**MARCH 15**

**Second Saturday of Great Lent – Memorial Saturday**

**Martyrs Agapius and Publius and those with them**

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (sung on Friday)**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 4**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Thy sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

V. (10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

**Tone 4** *Idiomelon**(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Now is the acceptable time,

now is the day of salvation!

In the abundance of Thy mercy visit my soul,

and take away the burden of my sins,//

O only Lover of man!

V. (9) *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

(Repeat: “Now is the acceptable time…”)

V. (8) *Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

**Tone 4** *(for the Martyrs, in the Tone of the week)*

Zealously emulating Christ, the Lover of man, in your sufferings, O Passionbearers,

you yielded your bodies to blows, cruel tortures, and countless ills,

for you always saw before you

the divine delight, inexhaustible food and everlasting glory of Paradise;//

now, having attained it, pray for those who sing hymns of praise to you!

V. (7) *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

O martyrs of the Lord,

living sacrifices, spiritual oblations,

perfect victims, sheep who know God and are known by Him,

whose fold no wolf can enter;//

pray that we too may graze with you beside still waters!

V. (6) *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

Precious is the death of Thy saints, O Lord;

for they poured out their blood, being afflicted by sword and flame and frost,

putting their hope in Thee, that their work might receive its reward.//

Having endured to the end, they indeed received great mercy from Thee, O Savior.

V. (5) *For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Since you have boldness to approach the Savior,

pray without ceasing for us sinners, O saints,//

asking remission of our transgressions and great mercy for our souls!

V. (4) *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

**Tone 8** *(from the Menaion, for the Martyrs) (Oh, most glorious wonder)*

O seven martyrs of Christ,

you counted the assaults of the torturers and violent death to be nothing.

You hastened to battle with readiness and courage,

covering yourselves with the glory of victory.

You are numbered among all the righteous;//

we call you blessed, glorifying you with them forever.

V. (3) *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

(Repeat: “O seven martyrs…”)

V. (2) *Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

O martyred athlete Agapius,

thou didst love the Well-spring of good things and the Summit of desires.

Thou didst hasten to drain the cup of martyrdom,

calling on the Divine Name of the living God.

What courage was thine; what endurance,//

by which thou wast openly given the gift of glory and splendor!

V. (1) *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

O all-blesséd martyrs,

you gave yourselves to voluntary slaughter;

you sanctified the earth with your blood

and illumined the air with your passing.

Now in the image of God you live in the heavens,//

ever praying for us to the never-fading Light.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 4** *(for the Departed, by St. John of Damascus)*

Where is the attraction of the world?

Where has gone the illusion of temporal things?

Where now are the gold and silver?

Where is the throng of servants and family?

All is dust and ashes, all is but a shadow.

But come, let us cry out to the immortal King:

“O Lord, grant Thy eternal good things to those who have departed from us,//

and give them rest in Thy blessedness that never grows old!”

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 4** *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord

through thee, O Virgin.

He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in thee:

“At Thy right hand stood the Queen,”

Thy Mother, the mediatrix of life,

since God was freely born of her without a father.

He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,

so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder

and brought it to His Father,

joining it to the heavenly pow’rs.//

Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

**Tone 4 Prokeimenon**

Let Thy mercy and Thy truth / preserve me forever! *(Ps. 39:15b)*

V. *I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry. (Ps. 39:1)*

**Reading from Genesis (5:32-6:8)**

**Tone 6 Prokeimenon**

I said: “Lord, have mercy on me. / Heal my soul!” *(Ps. 40:4)*

V. *Blessed is he who considers the poor. (Ps. 40:1a)*

**Reading from Proverbs (6:20-7:1)**

***(and the rest of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts)***

***(at the Divine Liturgy on Saturday morning)***

**Tone 2 Troparion**

O Apostles, Martyrs, and Prophets,

Hierarchs, Holy Monks, and Righteous Ones,

who completed well the fight and kept the faith,

you have boldness before the Savior.

We pray: “Intercede for us with Him, as He is good,//

that He may save our souls!”

**Tone 2 Troparion**

Remember Thy servants, O Lord, since Thou art good,

and forgive the sins they have committed in life!

For none is sinless but Thee,//

Who givest rest to the departed.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 8** **Kontakion**

With the saints give rest, O Christ,

to the souls of Thy servants,

where there is neither sickness nor sorrow, and no more sighing,//

but life everlasting!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 8 Theotokion**

We have thee as a wall and a haven

and an intercessor well-pleasing to God, Whom thou hast borne,//

O Virgin Theotokos, the salvation of the faithful.

**Tone 8** **Prokeimenon**

Be glad in the Lord / and rejoice, O you righteous! *(Ps. 31:11a)*

V. *Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. (Ps. 31:1)*

**Tone 6** **Prokeimenon** *(Departed)*

Their souls shall dwell / with the blessed. *(Ps. 24:13a)*

**Epistle**

(309) Hebrews 3:12-16

(270) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 *(Departed)*

**Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their troubles. (Ps. 33:17)*

V. *Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord will deliver them out of them all. (Ps. 33:19)*

**Tone 6**

V. *Blessed are they whom Thou hast chosen and taken, O Lord.* *Their memory is from generation to generation.* *(Ps. 64:4a; 101:12b)*

**Gospel**

(6) Mark 1:35-44

(16) John 5:24-30 *(Departed)*

**Communion Hymn**

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! *(Ps. 32:1)*

Blessed are they whom Thou hast chosen and taken, O Lord. Their memory is

from generation to generation. *(Ps. 64:4a; 101:12b)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.*