

## ODE TO SAINT BARBARA

This Ode to Saint Barbara is from *A guide to the Domestic Church* by Eparchy of Newton, Office of Educational Services, Brookline, Massachusetts, United States.

**Refrain: repeated after each verse of the ode:**

'Ideesa Barbara / 'end a-rab a-mukhtarra /  
abooki hel-kafir / hel abad a-hejarra.

**Ode:**

St. Barbara, chosen by the Lord, your father  
that heathen, worships stones.

Your father is a ruler in the land of Sham.  
That pagan is a hypocrite. He went to fight the  
Christians to make her reject them.

He bad his daughter to come to the grotto and  
spoke to her of religion. He told her to adore  
the stones and oppose the Christians.

She told her father, "My king, I will not  
change in my belief even if they cut me with a  
knife ".

He told his servants to take her and put her in  
a cell and give her anything if she will fight  
the Christians.

She told her father, "O sovereign of the peo-  
ple' this idea is only in your mind. My mind is  
like a jewel and all your gods are but stones ".

He told the servants to take her and make her  
suffer all kinds of tortures: to remove her  
eyes and throw her out to stop this move-  
ment.

He told the swordsman to pierce her; the  
sword became a belt around her. He brought  
fire to burn her; the fire turned to incense.

A cloud came and covered her and took her to  
Christ. All of you, ask the intercession of this  
martyr Barbara.

St. Barbara, chosen by the Lord, has found  
mercy with God to intercede for Christians.