

# Vespers on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2025

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### The Holy Martyrs Akyndinus, Pegasus, Elpidophorus, Aphthonius & Anempodistus

“LORD, I CALL ...”

**Tone 4**

[Music on website / Sheet]

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!

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

**Tone 4 (For the Resurrection)**

[Music on website / Sheet]

We glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,

by always honouring Thy life-creating Cross;

by it, Thou hast renewed the corrupted nature of man,

O almighty One.

By it, Thou hast renewed our entrance to heaven,//

for Thou art good and the Lover of man.

*The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Thou didst loose the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Saviour,

by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.

By descending to hell, O almighty God,

Thou didst break the bonds of death.

Therefore, we adore Thy Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://

“Glory to Thee, O all-powerful Lord!”

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

Thou didst smash the gates of hell, O Lord,

and by Thy death Thou didst demolish the kingdom of death.

Thou didst deliver the race of men from corruption,//

granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

*Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Come, O people,

let us sing of the Saviour's Resurrection on the third day!

By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.

By it, we have received life and incorruption.

Save us by Thy Resurrection!//

O Life-creating and almighty Saviour, glory to Thee!

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

Angels and men sing of Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Saviour.

By it, the ends of the earth have been illuminated.

By it we have been delivered from bondage to the Enemy.

Save us by Thy Resurrection!//

O Life-creating and almighty Saviour, glory to Thee!

*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.*

Thou hast shattered the gates of brass  
and destroyed the chains of death, O Christ God.  
Thou hast raised the fallen human race.//  
O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to Thee!

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

O Lord, Thy begetting from the Father is timeless and everlasting.  
Thine incarnation from the Virgin is beyond words and understanding.  
Thy descent into hell is terrible for the devil and his angels.  
Thou hast trampled on death,  
rising on the third day,//  
and granting men incorruption and great mercy.

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

#### **Tone 4** *(For the Holy Martyrs)*

Let us hymn the company of the five martyrs:  
the wise Akyndinus  
with Pegásius and Elpidophórus,  
Aphthónius and Anempódistus!  
They are valiant athletes and fervent protectors.  
They pour forth abundant grace and unfailing hope,//  
granting them freely to the faithful.

*Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

Neither hunger, nor tribulation,  
nor boiling cauldrons, nor the depths of the earth,  
neither life nor death, nor even the mouths of wild beasts,  
could separate your brave deeds of patient endurance from the love of Christ.  
You continually directed your gaze towards Him.//  
Desiring Him alone, you vanquished the Enemy.

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

As you delight in sweetness and are filled with light,  
inheriting eternal life, O divinely wise ones,  
deliver those who pray to you and honour your place of martyrdom  
from misfortunes, bondage and imprisonment!  
For, as true imitators and followers of Christ//  
you have boldness before God and great mercy.

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

#### **Tone 6** *(For the Holy Martyrs)*

Today the martyrs' choir of fivefold splendour  
illuminates the faithful like a constellation of stars.  
It summons all to mystical joy.  
Today the servants of the spiritual Sun  
lead all to righteousness.  
They destroyed the traditions of the Persians,  
who adored the material sun and worshipped fire.  
They filled to overflowing the cup of their suffering;  
they have been crowned with their blood shed for the sake of Christ.  
They call us, O lovers of piety, saying:  
"Come, feast as you behold our sufferings;  
look upon our crowns and honours,  
for Christ has truly said:  
'He who endures to the end is saved.'//  
Come, share our crowns and take us as intercessors before the Lord!"

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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

[Music on website / Sheet]

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.

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**APOSTICHA**

**Tone 4** (*For the Resurrection*)

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,

Thou hast annulled our ancestral curse.

By descending to hell, Thou hast freed the eternal prisoners,

granting incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Thy life-creating and saving Resurrection.

**V.** *The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,

Thou didst shake all of creation.

By being laid in the tomb Thou hast raised those who dwelt in the tombs,

granting life and incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Thy rising on the third day.

**V.** *For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

The lawless people, O Christ,

handed Thee over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,

thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.

But voluntarily Thou didst endure burial,

rising by Thine own power on the third day as God,//

granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

**V.** *Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

With tears the women reached Thy tomb,

searching for Thee, but not finding Thee.

They wept with wailing and lamented:

“Woe to us! Our Saviour, King of all,

how wast Thou stolen?

What place can hold Thy life-bearing body?”

An Angel replied to them:

“Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen,//

granting us joy as the only compassionate One!”

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

## **Tone 2 (For the Holy Martyrs)**

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord  
on the day of the commemoration of the passion-bearers!  
Come, all who love the feasts of the Church,  
let us give glory, offering them mystical praise:  
"Rejoice, Akyndinus!  
Rejoice, Pegásius and Anempódistus!  
Rejoice, Elpidephórus!  
Rejoice, Aphónius!  
You drowned the deceits of idolatry in the depths of the sea;  
you preached Christ the Lord openly in the arena.  
Therefore, most blessed, greatly suffering ones, //  
ever intercede for our souls!"

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

## **Tone 2 (Theotokion)**

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!  
Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,  
who carried in her arms her Creator?  
This birth is the will of God!  
Since thou didst carry Him as an infant in thine arms, O most pure one,  
and since thou dost possess motherly boldness before Him,  
do not cease praying for us who honour thee, //  
that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

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## **TROPARIA**

### **Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 4**

[Music on website / Green Book page 8]

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel  
the joyous message of Thy Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the apostles:  
"Death is overthrown!  
Christ our God is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy!"

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

### **Troparion of the Holy Martyrs in Tone 2**

[Music on website / Sheet]

Blessed is the earth which drank in your blood, O athletes of the Lord,  
and holy the habitations which have received your bodies;  
for ye vanquished the enemy in the arena,  
and preached Christ with boldness. //  
Entreat Him, we pray, in that He is good, that our souls be saved.

*Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

### **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 2**

[Music on website / Sheet]

All beyond thought, all most glorious,  
are thy mysteries, O Theotokos.  
Sealed in purity, preserved in virginity,  
thou wast revealed to be the true Mother who gavest birth to the True God. //  
Entreat Him to save our souls.

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