Byzantine Monthly Menaion

Volume Eight: April

Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, PA
Foreword

A Menaion is a liturgical book which contains the changeable parts of Byzantine divine services for a given month. The volume in your hands is the eighth of a series of twelve books for use in Byzantine Catholic parishes. Each day is provided with the following material:

(1) Synaxarion (brief life of the saints remembered)
(2) Troparia and Kontakia
(3) Prokeimena and Alleluiaria
(4) Communion Hymn.

On major feasts, the proper antiphons (when there are any) and the Magnification and Irmos (appointed to take the place of It is truly proper) are also included.

Texts which are contained in the Faithful’s Book published by the Byzantine Catholic Church are reproduced with their musical settings from that book. Those texts were translated by the Inter-Eparchial Liturgical Commission, and then set to plainchant by the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission.

Many of the Troparia contained in this volume of the Menaion are, in fact, common texts (i.e., they are used on more than one feast). These texts, too, come from the work of the IELC/IEMC, as are all the Prokeimena and Alleluiaria and Communion Hymns.

The texts of the Troparia and Kontakia that are not from the above-mentioned source are almost always taken from the Order of Matins published by the Sisters of the Order of Saint Basil the Great, and we acknowledge these texts with gratitude.

This volume is intended to be used annually. Because of this, cantors must use the Typikon of the Metropolitan Church to discern how materials from the Menaion are to be combined with the Sunday Ochtoechos. The Typikon will also explain how Prokeimena and Alleluiaria are to be combined.

May this series of volumes be a blessing for all who attend daily celebrations of the Divine Liturgy, as well as for those who, unable to be at church each day, still wish to pray with the Church and honor the Lord and his saints.

August 28, 2005

Our venerable father Moses the Ethiopian and
Our holy father Augustine, bishop of Hippo
MENAION - APRIL

1 Our holy mother Mary of Egypt who, a notorious Alexandrian sinner, was converted to God in the Holy City. With the Blessed Virgin interceding for her, she led a penitential life across the Jordan. She died in Palestine after forty-seven years of penitence. (c.530)

Troparion - Tone 3

While you had been a vessel of fornication, repentance made you a bride of Christ. By imitating the life of an angel, you destroyed the devil by the pow'r of the cross. For this reason you became a bride for the King, O glorious Mary.

Kontakion - Tone 4

You walked through a deep dark mist of sin, then you enlightened your heart by repentance. You came to repentance under the patronage of the holy and immaculate Theotokos, and you found full absolution
from your sins, Now you rejoice with the angels, O glorious saint.

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):

God is wondrous in his saints, the God of Israel, the God of Israel.

Verse: In the churches bless God; from Israel’s wellsprings bless the Lord.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 39:2,3):

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Alleluia!

Verse: I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.
Verse: He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just woman will be remembered forever;
evil news she will not fear, evil news she will not fear.

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Our venerable father Titus the Wonderworker. At a young age, he left the world and took the angelic habit. He was famous among his brethren for his heroic humility and obedience. During the iconoclast heresy, he was a noble defender of the Orthodox faith. Because of these things, God endowed him with the ability to work wonders, both during his life and after his death. (9th century)

Our holy father Nicholas Charnetsky, martyr-bishop, was born 1884 in Galicia. Gifted as a spiritual director and seminary professor, he became a Redemptorist. In 1926, he was made Apostolic Visitor to Ukrainian Catholics in Volyn and Polissya, and in 1931 he was consecrated bishop. He was arrested in 1945 by the Soviets, sent to Siberia for forced labor, and eventually returned to L’viw. (1959)

Troparion - Tone 8

In you, O father, the divine image was strictly preserved;
taking up your cross, you followed Christ. You taught us by example how to spurn the flesh, for it passes away, and how to care for the soul, which is immortal. Therefore, O venerable Titus, your soul rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion - Tone 4

You passed your life in silence and drew near to God, O venerable and miracle-
work-ing fa-ther Ti-tus.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

Refrain
3 Our venerable father and confessor Nicetas, Hegumen of Medikion on Mt. Olympus in Bithynia, who for his defense of the holy icons suffered patiently imprisonment and exile under Leo the Armenian. (824)

Troparion - Tone 8

In you, O father, the divine image was strictly preserved;
taking up your cross, you followed Christ. You taught us
by example how to spurn the flesh, for it passes away, and how to
care for the soul, which is immortal. Therefore, O venerable Nicetas, your soul rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion - Tone 2

Acquiring a heavenly life and mind, you outdid the sun. By the light of your
works you illumined those in the dark. You lead everyone to God, O father Niceitas; therefore we ask you to pray unceasingly to God for
all of us.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

Refrain: The just man will be remembered forever; evil news he will not fear. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Al - le - lu - ia!
God of our fathers, you always deal with us in your kindness. Take not your mercy away from us; but through their pray'rs guide our life in peace.

You are a never-ending fountain of lasting penance, and unending river of comfort, and a depth of goodness, O Joseph. Give us tears of celestial repentance by which we might cry out in seeking your help and find comfort from God through you, O holy one.

Our venerable father, Joseph the Hymnographer, priest, who, as a monk, when the destroyers of holy icons were raging, was sent to Rome to seek the protection of the Apostolic See, and, after he had been afflicted with many trials, finally took custody of the holy vessels of the Church of Holy Wisdom. (883)

Our venerable father, George of Maleon pursued asceticism at a monastery on Mount Malea in the Peloponessus, and here also he died. In the service to him, the Monk George is supplicated as an earthly Angel and wonderworker. (9th century)
dis- traction. You lived like an an-gel on earth, O George.

There-fore, we are in awe of your ho-ly pass-ing. Beg Christ our

God to have mer-cy on us.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Pre-cious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death

of his faith-ful, is the death of his faith-ful.

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.
Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered forever;
evil news he will not fear.

Refrain
Alleluiα! Alleluiα! Alleluiα!

5 The holy martyrs Theodulus, lector, and Agathopedus, deacon, at Thessalonica in Macedonia. Under the emperor Maximian, by order of the governor Faustinus, they had stones fastened to their necks and were drowned in the sea, on account of their confession of the Christian faith (303)

Troparion - Tone 4

Your holy martyrs, O Lord our God, in their struggles, received incorruptible crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the tyrants and broke the cowardly valor of demons. Through their prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.
Brothers to each other by the Spirit and united together in a bond of faith, you passed through life in prayer and fasting and attracted many people to knowledge of the holy. By your bravery you imprisoned guile, and, suffering under the law, you received crowns. Truly great saints, beg God to forgive the sins of those who honor your sacred memory.

The just man will rejoice in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord and will put his trust in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.

Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 91:13,14):

Verse: The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

Verse: Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.
The just man will be remembered forever; evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

6 Our holy father Eutyches, archbishop of Constantinople, who led the Second Ecumenical Council at Constantinople [553, the 5th Ecumenical Council], where he boldly fought for the Orthodox faith, and, when he had suffered a long exile, at his death professed the resurrection of the flesh. (582)
The passing of our holy father Methodius, teacher of the Slavs. After the death of St. Cyril in Rome, Methodius returned to Moravia and labored there among the Slavs, preaching the Gospel and establishing the Christian faith there. (885)

Troparion of Eutyches - Tone 4

Your life has shown you to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of gentleness, and a teacher of moderation. You acquired greatness through humility and wealth through poverty. O father and bishop Eutyches, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.
All you people, singing with faith and love, let us bless the godly Eutyches as a minister and great pastor, an all-wise teacher and expeller of heresies, for he entreats the Lord in behalf of all of us.

Let the faithful rejoice in glory, rejoice in glory, shout for joy, and take their rest.

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Verse: Your priests will be clothed with righteousness and your saints will rejoice.

Verse: The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.
Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered for ever;
evil news he will not fear; evil news he will not fear.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OR

Troparion of Methodius - Tone 4

Send your mercy from heaven, O Christ, to those who keep the feast of your pastor's death. Through the intercession of your holy disciple who is truly our father in the faith, open the gates of your kingdom and break the chains of our many sins.

Kontakion of Methodius - Tone 2

Let us sing of the heavenly and faithful Methodius. Let us praise with love
this great pastor of the Slavs. Truly he was a good servant of the Trinity.

He banished the wiles of heresy. Rejoice, because he prays for all of us.

Prokeimenon - Tone 1 (Psalm 48:4,2):

My lips will speak words of wisdom;
understanding will be the theme of my heart.

Verse: Hear this, all you peoples; give heed, all who dwell in the world.

Alleluia - Tone 2 (Psalm 36:30,31):

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Verse: The mouth of the just utters wisdom, and his tongue will pronounce judgment.
Verse: The law of his God is in his heart; his steps shall be saved from stumbling.
Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered for ever;
evil news he will not fear; evil news he will not fear.

Refrain
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

7 Our venerable father George, bishop of Mitylene on the island of Lesbos, who suffered many things for the cult of holy icons under emperor Leo the Armenian. (816)

Troparion - Tone 8

In you, O father, the divine image was strictly preserved;
taking up your cross, you followed Christ. You taught us
by example how to spurn the flesh, for it passes away, and how to
care for the soul, which is immortal. Therefore, O venerable father George, your soul rejoices with the angels.
By the force of your meekness you were a source of light. You thoroughly beat down the revolt of devils, showing a spiritual bravery, O venerable father. In your great love you gave alms to the poor and fed the hungry. Upon your death you inherited an ageless reward, rejoicing until the end of time, O blessed bishop George. Beg Christ to forgive our sins, for we celebrate your holy memory with love.

Kontakion - Tone 4

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?
Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

8 The holy apostles Herodian, Agabus, Rufus, Asyncritus, Phlegon and Hermes.
These were all among the Seventy, and are mentioned by St. Paul in his epistles. Herodion was a kinsman of Paul: “Salute Herodion my kinsman,” he writes to the Romans (16:11). Herodion helped the Apostle Peter in Rome, and was beheaded along with many other Christians the day that St. Peter was crucified. Agabus had a spirit of prophecy; two of his prophecies are recorded in the Acts of the Apostles (11:28 and 21:11). Rufus was bishop of Thebes in Greece; he also is mentioned by Paul: “Salute Rufus, chosen in the Lord.” (Rom. 16:13). St. Asyncritus (Rom. 16:14) was bishop of Hycania in Asia. Phlegon, who is mentioned in the same place as Rufus, was bishop in the Thracian city of Marathon. Hermas, mentioned with the others, was bishop in Dalmatia.
Troparion - Tone 3

O holy apostles, intercede with the merciful God

that he may grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Kontakion - Tone 2

You have become disciples and true apostles of Christ, O glorious Herodian

and fellow apostles Pray to the Lord to forgive the sins of those who

honour you.

Prokeimenon - Tone 8 (Psalm 18:5,2):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches

to the ends of the world.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 18:5):

9 The holy martyr Eupsychius at Caesarea in Cappadocia, who, accused of the destruction of the temple of divine Fortune, consummated his martyrdom under the emperor Julian the Apostate. (c.362)

Troparion - Tone 4
and broke the cowardly valor of demons. Through his prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 1

Having accomplished heroic deeds with a good spirit, you vanquished the enemy, O martyr. You received honor and miracles from God; therefore, the whole Church of the faithful praises you, venerating your memory from age to age.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 63:11,2)

The just man will rejoice in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord and will put his trust in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.
Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 91:13,14):

Verse: The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.
Verse: Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered for ever; evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear. Alleluia!

10 The holy martyrs Terence, Pompey, and their forty companions in Africa; who under the emperor Decius died for the Christian faith. (250)

Troparion - Tone 4

Your holy martyrs, O Lord our God, in their struggles, received incorruptible crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the tyrants and broke the cowardly valor of demons. Through their prayers, O Christ our
God, save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 2

The memory of the martyrdom of Terence has come again today, and it fills all of us with joy. Let us assemble together to receive cures from him and from those who suffered with him, for they received the grace of the Holy Spirit to heal the afflictions of our souls.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 63:11,2)

The just man will rejoice in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord, and will put his trust in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.
Alleluia - *Tone 4* (Psalm 91:13,14):

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

**Verse:** The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

**Verse:** Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be re-membered, be re-membered for ev-er

Refrain

e-vil news he will not fear, e-vil news he will not fear. Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

11 The holy martyr Antipas, bishop of Pergamum in Asia who, a faithful witness, just as blessed John says in the Apocalypse (cf Apoc. 2:13), consummated his martyrdom in the reign of Domitian. (c.92)

Troparion - *Tone 4*

You de-stroyed the lies of the i-dols, O An-ti-pas, and you smashed the

hold of the dev-il. You brave-ly professed Christ be-fore the e-vil ones.

Now you have taken your place a-mong the an-gels and of-fer up prayers
to the Master, giving thanks on our behalf and dispensing cures.

For this reason we venerate you, O martyred priest Antipas.

Beg Christ our God to save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 4

You sat on the throne of the apostles and you also adorned pastors. Having been raised up in martyrdom, O blessed saint, you shine like the sun in the sky. You chase away the deep night of godlessness, O Antipas, with the radiance of your beams. For this we praise you as a heavenly martyred priest and a source of health for us.
Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 149:5,1):

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Alleluia - Tone 2 (Psalm 131:9,13):

Verse: Your priests will be clothed with righteousness and your saints will rejoice.
Verse: The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

Refrain
12 Our venerable father and confessor Basil, bishop of Parium in the Hellespont, who for the cult of holy icons, suffered flogging, imprisonment, and exile. (735)

Troparion - Tone 8

Guide to Orthodoxy, teacher of piety and holiness,

luminary for the world, inspired

adornment of bishops, O wise Basil, harp of the Spirit, you enlightened all by your teachings;

intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 2

Having been illumined by the light from on high, you enlighten all who honor your trials with love. O father and martyred priest Basil, O blessed saint, pray unceasingly for all of us to Christ our God.
Let the faithful rejoice in glory, rejoice in glory, shout for joy, and take their rest.

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):

Refrain
13 The holy priest martyr Artemon and his companions in the reign of Diocletian the emperor. (303)

Troparion - Tone 4

You shared in the apostles' way of life and succeeded to their throne, divineley inspired bishop. You found access to contemplation in the active life. Therefore, you rightly taught the word of truth and struggled for the faith to the shedding of your blood. O priest-martyr Basil, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 4

You set out firmly with priestly devotion and completed the course in martyrdom. You passed into heaven, O wise Artemon, and received laurels which will never fade. Now we come to celebrate your holy memory.
Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 149:5,1):

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Alleluia - Tone 2 (Psalm 131:9,13):

Verse: Your priests will be clothed with righteousness and your saints will rejoice.
Verse: The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered forever;

Refrain

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
14 Our holy father and confessor Martin, pope of Rome, who condemned the heresy of the Monothelites at the Lateran Synod. By the order of the emperor Constans II, an assault was made on the Lateran basilica by the exarch Theodore Kalliopes to capture him. Martin was removed from his See and taken to Constantinople, where he lay in a penitentiary in most strict confinement. From there he was sent to Kherson, where, after about two years, he reached the end of his tribulations and gained his eternal crown. (665)

The holy new martyrs Anthony, John, and Eustathius, who died in the city of Vilna, Lithuania. They were slaves who were baptized by a Christian priest. When this was discovered, they were hanged from a great oak tree. This oak tree was cut down and a church dedicated to the Holy Trinity was built on the site. The stump of the tree became the Holy Table. (1342)

Troparion of Martin - Tone 8

Guide to Orthodoxy, teacher of piety and holiness,

luminary for the world, inspired

a adornment of bishops, O wise Martin, harp of the Spirit, you enlightened all by your teachings;

intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 4

You disowned earthly wealth and glory, O holy martyrs, and you bravely
en-dured tor-ture for the faith. You walked will-ingly into death for the life of the Lord,

and Christ has guid-ed you with a pil-lar of cloud. With glo-ry and honor he has
crowned you at his throne. Stand-ing there we ask you to pray for our sal-va-tion.

Kontakion of Martin - Tone 4

You set out firmly with priest-ly de-vo-tion and com-plet-ed the course in
mar-tyr-dom. You passed into heaven, O wise Mar-tin, and re-ceived lau-rels
which will nev-er fade. Now we come to celebrate your holy mem-o-ry,
cry-ing out: As you stand before Christ, re-mem-ber us, O mar-tyr.

Kontakion of the Martyrs - Tone 3

Hav-ing a-ban-doned the mis-takes of your an-ces-tors, you were led to

Christ with com-plete sin-cer-i-ty. You stood cou-ra-geously and wise-ly
until death, and so you have captured the trophy of victory.

O blessed martyrs, pray unceasingly to the Master for all of us.

Prokeimenon of a Confessor - Tone 7 (Psalm 149:5,1):

Let the faithful rejoice in glory, rejoice in glory, shout for joy, and take their rest.

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Prokeimenon of the Martyrs - Tone 4 (Psalm 15:3,8):

To all the saints in his land, the Lord has shown all the wonders of his will.
**Alleluia of a Confessor - Tone 6** (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

**Alleluia of the Martyrs - Tone 4** (Psalm 33:18,20):

Verse: The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and rescued them from all their distress.
Verse: Many are the trials of the just, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 32:1):

Re-joice in the Lord, you righ-teous ones; praise from the up-right,
the up-right is fit-ting. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia!
The holy apostles Aristarchus, Pudens, and Trophimus, members of the Seventy. Aristarchus was bishop of Apamea in Syria, and mentioned by Paul several times in his epistles (Acts 19:29; Col. 4:10; Philemon v.24). Paul calls him “my fellow-prisoner” and “my fellow-laborer.” Pudens was an important Roman citizen. Paul mentions him once (II Tim. 4:21). Trophimus was an Asian (Acts 20:4) who accompanied Paul on his journeys. In one place, Paul laments, “Trophimus have I left at Miletum, sick.” (II Tim. 4:21) They died during the persecutions of the emperor Nero.

Troparion - Tone 3

O holy apostles, intercede with the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Kontakion - Tone 4

This precious feast is truly apostolic, for it enlightens us and dispels the fog of sin for those who sing: The Light has been shown to us, and deliverance is at hand.
Prokeimenon - Tone 8 (Psalm 18:5,2):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia!

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 18:5):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their voice resounds;

Refrain

their message reaches to the ends of the world. Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
16 The holy martyrs Agape, Irene, Chiona at Thessalonica in Macedonia. These women were virgins who, when in the persecution of Diocletian the emperor refused to eat food offered to idols, were condemned by Dulcetius the governor and handed over to the fire. (c.304)

**Troparion - Tone 1**

You finished the race and kept the faith. By martyrdom you were led to Christ the Lamb and Shepherd, O rational lambs.

Therefore, today, with a joyful heart, O most wondrous women, exulting Christ, we celebrate your holy memory.

**Kontakion - Tone 4**

Having pledged yourselves to the Lord so graciously, you made an offering of your blood at your martyrdom. O holy martyrs, you have been admitted to heaven's banquet hall and to the splendid brilliance of the Light himself.

As we celebrate your holy memory, we bless the Savior and we cry out:
Pray to the Lord for all of us.

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 67:36,27):

Verse: In the churches bless God; from Israel’s wellsprings bless the Lord.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 39:2,3):

Verse: I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.
Verse: He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the filthy clay.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):

Refrain
17 Our venerable father Simeon of Saba in Persia, bishop of Seleucis and Ctesiphon, who, by the order of Sapor II, king of the Persians, was arrested and loaded with chains when he refused to adore the sun. Instead, he bore testimony to our Lord Jesus Christ with a bold and most steadfast voice. First he was tormented in a prison workhouse for a while with a hundred other companions from among bishops, priests, and other orders of clergy. Then, on the Friday of the Passion of our Lord, all of them were slain by the sword before the eyes of Simeon, who ardently encouraged each one. Finally he himself was beheaded. (c. 341)

The venerable Acacius, bishop of Melitene in Armenia. At the Council of Ephesus, he defended the orthodox faith against Nestorius and was then unjustly deposed from his See. (435)

Troparion - Tone 4

God of our fathers, you always deal with us in your kindness. Take not your mercy away from us; but through their pray'rs guide our life in peace.

Kontakion - Tone 1

Your mem'ry has become clear-er than sunlight, O holy Simeon and blessed A-ca-cius.

As good pas-tors you en-light-en the faith-ful. We now keep your mem-o-ry and cry out: Beg the on-ly true Lover of us all to save us.
Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

Verse: The just man will be remembered forever; evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear. Alleluia! Alleluia!
18 Our venerable father John, disciple of the holy Gregory the Decapolite. In the time of the Iconoclast heresy, the emperor Leo the Armenian tortured John with Gregory and Joseph the Hymnographer. When Gregory died, John became the hegumen of the Decapolite monastery in Constantinople. (820)

Troparion - Tone 8

Adorning your life with chastity, O father, you disciplined your body. You overcame the attacks of the foe, O blessed saint, and you presented yourself before God to enjoy the life of unending...
bliss as you so richly deserve, O John. Pray to the Lord for our salvation.

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 15:3,8):

Verse: I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 33:18,20):

Verse: The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and rescued them from all their distress.
Verse: Many are the trials of the just, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):

Refrain

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
19 Our venerable father John of the ancient cave. He lived an ascetic life in the “ancient caves” or Lavra of Chariton the Great in Palestine. Constantly meditating on death and teaching himself humility, he spent his days in fasting, prayer, and vigils. (8th century)

Troparion - Tone 8

In you, O father, the divine image was strictly preserved; taking up your cross, you followed Christ. You taught us by example how to spurn the flesh, for it passes away, and how to care for the soul, which is immortal. Therefore, O venerable father John, your soul rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion - Tone 8

You gave up food, wealth, and fame, and you lived as a wanderer in the deserts. You withered your body by your abstinence, and with courage you passed your life in silence. For this we sing to you, O venerable model of virtue:
Beg Christ our God to forgive the sins of those who lovingly cherish your memory.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.
Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered forever;

evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear, he will not fear.

Refrain

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

20 Our venerable father Theodore “Trichinas” (the Hairshirt-Wearer), so-called because of the rough goats'-hair garment with which he was covered. He led a most irreproachable life in solitude. (c. 400)

Troparion - Tone 8

Your abundant tears made the wilderness bloom, and your sufferings made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a shining torch over the world. Venerable father Theodore, pray to Christ our God that he may save our souls.
You became famous for your life, O wise father Theodore.

For, dressed in the rough garment of a hairshirt, you won treasures of heaven, which surpass those of any king. Now you have traded your laborer's garb for heaven's robes. Pray unceasingly for all of us, O venerable father.

Precious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful, is the death of his faithful.

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?
Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

21 The holy bishop martyr Januarius and his companions Proculus, Sonius and Faustus (deacons), Desiderius (lector), Eutyches and Akutionus, were martyred in the reigns of Maximian and Gallerius the emperors, by the persecutor Timothy. Januarius was bishop of Benevento in Italy. To this present day, many wonders are worked at the tomb of this saint. (305)
The holy martyr Theodore of Perga of Pamphylia, martyred under emperor Antonius Pius.

Troparion - Tone 3

A-noint ed with the grace of the priesthood, you became good shepherds for
God's people. You were snatched and eaten like sheep, but you were offered
like a sacrifice to God in imitation of your Master who was
slaughtered like a lamb. Pray for us who hold fast to your cherished
memory.

Kontakion - Tone 3

You were anointed with the chrism of the priesthood and washed
in the blood of martyrdom. You are radiant as you sing praises in
heaven's halls. Guard those who come to your temple and sing:

Preserve us who supplicate Christ our God.
Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 2 (Psalm 131:9,13):

Verse: Your priests will be clothed with righteousness and your saints will rejoice.
Verse: The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 32:1):
22 Our venerable father Theodore the Sykiot in the neighborhood of Sykeon in Galatia, bishop and hegumen. Seized by a love of solitude from childhood, he chose an austere sort of life. Having reluctantly been consecrated bishop of Anastasiopolis, he begged the Patriarch of Constantinople for a long time that he might return to his former retreat. (c. 613)

Troparion - Tone 2

Having followed the path of the holy from your youth, you became a vessel full of graces. You graced the world with miracles, O priestly Theodore, and you cast out many devils. Now pray to the Lord for all of us.

Kontakion - Tone 3

Ascending by virtue as if in a chariot of fire, you took up your abode in heaven, O God-bear-ing one. You lived on earth like an angel in the flesh, and now you sing praises with the angels in heaven.
You became a heavenly fount of miracles, O Theodore.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 115:6,3):

Precious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful, is the death of his faithful.

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be re-membered, be re-membered for ever evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear. Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
You fought the good fight with faith, O George, martyr of Christ. You convicted the tyrants of their wickedness. You offered yourself as an acceptable sacrifice to God. Therefore, you received a crown of victory, and through your pray'rs, O holy one, you obtain forgiveness of sins for all.

Alternate Troparion - Tone 4:

O victorious Great Martyr George, protector of the poor, liberator of prisoners, physician of the sick, and champion of kings, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.
Cultivated by God, you became an excellent gardener of religion, harvesting sheaves of virtues for your self. You sowed in tears but reaped in joy.

You fought to the shedding of your blood, and through your pray'rs, O holy one, you obtain forgiveness of sins for all.

The just man will rejoice in the Lord, and will put, his trust in him.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Verse: The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.
Verse: Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.
Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be remembered forever; evil news he will not fear, evil news he will not fear. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Refrain

Alleluia!

Cast off the robes of dignity and honor, O martyr.

you confessed Christ before the torturer, the evil king.

For this you were subjected to great suffering, O glorious one,

and you obtained a crown of victory from the King of all.

You have been placed among heaven's legions.

24 The holy martyr Sabbas the Goth in Cappadocia. When Athanaricus the king of the Goths was pursuing the Christians, on the third day after the celebration of the Pasch, the general Sabbas spit out food sacrificed to idols and, after fierce tortures, was thrown into a river. (272)
Therefore, pray for the salvation of our souls, O Sabbas.

Kontakion - Tone 4

Show-ing your-self an in-va-ble Goth, you slew the bar-bar-ians.

En-du-ring a martyrdom of ex-treme cru-el-ty, you crushed le-gions of un-seen dev-ils. You as-sumed a crown of vic-tory, O bless-ed Sab-bas, and we ask you to in-ter-cede with Christ our God.

Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 63:11,2)

The just man will re- joice in the Lord, re- joice in the Lord and will put his trust in him.

Verse:  Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to you.
**Alleluia - Tone 4** (Psalm 91:13,14):

*Verse:* The just man will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

*Verse:* Planted in the house of the Lord, he will flourish in the courts of our God.

**Communion Hymn** (Psalm 111:6,7):

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

25 **The holy apostle and evangelist Mark,** who was the first to follow blessed Paul in the apostolate in Jerusalem. He then joined himself to the company of blessed Peter, who called him his son. It is said that Mark gathered Peter’s instruction to the Romans into his Gospel. Finally, he founded the Church of Alexandria.

**Troparion - Tone 3**

You be-came an a-pos-tle of Christ through the teach-ing of Peter,

and you trav- eled like the sun o-ver for-eign lands. You fa- thered

the Al - ex - an - dri - ans in Christ, O bless-ed saint, and, by you, E - gpt
was set free from her mistakes. You guide us all like a beacon, O Mark, voice of God. You are a pillar of the Church by your gospel teaching. We rejoice in this and keep your memory. Intercede with God, who proclaims the Gospel through you, to forgive us our many sins.

Kontakion - Tone 2

Receiving the grace of the Spirit from heaven, you silenced the babble of the orators, O apostle.

You attracted the pagans by the preaching of the Gospel and led them to your Master, O blessed Mark.
Prokeimenon - Tone 8 (Psalm 18:5,2):

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 18:5):

Verse: Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Refrain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
The holy martyr Basil, bishop of Amasea in Pontus. Under the emperor Licinius, he was cast into the sea and martyred. (322)

Troparion - Tone 4

You shared in the apostles’ way of life and succeeded to their throne, divinely inspired bishop. You found access to contemplation in the active life. Therefore, you rightly taught the word of truth and struggled for the faith to the shedding of your blood. O priest-martyr Basil, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 4

By disobeying the edict of the king, you gained heaven. As you now raise your song there, remember us who commemorate you, O priest-martyr Basil.
Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 149:5,1):

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Alleluia - Tone 2 (Psalm 131:9,13):

Verse: Your priests will be clothed with righteousness and your saints will rejoice.
Verse: The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 111:6,7):

Refrain: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
The holy bishop martyr Simeon, relative of our Lord, who, as it is said, was a son of Cleophas and a relative of the Savior according to the flesh. Ordained bishop of Jerusalem after James the brother of the Lord, he was afflicted with many tortures in the persecution of the emperor Trajan. As an old man, he was crowned by the martyrdom of the cross.

Our venerable father Stephen, bishop of Vladimir in Volhynia. A disciple of St. Theodosius of the Caves in Kiev, he labored greatly for the regulation and organization of the monastic life. He was driven from his monastery by false accusations, but God proved him innocent. He was made bishop of Vladimir, and served into old age. (1094)

Troparion - Tone 1

We praise you as a model for priests and a relative of the Lord, O Simeon. You kept the faith, and as a martyr you smashed the webs of lies.

Celebrating your all-holy memory, we seek absolution of our sins through you.

Kontakion - Tone 4

Today the Church obtains a brilliant star in the person of Simeon, a perfect teacher of the things of God. Enlightened by him, she cries out: Rejoice, O holy martyr.
Prokeimenon - Tone 8 (Psalm 18:5,2):

Through all the earth their voice sounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 18:5):

Through all the earth their voice sounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world. Al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain
The holy apostles Jason and Sosipater, disciples of St. Paul in the reign of emperor Nero. They are mentioned in Romans 16:21 by Paul, who calls them his kinsmen. Jason was first bishop of Tarsus, and Sosipater, of Iconium.

The holy martyrs Dadas, Maximus, and Quintillian, at Dorostorus in Moesia, martyrs in the persecution of the emperor Diocletian. (c. 4th century)

Our holy father Cyril, bishop of Turau. Born to wealthy parents, he received an excellent education and decided as a young man to dedicate his life to God. Entering a monastery, he soon became a spiritual father. He tried to become a solitary, but his fame spread. When the bishop of Turau died, he was elected bishop in 1169. He was zealous for his people and a famous and effective preacher. (c.1182)

Troparion of the Apostles - Tone 3:

O holy apostles, intercede with the merciful God

that he may grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 4

Your holy martyrs, O Lord our God, in their struggles, received incorruptible crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the tyrants and broke the cowardly valor of demons. Through their prayers, O Christ our God, save our souls.
Kontakion of the Apostles - Tone 4

By your message you became lights of the world, O holy Jason and blessed Sosipater. Save those who cherish your memory.

Kontakion of the Martyrs - Tone 1

You endured agony with courage, and the devil could not prevail over you.

O martyrs equal to the angels in honor, the whole world honors your sufferings and pains. By them you have been exalted.

Prokeimenon of the Apostles - Tone 8 (Psalm 18:5,2):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Prokeimenon of the Martyrs - Tone 4 (Psalm 15:3,8):

Verse: I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Alleluia of the Apostles - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Alleluia - Tone 4 (Psalm 33:18,20):

Verse: The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and rescued them from all their distress.
Verse: Many are the trials of the just, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

Communion Hymn of the Apostles (Psalm 18:5):

Verse: Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the earth.
Communion Hymn for the Martyrs (Psalm 32:1):

Re-joice in the Lord, re-joice, you righteous ones; praise from the upright,

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

29 The nine holy martyrs of Cyzice. Burning with love for Christ, these martyrs refused to offer sacrifice to idols or to deny Christ as their Lord. They were cruelly tortured and finally beheaded. (3rd century)

Our venerable father Memnon the Wonder-worker was from early days devoted to fasting and prayer, and became a great wonder-worker for his people. He was a Roman centurion, converted to the faith by St. Severus, and was martyred in the days of the emperors Diocletian and Maximian. (c. 3rd century)

Troparion of the Martyrs - Tone 4

Your ho-ly mar-tyrs, O Lord our God, in their strug-gles, received incor-

rup-ti-ble crowns from you. With your strength, they brought down the ty-

rans and broke the cowardly val-or of de-mons. Through their prayers, O Christ our

God, save our souls.

Troparion of Memnon - Tone 8

In you, O fa-ther, the di- vine im-age was strict-ly pre-served;
tak ing up your cross, you fol lowed Christ. You taught us
by ex am ple how to spurn the flesh, for it pass es a way, and how to
care for the soul, which is im mor tal. There fore, O ven er a ble
Mem non, your soul re joic es with the an gels.

Kontakion of the Martyrs - Tone 2

See the strong and glo r i ous choir of nine mar tyrs, the men who
pro fessed the Trinity of tri ple glo ry. As their trials be gan,
they ex claimed to God: We of fer you our bodies and souls as a sac ri fice
poured out in our blood, O Mas ter. Since you are merciful, O Master,
num ber us a mong the saints.
We praise you as a brilliant star, O blessed Memnon. You brighten the world
by your virtue and your miracles. You approached the Unapproachable,
and so we praise the Savior as we keep your memory.

The just man will rejoice in the Lord, rejoice in the Lord,
and will put his trust in him.

Verse: I set the Lord ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Precious in the eyes, in the eyes of the Lord is the death
of his faithful, is the death of his faithful.

Verse: What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me?
Alleluia of the Martyrs - Tone 4 (Psalm 33:18,20):

Verse: The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and rescued them from all their distress.
Verse: Many are the trials of the just, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

Alleluia of a Venerable - Tone 6 (Psalm 111:1,2):

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord and greatly delights in his commands.
Verse: His posterity will be mighty upon the earth.

Communion Hymn for the Martyrs (Psalm 32:1):

Re-joice in the Lord, you right-eous ones; praise from the up-right is fit-ting.

Communion Hymn for a Venerable (Psalm 111:6,7):

The just man will be re-mem-bered for-ev-er; e-vil news he will not fear,
30 The holy apostle James, brother of John the Theologian. He was the son of Zebedee and, with Peter and John, was a witness of the Transfiguration of the Lord and of his agony. Beheaded at the feast of the Passover by Herod Agrippa, he was the first of the Apostles to receive the crown of martyrdom.

Troparion - Tone 3

You were an apostle of Christ and the beloved brother of John.

O praise worthy James, obtain ab solution for those who sing the praises of your memory and find mercy for our souls.

Kontakion - Tone 2

O glorious James, when you heard the Divine Word calling you, you put aside your love for your father and hurried to Christ with your brother, John. Therefore, both of you were made worthy to see the divine Transfiguration of the Lord.
Prokeimenon  - Tone 8  (Psalm 8:5,2):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 88:6,8):

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Verse: The heavens declare your wonders, O Lord, and your truth in the assembly of the holy.
Verse: God is glorified in the council of the holy, great and awesome above all who surround him.

Communion Hymn (Psalm 18:5):

Through all the earth their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the world.

Refrain

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!