

## **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE 2**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

## **APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE 8**

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

## **TROPARIAN OF THE FORTY HOLY MARTYRS TONE 1**

Those noble soldiers of the Master of all let us honor, for they were united by their faith as they passed through fire and water, and being enlisted by Christ they entered to divine refreshment. Now those pious warriors stand and intercede with Christ God for those who cry out. Glory to Him that hath given you strength, Glory to Him that hath crowned you, Glory to Him that made you wondrous, Holy Forty Martyrs.

## **KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS IN TONE 2**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

## **THE EPISTLE**

*Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.*

*For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)**

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissension, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in

the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

## **Celebrating today**

On October 15 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Lucian of Antioch; Venerable Euthymios the Younger of Athos; and Savvinos, bishop of Catania.

On this day we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy icons.

Thy champions, O Word, with words as their weapons,

Turn to flight the foes of the venerable icons.

The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be

man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

By the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

+**Please remember in your prayers**\*The kidnapped Hierarchs, Metropolitan Paul, and Archbishop Yohanna.

\*The servants of God, for their healing: Sonia, Wassim, Amira, Mariam, Vanda, Ghalia, Chris, Daniella and Mireille.

+**The Holy Bread** and Coffee hour are offered this week by Mr. & Mrs. Camil and Maria Abdallah and their family.

+ **Memory Eternal** - His Grace Bishop ANTOUN (1931-2017) fell asleep in Christ - please remember him in your prayers.

+ **Bible Study** on Monday Oct. 16 @ 6:30 pm.

+ **Family Night** on Friday Oct. 27 @ 6:30 pm. Please bring a Lenten dish of food or sweet to share.

+**Box for questions.** If you have any topic to be discussed, or a question to be answered during our family night, write & put it please in the Box.

+**Youth Month.** October is the youth month; our teens will be reading the Epistles and taking the collection on Sundays.

+**Special Olympics Awareness Day.** A collection we be held at the end of service.

+**Church Annual Dinner** Friday, Oct. 20 at Sweetwater Country Club.

**All the Tables and the tickets have been sold out.**

+**Bishop Basil Annual Visit:** His Grace will visit our Church on Friday Nov.10<sup>th</sup>. And celebrate the Great Vespers and attend the Reception.

+**Guests and visitors** are always welcome at Forty Holy Martyrs church, and you are invited to join us after the liturgy for coffee and refreshment

*The fear of God illumines the soul, annihilates evil, weakens the passions, drives darkness from the soul and makes it pure. The fear of God is the summit of wisdom. Where it is not you will find nothing good. Whoever does not have the fear of God is open to diabolical falls.*

(St. Ephraim Syrian)

## **THE FORTY HOLY MARTYRS ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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**REGULAR SERVICES**

**Liturgy: Thursday @  
6:00 pm**

*Great Vespers: Saturday  
5:00 PM(English)*

Matins/Orthros: Sunday  
8:45 AM(English)

Divine Liturgy: Sunday  
10:00 AM(English)

**Please visit our website for  
additional information.**

**www.40martyrs.org**

 *forty Holy Martyrs Sugar  
Land*

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**Divine Liturgy**

**OCTOBER 15-2017**

**TONE 2 / EOTHINON 8;**

**SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS  
OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL  
COUNCIL**

**& FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

HIEROMARTYR LUCIAN OF ANTIOCH;  
VENERABLE EUTHYMIOS THE YOUNGER OF  
ATHOS;

SAVVINOS, BISHOP OF CATANIA



**Regular Fast on  
Wed. & Fri.**

