

The holy martyr Ignatius, bishop of Antioch

DECEMBER 20



1. O God of our fore - bears, who bids us be brave,
2. Your bi - shop Ig - na - tius, in word and in deed
3. When ta - ken by sol - diers and brought in - to court,
4. To Fa - ther and Son and to Spi - rit most blest,



Pro - claim - ing your Gos - pel in spite of the grave,
Preached Christ and his mer - cy to all those in need.
And told to be - tray Christ, or be li - ons' sport,
Our praise and de - vo - tion be e - ver ex - pressed!



Re - ceive our thanks - giv - ing that mar - tyrs so true
His life of com - mit - ment was crowned by his death,
He spoke of the faith - ful - ness Christ showed to him,
As did Saint Ig - na - tius, may we faith - ful be,



Have, count - ing life pr - ecious, still giv'n it for you!
And faith - ful his wit - ness till last he drew breath.
Which could not be cast off by jud - ge's fierce whim.
That we may in You be cou - ra - geous and free!

Text: JMT

Melody: *St. Denio*