

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, 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 art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

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, dissensions, 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. Matthew. (5:14-19)

The Lord said to His Disciples: “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

Celebrating Today

On July 15 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Great Prince Vladimir (Basil) of Kiev, Equal-to-the-Apostles; and the Martyrs Kyrikos and his mother Julitta of Tarsus.

On this Sunday, we commemorate the 630 holy and God-bearing Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council, which convened in Chalcedon in 451 against the Monophysites.

Shunning opposite errors like the sea monsters Scylla and Charybdis,

The Fathers steer the Church on a straight course to safety.

The Holy Fathers were, once again, concerned with the nature of Jesus Christ. The false teaching arose that Christ’s human nature (considered by heretics as less perfect) dissolved itself in His divine nature (considered by heretics as more perfect): like a cube of sugar in a parcel of water. Thus, in that scenario, Christ had only one nature, the Divine. These false preachers were called Monophysites (“mono”, meaning “one” and “physis”, meaning “nature”), and they were led by Eutyches and Dioscorus. Monophysitism overemphasized the divine nature of Christ, at the expense of the human. The Fourth Ecumenical Council condemned Monophysitism and proclaimed that Christ has two complete natures: the divine and the human, as defined by previous Councils. These two natures function as equally perfect, without confusion, and are neither divided nor separate. The Fathers declared that at no time did they undergo any change.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+Please remember in your prayers.

*The servants of God, for their healing: Sonia, Wassim, Mariam, Vanda, Chris, Daniella, Mireille, Salim, Samira and Haya.

+2018 MEMBERSHIP FORM is available in the Hall or online. A new form must be on file each year for members to be *in good standing*. The work and ministry of The Forty Holy Martyrs Church is made possible by tithing and pledging members. *May God bless your generosity!*

THE DORMITION FAST begins on Wednesday, August 1st and lasts through Tuesday, August 14th, the eve of the great feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos. During this fast we observe the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, dairy, fish, and wine) Monday through Friday, with katalysis for wine, on Saturdays and Sundays. There is also katalysis for fish, wine, August 6th which is the great feast of the Transfiguration of our Savior Jesus Christ. Appropriate to this fast are the Great and Small Parakleses to the Most Holy Theotokos. See the attached document concerning these services.

Guests and visitors are always welcome at Forty Holy Martyrs and you are invited to join us after the liturgy for coffee and refreshments

Christ and Us

The flood of temporal things draws us after itself, but in this flood there is, as it were, a full-grown tree: our Lord Jesus Christ. He took flesh, died, and ascended to heaven. It is as if He agreed to be in the flood of the temporal. Is this stream dragging you headlong? Hold on to Christ. He became temporal for you, so that you might become eternal, for He became temporal in such a way that He remained eternal. What difference is there between two men in a prison when one of them is a convict and the other a visitor! Sometimes a man comes to visit his friend, and it seems that both are in prison, but there is a great difference between them. One of them is held there because of guilt, while the other has come out of love for mankind. Thus it is with our mortality: guilt holds us here, but Christ had come out of mercy. He came freely into bondage, and not as a convict.

(St. Augustin, Sermons on I John, II.10)

THE FORTY HOLY MARTYRS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

V.Rev.Father Gabriel
Karam


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REGULAR SERVICES

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
340 Eldridge Rd.
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DIVINE LITURGY

JULY 15 2018

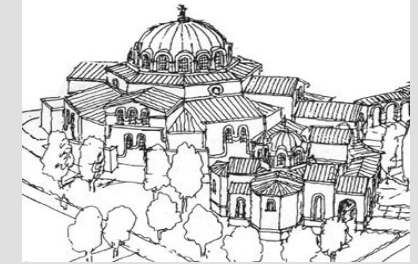
TONE 6 / EOTHINON 7;

SUNDAY OF THE

HOLY FATHERS OF FOURTH

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

GREAT PRINCE VLADIMIR (BASIL) OF KIEV,
EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES;
MARTYRS KYRIKOS AND HIS MOTHER
JULITTA OF TARSUS.



**Regular Fasting on
Wed. & Frid.**

