Music for the Ordination Services

During the procession of the candidate around the holy table:

Tone 7 troparion

Oh holy Martyrs, you have struggled courageously and have received your crowns; pray to the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

Glory to you, O Christ our God, boast of the apostles and joy of the martyrs who proclaimed the Trinity, one in essence.

Rejoice, O Isaiah! The Virgin was with child and bore a Son, Emmanuel. He is God and man:

His name is Rising of the Sun. By exalting him,

Irmos Tone 5
Responses immediately after the ordination. For the ordination of a deacon or priest, one of these responses is sung twice by the clergy in the sanctuary (right side, then left side), and then twice by the faithful in the nave (right side, then left side). For the ordination of a bishop, the response is sung once, by the clergy ONLY.

A

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy, have mercy!

B

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy, have mercy.
Responses to the bestowal of vestments and instruments of office. When the bishop (or for an episcopal ordination, the presiding bishop) gives each vestment or instrument to the newly-ordained and exclaims, “Axios!” (Greek for He is worthy), the clergy in the sanctuary, then the faithful in the nave, sing “Axios!” three times using one of the two melodies below. (The faithful should use the same melody as the clergy.)

A

\[ \text{Axios! Axios! Axios!} \]

B

\[ \text{Axios! Axios! Axios!} \]

When the final instrument is bestowed (the ripidion for a deacon, the liturgikon for a priest, or the crown for a bishop), the clergy and then the people respond by singing “Axios!” to this melody:

C

\[ \text{Axios! Axios! Axios!} \]

\[ \text{Axios! Axios!} \]

At the enthronement of a bishop, the first or second melody is sung by the clergy, then the faithful, when the bishop is escorted to his throne and the presiding bishop exclaims, “Axios!”

The third melody is sung by the clergy, then the faithful, when the bishop is given his pastoral staff and the presiding bishop exclaims, “Axios!”