the Pentecostarion

Second Sessional Hymn, Tone 1:

Your voyage and labor in the land that God had promised to show you are an everlasting crown, O Holy Abbot Brendan. You brought God's blessings to this land, enabling the people that dwelt in darkness to see the Light of Christ. Glory to Him who has crowned you with glory!

Glory. Now. *From the Pentecostarion*

After the Polyeleos, Megalyrnarion:

We [magnify, we] magnify you, O holy Father and navigator Brendan, and we honor your holy memory, instructor of monks, and converser with angels.

✠ I waited patiently for the Lord, and He stooped down to me; He heard my cry.

✠ My tears have become my bread, by night, by day.

✠ I am exhausted with my groaning; every night I drench my pillow with tears.

Third Sessional Hymn, Tone 1. Special melody: Your tomb, O Savior.

Through exile and pilgrimage, O holy father Brendan, you put to death love for anything in this passing world, and after your repose, you inherited eternal life. Therefore the Orthodox faithful in the Western lands celebrate your wondrous memory, O ornament of ascetics.

Glory. Now. *From the Pentecostarion*

From my youth *and the rest of the Gospel sequence.*

*Prokeimenon, Tone 4:*

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

✠ What can I give in return to the Lord for all He has lavished upon me?

Gospel: Matthew 11:27–30

If during the Forty Days, Having beheld.

Psalm 50, then in Tone 6:

Glory. Through the prayers of our holy Father Brendan ...

Now. Through the prayers of the Theotokos ...

Have mercy on me, O God ...

Tone 6:

YOUR seven year voyage, O wise Father Brendan, carried you to far distant lands. You saw many wonders and miracles, great fish and winged birds with Angelic voices. Your labors in the land prepared for you continues to bring a bountiful harvest. With all the Angels and saints, we honor you, and we give glory to God Who has glorified you!

Canon, Tone 8. Katavasiai of the Pentecostarion.

Canticle 1

Having traversed the water as though it were dry land, and escaped the evil of Egypt, the Israelites cried aloud: Let us chant to our Deliverer and our God

± Holy Abbot Brendan,
pray to God for us.

Even though the way was unmarked, God made a path for you in your life, so that you might abandon your earthly life and follow Him.

± Holy Abbot Brendan,
pray to God for us.

Through temperance and prayer, through mortification and fasting, you walked the holy Path that God made for you

± Holy Abbot Brendan,
pray to God for us.

Even though the path went through trackless depths of the sea, you trusted God in His direction, and in every way glorified Him.

Glory. Now.

O Virgin maid, even as the Israelites passed through the Red Sea and left no path, so the Lord in His mercy passed through your womb and left you still a virgin. Glory to Him who has glorified you!

Canticle 3

O Lord, Fashioner of the vault of heaven and Creator of the Church: establish me in your love, O Summit of desire, confirmation of the faithful who alone love mankind.

Like all who are born on earth, O wise Abbot, you walked in darkness until the light of Christ came upon you. You became a marvelous beacon of light to all those in your care.

You escaped the grasp of demons when they felt the heat of the fire of zeal, which burned in your heart for the Lord our God.

That same fire of zeal burned out all the deadly passions of the body, it purged the dross of impurities from the pure gold of your spirit, and it refined your soul.



Theotokion: The Light of Christ has come into the world through you, O Theotokos, and the reflection of that light falls upon you, glorifying you.

Sessional Hymn, Tone 3:

O, most wise Abbot! You have labored and brought forth much spiritual fruit by your intercessions, your labor, and your faith. Your coracle on the sea has carried many to our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who has crowned you with a wreath of joy!

Glory. Now. *From the Pentecostarion for the Feast.*

Canticle 4

I have heard, O Lord, the mystery of Your dispensation, I have understood Your works, and have glorified Your divinity.

You guarded your soul, wise father, by drinking in the Word of the Lord, so that you might not thirst in the midst of any spiritual desert.

By your prayers, you made your body a temple of the Holy Spirit, and thus became heir of the Kingdom of God.

Sweet fruit has sprung up in the house of God from your ascetic works, your intercessions, and your prayers.

Theotokion: The True Vine sprang forth from your womb, O wise Virgin, and He was not only the Vine, but also the Vinedresser. Because of this we glorify you.

Canticle 5

Enlighten us with Your commandments, O Lord, and with Your up-raised arm grant us Your peace, O Lover of Mankind.

O Father Brendan, by your labors you have guided your flock across the sea and dry land. You have protected them, you have guarded them.

Your pure mind, wise Abbot beholds the ineffable goodness of our God and Savior, Christ, the Lord of all.

Even as Elijah flew up to heaven in a fiery chariot, the Holy Spirit on the wings of your virtues has lifted you up, O Abbot Brendan.

Theotokion: You gave birth to the Physician of our souls, O Theotokos. Therefore we beg you to heal the blindness of our mind, O spotless Maid.

Canticle 6

I pour forth my prayer to the Lord, and to Him do I declare my grief; for my soul is full of evil and my life has drawn nigh to hell, and like Jonah I pray: Lead me up from corruption, O God!

Your wisdom, wise Abbot, saw the great fish under your feet, even though it was disguised as an island. Thus your wisdom saved the souls of those in your care.

Your prayers, O good one, kept the demons from attacking your brothers when they had sinned, Intercede also for our sake.



Your ways were amazement to the angels, as they came together to glorify God with you.

Theotokion: By your giving birth to Christ our God, O Maid most fair, the evil one has been defeated, and you have crushed his head under your heel.

Kontakion, Tone 8.

Special melody: O victorious leader ...

O WISEBRENDAN, who sailed for seven years at the command of the Lord, taking no thought for life, food, drink or clothing, but were guided by His wisdom, pray for us, that, guided by the same Spirit you followed, we might receive the same mercy and wisdom, and show us to be worthy to praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God and to sing to you, Rejoice O Brendan, Sailor of the Lord's sea!

Oikos

The Holy Abbot Brendan wandered the Lord's sea for seven years, seeing many strange and wonderful sights. God's providential care was upon him always, and he grew in wisdom and holiness. As we voyage in discovery of God, let us sing to him;

Rejoice, O voyager of the Lord's ocean!

Rejoice, O wanderer at the Lord's will!

Rejoice, O discoverer of many lands!

Rejoice, O seer of visions!

Rejoice, O laborer for souls in distant lands!

Rejoice, O wise explorer!

Rejoice O Brendan, Sailor of the Lord's sea!

Canticle 7

Once in Babylon, the youths who had come forth from Judea trod down the flame in the furnace with their faith in the Trinity, chanting: O God of our fathers, blessed are you!

The divine dew of your dispassion O Abbot, quenched the fire not only of your passions, but of all the brothers in your care, allowing them to cry out in joy: O God of our fathers, Blessed are You!

The flames of worry and anxiety held no fear for you, wise father, for the flood of grace from the Holy Spirit conquered all worry, at which you cried out: O God of our fathers, Blessed are You!

Devoutly you labored in the Land promised you by God, teaching the truth of the Trinity to all who would listen, and with them we cry out: O God of our fathers, blessed are You!

Theotokion: The Fire that would consume all fires of enmity, idolatry and faithlessness came forth from you, O Furnace that held the fire, and yet was not burned. With the angels we glorify you.

Canticle 8

The King of heaven, Whom the hosts of angels sing, praise and exalt above all forever.

You shared with the brothers in your care the Angelic life, the visions and songs of Angels, and the love of



God, Whom we praise and exalt above all forever.

You were strengthened in your ascetic struggles, O Wise Abbot by the One Whom we praise and exalt above all forever.

The race having been won, the finish line crossed, you are worth of the heavenly garland that has been given to you as reward by Him Whom we praise and exalt above all forever

Let us bless. Now.

Theotokion: Beyond nature you gave birth O Virgin, to the Creator and Savior, God the Word; therefore we praise and exalt you above all forever.

We sing Magnificat.

Canticle 9

Saved by you, O Pure Virgin, we confess you to be in truth the Theotokos and we magnify you with the incorporeal choirs.

O venerable Abbot Brendan, turn not your face from my pitiful tears, or my lowly condition, but by your intercessions, raise me up and gladden my heart

O holy father Brendan, the memory of your Voyage and your labors brightens all who fittingly celebrate this day, and honor you from year to year.

As His servant, blessed Abbot, you stand at the throne of God. Intercede for your flock here on earth, and do not forget us who honor you.

Theotokion: With our voices, we join the voices of angels and sing to you Hail, for you became a source of Joy to all by your giving birth to Christ.

Exaposteilarion, Tone 3. Special melody: Your bridal chamber.

GOD did not abandon you on your voyage O holy father Brendan. Rather, His hand was upon you always, keeping you strong in your faith, showing you marvels, and leading you ever to safe harbor.

Glory. Now. *From the Pentecostarion*

Lauds from the Pentecostarion and then for the Saint, Tone 5:

O HOLY Abbot Brendan, God gave you the gift of hearing the praise of angels. Pray for us, so that in time of need we can hear not only the praise of angels, but the still small voice of God in our hearts.

O Holy Abbot Brendan, you celebrated the first Liturgy in this land promised to you and dedicated to the Lord. You labored in this vineyard that had been cleared and planted by the Lord, and it bore much fruit. Pray for us that we too may labor in this vineyard, and by God's grace see a bountiful harvest.

Your example of holiness has shown down through the ages, O wise Abbot, as you trusted in God for your protection during your seven year voyage. Pray to God on our behalf that He might grant us the same faith and His great mercy.

Glory. *Tone 1*

You guided your flock through a voyage of seven years, sailing on a dark sea of doubt, illumined by your faith in God. Each day was a new experience of faith as you trusted the Lord for His protection and mercy. Arriving on the shores of a new world, you celebrated in praise and acclimation to His Name. O Holy Abbot and wise father, you returned to your home and spoke to all of God's grace and mercy on your journey. Glory to Him Who protected you! Glory to Him Who strengthened you. Glory to Him Who shows us His great love through you!

Glory. Now. *From the Pentecostarion*

Great Doxology and Troparion of St. Brendan.

At Divine Liturgy

Antiphons and Entrance Hymn of the Pentecostarion.

Troparion of the Pentecostarion.

Troparion of St. Brendan, Tone 4.

OHOLY Father and Navigator Brendan, the winds of heaven carried you as you sailed across the face of the sea, and the Holy Spirit guided you as you sailed across the sea of life. A holy angel spoke with you, giving you a rule of life for your disciples. Obessed Abbot of Clonfert, pray for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion of St. Brendan, Tone 8.

OWISE BRENDAN, who sailed for seven years at the command of the Lord, taking no thought for life, food, drink or clothing, but were guided by His wisdom, pray for us, that, guided by the same Spirit you followed, we might receive the same mercy and wisdom, and show us to be worthy to praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God and to sing to you, Rejoice O Brendan, Sailor of the Lord's sea!

Kontakion of the Pentecostarion, and if during the Forty Days, of Pascha.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4:

THERE go the ships, * there is that Leviathan whom you made to play there.

✠ Bless the Lord, o my soul. O Lord my God, You are very great.

Epistle, Hebrews 11: 1, 2, 6, 8-10.

Alleluia, Tone 4:

✠ Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.

✠ Get out of your country, from your family, and from your father's house to a land that I will show you.

Gospel: John 6:15-21.

Hymn to the Theotokos of the Pentecostarion.

Communion Hymns of the Pentecostarion and of the Saint:

LAUNCH out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch. Alleluia.