

5th Sunday after Pentecost
Commemoration of the Holy Right-Believing Martyred Tsar Nicholas II,
the Holy Right-Believing Martyred Tsaritsa Alexandra,
the Holy Right-Believing Martyred Tsarevich Alexis, the Holy Right Believing Martyred Tsarevnas Olga,
Tatiana, Maria & Anastasia, the Holy Right-Believing Venerable Martyr Elizabeth, the Holy Right
Believing Martyrs of the Imperial House, the Martyred Nun Barbara,
& the Faithful Imperial Servants Slain with Them

VESPERS: Tone 4

P. Regular Beginning

C. Lord I have cried...

1. **Ever** hailing Thy life-giving Cross, O **Christ** our Lord,/ we glorify Thy Resurrection on the **third** day,/ for **Thou** Who art all **powerful**/ hast thereby restored the corrupt **nature** of man/ and hast re-opened for us the upward path to **heaven**,// for Thou only art good and **lovest** mankind.
2. **Being** of Thine own Will nailed to the **wood** of the Cross,/ Thou hast abolished the penalty of disobedience **committed** through the tree/ and by **descending** into hell Thou hast broken, as Almighty, the **bonds** of death./ Therefore we worship Thy Resurrection from the dead,/ and, **rejoicing**, we cry:// Glory to Thee, O **almighty** Lord.
3. **Thou** hast broken in pieces the gates of **hell**, O Lord,/ and put an end by Thy death to the **dominion** of death,/ and **Thou** hast set **mankind** free/ by bestowing incorruption upon the world// together with life and Thy great **mercy**.
4. O **come** all ye **people**,/ and let us sing the praises of the Saviour's Resurrection on the **third** day,/ for **we** have been delivered by it from the unbreakable **bonds** of hell,/ and having received **incorruption** and life,/ we **all** of us cry:// Do Thou, crucified, buried and risen, save us by Thy Resurrection for only Thou **lovest** mankind.

Stichera for the Royal Martyrs (Tone 6)

5. When Rus', which from of old was **holy**,/ began to apostatize from its Creator and God,/ the longsuffering Lord sent many righteous men and **prophets**,/ of whom the last was the righteous John, the holy pastor of **Kronstadt**,/ who called sinners to repentance and proclaimed that the wrath of God would fall upon the **unrepentant**;/ but the people would not **heed** them./ Then God committed the **Russian** land,/ which before had been pious, to great **persecutions** of the Faith,/ that He might bring sinners to their senses and exalt and glorify the **faithful**/ through the endurance, suffering and **death** for Christ,/ revealing a multitude of holy new **martyrs**,/ among whom were the great passion-bearer, the martyred Tsar **Nicholas**,/ with his Tsaritsa, children and **servants**,// who now pray in **behalf** of our souls.

(Tone 2)

6. When thou, O martyred Tsar, wast imprisoned by those who contend **against** God,/ thou didst have great joy with thy Tsaritsa and **children**/ when the minister of God visited thee to perform the divine **services**./ Such a pious Tsar and anointed one of God did a great many of the **people** reject,/ for they were not mindful of the **word** of God/ which calleth upon all to honour the **ruler**;/ and the wrath of God hath fallen upon us all./ Wherefore, in repentance we cry **out**: O Lord,/ through the intercession of the great passion-bearer, the **martyred** Tsar,/ grant Thou to the suffering Russian land deliverance from those who contend **against** God// and the restoration of the throne of our **Orthodox** tsars.
7. We raise a hymn to thee, O martyred Tsar, much-suffering passion-**bearer**,/ for thou didst make a place for all in thy heart, as did the **Apostle** Paul:/ feeding the hungry, comforting the sorrowful, sympathizing with the **suffering**,/ grieving over the lost, showing clemency to condemned male**factors**,/ meekly enduring slander and **injustice**,/ zealous for the Faith and for **piety**,/ holding the glory and wealth of this world to **be** but naught/ and, what is more, feeling them to be a **burden**,/ having concern for the peace of the whole world, aflame with **love** for all./ Take us also **into** thy heart,/ O much-suffering and great passion-**bearer**,/ and entreat the merciful God, that He take **pity** on us,// and grant us the strength to be **emulators** of thee.
- (Tone 6)
8. O divinely-crowned martyr, holy Tsaritsa **Alexandra**,/ who can recount thy truly **evangelical** life?/ Thou didst come to the Orthodox Faith from **another** belief,/ and didst embrace it whole**heartedly**,/ coming to love, prayer, the Church and the holy **Mysteries**,/ and the teaching of the holy **Fathers**,/ raising thy children in **piety**,/ and preparing them for **martyrdom** for Christ,/ meekly enduring the slander of those who had **forgotten** God/ and who did not understand thy true **piety**./ Wherefore, we **beseech** thee:// Entreat Christ God Whom thou didst love, that He **save** our souls.
9. The holy martyred Tsarevich Alexis loved the **power** of the Cross./ And this faith in the Cross helped him to bear without **murmuring**/ the cross of the suffering of an incurable affliction all throughout his **brief** life,/ and to accept with hope and patience a martyr's **death** for Christ./ And now in the heavens pray thou for us who with faith and love keep thy **memory**,// that the Lord may also grant us faith, **patience** and love.
10. O holy **martyrs** for Christ,/ Tsarevnas Olga, Tatiana, Maria and **Anastasia**:/ Christ hath revealed you as angels in the land of **Russia**,/ for ye became a model of purity, love and **sympathy**,/ which ye were taught by your pious parents, possessed of great **love** for all,/ and especially for the **suffering**,/ to whom ye ministered in accordance with the **commandment** of Christ:/ I was sick and ye **visited** Me./ And when the persecution, imprisonment and **mockery** began,/ ye showed forth the great virtues of faith, meekness, patience and the

forgiveness of all,/ chanting your holy prayers and placing your **trust** in God,/ crying out to the Lord before the many icons which ye set up **before** yourselves,/ praying meekly for the enemies who were unjustly to vex and **slay** you./ Your meekness and patience melted the hearts of the malefactors./ Great were your virtues on earth; great also is your glory in the heavens, O holy **brides** of Christ.// Pray ye in **behalf** of our souls.

Glory... (Tone 8)

O divinely elect and venerable martyred Princess **Elizabeth**,/ when the tempest of ungodliness fell upon the land of Russia, thou didst **utter** these things:/ "As in a natural storm these **things** take place:/ certain ones escape, others are struck down, and the spiritual eyes of others are **opened**/ that they might behold the mighty **works** of God,/ so also do they befall amid the **wind** of life."/ For amid the misfortunes thy soul beheld the right **hand** of God:/ the cruel murder of thy husband led thee to the service of God and **neighbor**;/ thou didst minister unto the poor, the bereft and the crippled with humility **and** love./ Moreover, thou didst embrace the **monastic** life,/ and refuse to flee from them who **contend** with God,/ fearlessly receiving a martyr's **death** for Christ./ And we, honouring thy fragrant relics, earnestly **entreat** thee:// Pray thou for us who honour thy struggles and **sufferings**!

Both... Dogmatikon (Tone 4)

David, the **prophet**, fore**father** of God/ through Thee gave voice **beforehand** in psalms/ **concerning** the great things **done** for Thee:/ Upon Thy right hand doth **stand** the Queen./ For God Who was pleased without father to be made **man** of thee,/ has shown thee forth as Mother of life and **mediator**,/ that He might restore His image corrupted by the **passions**;/ and that when He had found the stray sheep caught in the **mountains**,/ He might lay it upon His shoulder and bring it to His **Father**,/ and by His own wish that Christ in Whom is great and bountiful **mercy**/ might gather it to the **heavenly** hosts// and save the world, O Theotokos.

P. Wisdom. Aright!

C. O Joyful Light...

P. Prokimenon. The Lord is King...

P. Wisdom!

The First Reading A Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon:

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: And their departure is taken for misery, and their going from us to be utter destruction: But they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: For God proved them, and found them worthy for Himself. As gold in the furnace hath He tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign forever. They that put their trust in Him shall understand the

truth: And such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him: For grace and mercy is to His saints, and He hath care for His elect.

The Second Reading A Reading from the Third Book of Kings:

Solomon stood up in front of the altar before all the congregation of Israel; and he spread out his hands toward heaven: and he said: "O Lord God of Israel, there is no God like Thee in heaven above and on the earth beneath. If the heaven and the heaven of heavens will not suffice Thee, how much less even this house which I have built to Thy name? Yet, O Lord God of Israel, Thou shalt look upon my petition, to hear the prayer which Thy servant doth pray to Thee in Thy presence this day, that Thine eyes may be open to this house day and night, even toward the place of which Thou didst say: 'My name shall be there, to hear the prayer which My servant prayeth at this place day and night.' And Thou shalt hearken unto the prayer of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, which they shall pray toward this place; and Thou shalt hear in Thy dwelling-place in heaven, and Thou shalt do and be gracious."

The Third Reading A Reading From The Prophecy Of Isaiah

Let my soul rejoice in the Lord; for He hath clothed me with the robe of salvation, and the garment of joy: He hath put a crown on me as on a bridegroom, and adorned me with ornaments as a bride. And as the earth putting forth her flowers, and as a garden its seed, so shall the Lord, even the Lord, cause righteousness to spring forth, and exultation before all nations. For Sion's sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness go forth as light, and My salvation burn as a torch. And the gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and kings thy glory: and one shall call thee by a new name, which the Lord shall name. And thou shalt be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. And thou shalt no more be called Forsaken; and thy land shall not more be called Desert: for thou shalt be called My Pleasure, and the land Inhabited: for the Lord hath taken pleasure in thee, and thy land shall be inhabited. And as a young man liveth with a virgin, so shall thy sons dwell in thee: and it shall come to pass that as a bridegroom will rejoice over a bride, so will the Lord rejoice over thee.

- P. Augmented Litany
- R. Vouchsafe...
- P. Litany of Fervent Supplication

C. Litya Prayers

(NOTE: The first sticheron is for the temple...)

Stichera for Royal Martyrs (Tone 3)

True glory is suffering, for thus spake the Lord:/ Now is the Son of man glorified,/ calling the passion on the Cross His glory./ And of this glory of the Cross were the royal martyrs accounted worthy;/ who emulated the sufferings of the Saviour./ Wherefore, Christ hath come to love them, and hath exalted them in the heavens,// that they might pray in behalf of our souls.

Glory... (Tone 8)

The counsels of God are not as the counsels of men/, nor are the ways of men like the ways of God, saith the Lord,/ for He humbleth one and exalteth another,/ the Lord bringeth death and giveth life,/ He impoverisheth and enricheth,/ He raiseth up the pauper from the earth, giving him a throne of glory./ The Lord prepared a throne of glory for His beloved servant,/ the glorious martyred Tsar Nicholas,/ rewarding him for his piety;/ and because of the path of the cross which he trod,/ He caused him to live in the heavens,/ that he might pray for his people,// that we may take care for the kingdom of heaven and for the salvation of our souls.

Both ... Theotokion (Tone 8)

O unwedded Virgin/ who ineffably conceived God in the flesh,/ Mother of God Most High:/ accept the entreaties of thy servants, O most immaculate one,/ granting unto all cleansing of transgressions;/ and, accepting now our supplications,// pray thou that we all be saved.

P. *Litya prayers in back of Church*

APOSTICHA: (Tone 4)

1. Ascending upon the **Cross**, O Lord,/ Thou hast abolished for us the ancestral curse,/ and descending into hell, having set free those in bonds from all **eternity**,/ Thou hast bestowed on mankind **incorruption** and life./ We therefore praise and **glorify**// Thy redeeming Resurrection upon the **third** day.

V. The Lord is King,/ and hath put on glorious apparel.

2. **Hung upon** the wood,/ Thou Who alone art mighty, hast shaken the whole creation:/ While **laid** in the tomb, Thou hast raised up those **dwelling** therein,/ and hast bestowed life and incorruption on **mankind**;/ therefore, we praise and **glorify**// Thy redeeming Resurrection on the **third** day.

V. He hath made the world so sure/ that it cannot be moved.

3. The lawless **people** who gave Thee, O Christ, to **Pilate**,/ condemned Thee to be **crucified**,/ and **showed** themselves thankless towards their **Benefactor**./ But it was Thy good pleasure to suffer **burial**,/ and of Thine own Will hast Thou risen again as God on the **third** day,// and hast bestowed on us life without end and Thy great **mercy**.

V. Holiness becometh Thine house/ O Lord, forever.

4. The **women** who sought Thee came in tears to Thy tomb and when they **found** Thee not,/ they lamented and **imploring** said:/ "O **Saviour** of ours and Lord of all, how comes it that Thou hast been **stolen** away?/ And what place can hold Thy life-bearing **Body**?"/ An angel then stood **before** them and replied:// "Weep not, but proclaim the good tidings that the Lord is risen, and grants us joy because He alone is **compassionate**."

Glory... (Tone 6)

Who can recount thy labors and **sufferings**?/ O great passion-bearer, martyred Tsar **Nicholas**,/ thou didst assume the grievous burden of authority, not for the sake of **glory**,/ but as a Christian king and **servant** of Christ,/ as one concerned for the good of his **people**,/ enduring a multitude of tribulations./ All of these things did the Lord permit because of the sins of the **people**,/ and that He might reveal thy **piety**,/ showing the world thy long**suffering**,/ which was like that of the much **suffering** Job,/ that thou mightest receive a glorious martyr's crown in the heavens, like unto that of **Abel**./ And now joining chorus there with the angels, thou dost intercede for us **before** God,// praying for the **salvation** of our souls.

Both... (Tone 6)

O all-hallowed **Virgin**,/ Christ, the Maker and Deliverer and Lord **proceeded** from thy womb,/ and clothing Himself in me, set man free from the original curse of **Adam**./ Wherefore, O all-pure **Virgin**,/ we sing without ceasing to thee as Mother of God and **Virgin**/ in truly the greeting of the **angel**::/ Rejoice! O Lady, advocate and defender and **salvation** of our souls.

C. St. Symeon's Prayer

R. Trisagion

C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos x3

P. Blessing of the five loaves

C. Amen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord...

MATINS: Tone 4

P. Regular Beginning

P. Great Ectenia

C. God is the Lord... (Tone 4)

C. Sunday Troparia (Tone 4) x2

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 God is risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Glory... Troparion for the Royal Martyrs (Tone 5)

Meekly didst thou endure the loss of thine earthly kingdom,/ the bonds and divers sufferings inflicted upon thee by those opposed to God,/ and didst bear witness for Christ even unto death,/ O great passion-bearer, divinely crowned Tsar Nicholas;/ wherefore, Christ God hath crowned thee in the heavens with a martyr's crown,/ together with thy queen, thy children and thy servants.// Him do thou beseech, that He have mercy upon the Russian land and save our souls.

Both... (Tone 5)

Rejoice! Thou impassable **gateway** of the Lord;/ Rejoice! Thou wall and protection of those who take **refuge** in Thee;/ Rejoice! Thou haven

untroubled by storms;/ Rejoice! Thou who hast not known wedlock/ and who hast borne Thy Son and Maker and **God** in the flesh./ Fail **not** in thy intercession **on** behalf// of those who sing the praises of and **worship** thy Son.

Lord Have Mercy 3x
Glory...

R. Now...
R. Kathisma II
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

Gazing upon the entrance to the tomb, and unable to endure the angel of flame, the myrrhbearing women marveled, trembling, and said: "Hath He been stolen away Who hath opened paradise to the thief? Or hath He risen Who even before His suffering proclaimed His resurrection? Truly, Christ hath risen, granting life and resurrection unto those in hades!"

V. Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high; forget not Thy paupers to the end.

In Thy voluntary counsel Thou didst endure the Cross, O Saviour, and in a new tomb mortal men laid Thee Who by Thy word didst create the ends of the earth. Wherefore, the alien one was bound, death taken grievously captive; and all those in hades cried out to Thy life-bearing resurrection; Christ hath arisen, remaining the Bestower of life forever.

G/B... The mystery hidden from all ages and unknown to the angels was made manifest to those on earth through Thee, O Theotokos: God took flesh in a union without confusion and for our sakes willingly accepted the Cross; and thereby He raised the first formed man and saved our souls from death.

R. Kathisma III
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

Thou didst arise from the tomb as One Immortal, O Saviour, and by Thy power didst raise Thy world up with Thyself, O Christ our God; in might Thou didst crush the dominion of death, O Merciful One, and hast shown forth the resurrection unto all. Wherefore, we glorify Thee, O Thou Who alone lovest mankind!

V. I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, I will tell of all Thy wonders.

Having descended from the heights of heaven and approached the stone where the Stone of life had lain, Gabriel, arrayed in white, cried out to those who wept: "Cease your cries of lamentation, O ye who have mercy now with you! Be of good cheer, for He Whom ye seek, weeping, hath truly arisen! Wherefore, cry out to the apostles that the Lord hath risen! And

receiving this joy, worship the Risen One! Be ye of good cheer, that Eve also may rejoice!"

G/B... All the choirs of the apostles marveled at the dread mystery of thy birthgiving, O pure one: how He Who holdeth all things in one hand is held in thine arms as a man, how the Pre-eternal One receiveth the beginning, how He Who in His ineffable goodness nurtureth every creature is fed with milk. And praising thee, they glorify thee as the true Mother of God.

C. Polyeleos

P. Magnification (once only by clergy)

We magnify you,/ O holy royal martyrs and passion-bearers,/ and we honour your honoured sufferings,// which ye endured for Christ.

C. Evlogitaria (Blessed art Thou, O Lord...)

P. Small Ectenia

R. Ypakoe:

Running on before, the myrrhbearing women proclaimed Thine all-glorious arising to the apostles, O Christ: how, as God, Thou didst arise, granting great mercy to the world.

Sessional Hymns for the Royal Martyrs

Thrice did Peter deny the Lord, yet he brought forth tears of repentance, and was straightway pardoned and elevated to the rank of foremost apostle. And the Tsar and great passion-bearer Nicholas, even though he abdicated the throne, beholding about him treason, fear and deceit, and perceiving that all of the military commanders and people near to him had rejected him, yet did he never renounce Christ or his love for his people, nor did he wish to flee from those who were opposed to God, but meekly endured all things and, though guiltless, accepted a martyr's death for Christ, like his kinsmen, the right-believing princes Boris and Gleb. Wherefore, we entreat thee, O passion-bearer and Tsar: Beseech Christ God, that He grant remission of transgressions unto those who with love celebrate thy holy memory.

With great love for thankless men, thou didst offer thyself, O great passion-bearer and Tsar, as a sacrifice for thy people, as thou didst say: "If a sacrifice is required for the people, let me be that sacrifice." Greater love than this can no one have than to lay down his life for his friends. And now, standing before Christ Whom thou didst serve, entreat Him in behalf of us that with love honour thy memory.

Glory... When thou, O martyred Tsar Nicholas, didst accede to the royal throne, thou didst not ask of God rich estates, or glory, or the lives of those opposed to thee, nor length of days; but with all thine heart thou didst ask, as did the most wise Solomon, saying: "O Lord God, grant me wisdom and understanding." Wherefore, the Lord hearkened unto thee, and granted thee that for which thou hadst asked, showing thee forth as a zealot of piety, a wise and humble tsar; and for thy piety He crowned

thee with a glorious heavenly crown, that thou mightest pray for all Orthodox people, standing with the holy angels in the heavens at the throne of God.

Both... O all-pure Virgin, have mercy on us who with faith flee unto thee who art full of loving-kindness and that ask thy fervent aid. As Mother of God Most High, entreat thy Son, Christ our God, that thy servants be saved.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)

From my youth have the many passions warred against me. But do Thou help and save me, O my Saviour.

O ye who hate Sion, ye shall be put to shame by the Lord; for ye shall be withered up like grass by the fire.

G/B... By the Holy Spirit is every soul given life, exalted by purity, and made radiant by the unity of the Trinity in a sacred and mystical manner.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)

From the depths of my soul have I cried out to Thee, O Lord. Let Thy divine ears be attentive unto me.

Everyone who hath set his hope on the Lord is higher than all who sorrow.

G/B... Through the Holy Spirit do streams of grace flow, watering all creation, unto its enlivening.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)

Let my heart be lifted up unto Thee, O Word, and let none of the delights of the world beguile me, unto my weakening.

We who have love for our mothers must needs be yet more ardent in our love for the Lord.

G/B... From the Holy Spirit is the richness of divine vision, sight and wisdom; for in Him doth the Word reveal all the precepts of the Father.

P. Prokimenon: (Tone 4)

Arise, O Lord, help us/ and redeem us for Thy Name's sake.

V. O God, with our ears have we heard, for our fathers have told us.

C. Let every breath praise the Lord.

P. GOSPEL #5

C. Having Beheld the Resurrection of Christ...

R. Psalm 50

C. Glory... Now... Have mercy on me... Jesus having risen...

P. Save, O God, Thy People...

Anointing.

Canticle One

Irmos: Having traversed the depths of the Red Sea with dryshod feet,/ Israel of old/ vanquished the might of Amalek/ in the

wilderness// by Moses' arms stretched out in the form of the Cross.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou wast lifted up upon the Tree of the Cross, setting aright our fall, O Master, and healing the destruction wrought by the tree, in that Thou art good and almighty.

Thou wast in the tomb bodily and in hades with Thy soul, as God; Thou wast in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, O Christ, Thou Infinite One Who fillest all things.

Theotokion

At the will of the Father, through the divine Spirit thou didst conceive the Son of God without seed and gavest birth unto Him in the flesh. He Who was begotten of the Father without mother came forth from thee without father for our sake.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou didst heal the affliction of mankind, O Lord, restoring it by Thy divine blood; and Thou didst break him who is mighty in power, who of old broke Thy creature.

Through death Thou becamest the resurrection of the dead; for the might of mortality was removed when it fought with eternal Life, the incarnate God Who hath mastery over all things.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The people were shaken, the nations were troubled, and mighty kingdoms bowed down out of fear of thine Offspring, O pure one. For my King came: He cast down the tyrant and hath delivered the world from corruption.

Christ, Who dwelleth in the highest and descended unto mortal man, sanctified thee as His dwelling-place, and showed thee forth as unshaken. For thou, having borne the Creator, hast remained a treasury of virginity after childbirth.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

Beholding the mockery and spoliation of thy land by the godless foe, the pious Tsar wept from the depths of his heart, like the Prophet Jeremiah and the three youths, praying for the sinful people and groaning bitterly: O merciful Lord, forsake us not!

O how hath the Russian land, which before was prosperous and glorious in the world, been made captive by those who contend against God? All who were her friends have forsaken her and have become her foes. The Lord hath rejected tsar and prince and priest. Behold, O Lord, look down and have mercy!

Glory... Great is the abyss of the Lord's compassion. The Lord doth not reject us forever, but taketh pity on the humbled and penitent, in accordance with the multitude of His mercies, and He delivereth His people, as of old He delivered Israel from the bondage of Egypt.

Both... O Mistress, hearken unto the cry of prayer of those who with faith and love have recourse to thee and hymn thee with fear.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

I shall open my mouth/ and the Spirit will inspire it,/ and I shall utter the words of my song to the Queen and Mother:/ I shall be seen radiantly keeping feast// and joyfully praising her wonders.

Canticle Three

Irmos: Thy Church rejoiceth in Thee, O Christ,/ crying aloud://
Thou art my strength, O Lord, my refuge and my consolation!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The Tree of life, the true noetic Vine, hanging upon the Cross, poured forth incorruption upon all.

As One great and awesome, as the One Who cast down the arrogance of hades, and as God incorrupt, Thou hast arisen in the flesh.

Theotokion

Thou alone, who in manner transcending nature art the mediatrix of good things for those on earth, becamest the Mother of God; wherefore, we offer thee "Rejoice!"

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

O Saviour, the serpent sank into me his fangs, full of venom, which Thou didst break with the nails which pierced Thy hands, O Almighty Master; for there is none among the saints as holy as Thou, Who lovest mankind.

Of Thine own will Thou wast seen, dead, in the tomb, O Bestower of life; and Thou hast overthrown the gates of hades for the souls held prisoner from ages past; for there is none among the saints as holy as Thou, Who lovest mankind.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The essence of men is purified, having been united through thee with the unbearable divine Fire, O all-pure Virgin, baked into Bread which was hid within thee, and Who preserved thee unharmed.

Who is this who is truly close to God? For, having surpassed all the ranks of the angels, she alone shineth forth as the Mother of the Almighty in the beauty of virginity.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

At God's behest, the guardian angel was taken away from the land of Russia, her enemies assumed the rule over it, and they that despise her prosper, because of the multitudes of the impieties of what before was a pious land; and her princes languish among alien peoples. Spurn not utterly Thy suffering people, O Lord, but turn Thou and establish them on the rock of Thy commandments.

How long, O Lord, will the way of the wicked prosper? How long will the land weep because of the evil of those who dwell therein? Hierarchs, priests, princes and faithful people have been cast down and slain. How long, O Lord, O true and holy Master, wilt Thou refrain from condemning Thine enemies for their blood? Have mercy and deliver us all from Thine enemies, and save our souls.

Glory... Bereft of deliverance, the land which before was called Christian hath been filled with tribulation and groaning, saying amid its suffering: We have sinned and transgressed, falling away from Thee, O Lord, and have not obeyed Thy commandments, nor kept them. Turn us to repentance, O God, and establish us upon the immovable rock of Thy commandments.

Both... Thou art our hope and trust, O all-holy Mistress. Save our suffering homeland and thy people who entreat and call upon thy name.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

O **M**other of God,/ thou living and **p**lentiful fount,/ give **s**trength to those united in spiritual **f**ellowship,/ who sing hymns of **p**raise to thee:/ And in thy divine **g**lory// vouchsafe unto them crowns of **g**lory.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion (Tone 6)

Thou didst strengthen the hope of the martyred Tsar,/ his Tsaritsa and children,/ and it took flight to Thy love,/ proclaiming beforehand their future rest.// Through their supplications, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

R. Ikos

Beholding the faith of Christ made mighty throughout the land of Russia by the pious Tsar, and unable to endure it, the enemies of God pondered how they might destroy the Christ-loving Tsar-martyr Nicholas, and they gave him over to an undeserved death with his pious Tsaritsa, children and servants, and with all the royal race; yet were they deceived, for the way of the iniquitous shall perish, but the righteous shall live for ever. Instead of destruction and harm, they made them glorious martyrs and intercessors before God, and by their blood and that of all the new martyrs, the land of Russia, oppressed by those who contend against God, shall be saved; for this blood is the seed of new life in Christ. Through their supplications, O Lord, have mercy upon us!

R. Sessional Hymns

O holy passion-bearer Princess Elizabeth, when they cast thee alive into the mine shaft at Alapaevsk, together with the holy martyrs of royal blood, the princes Sergius, John, Constantine, Igor and Vladimir, as well as the martyr Barbara and the holy martyr Theodore, though all were long enfeebled because of their wounds, thou though barely alive, didst alleviate the suffering of the dying, chanting sacred hymns which they that passed by did hear. Wherefore, we beseech thee: Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of transgressions unto those who celebrate thy holy memory with love.

G/B... When I stand before my Creator on the day of His righteous judgment, then, O Mistress, stand before me and deliver me from everlasting torment, that I may not go down into hades, but may be saved by thine assistance, O all-holy Theotokos.

Canticle Four

Irmos: Beholding Thee lifted up upon the Cross,/ O Sun of Righteousness,/ the Church stood rooted in place,/ crying out as is meet:// Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

In the suffering of Thine all-pure flesh in which Thou hadst willingly clothed Thyself, Thou didst ascend the Cross, healing my passions; wherefore, we cry out to Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Death, having tasted Thy sinless and life-creating body, O Master, died as was meet; and we cry out to Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Theotokion

Thou gavest birth without knowing wedlock, O Virgin, and even after giving birth thou remainest a virgin still; wherefore, with steadfast faith we cry aloud to thee, "Rejoice, O Mistress!"

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Israel of the law refused to acknowledge Thee as God Who made the law, O Christ; instead, violating the law, they nailed Thee to the Tree as a transgressor, and are now unworthy of the law.

Thy divine soul, O Saviour, having captured the treasures of hades, raised up with itself the souls of ages past; and Thy life-bearing body hath poured forth incorruption upon all.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Invisible One, becoming visible, dwelt with men; He Who is in the form of the unapproachable Divinity took on a form alien to Himself through

thee, O Maiden, and He saveth those who acknowledge thee to be the pure Mother of God.

The Virgin received the Immaterial One into material participation in matter, when He became a babe through her; wherefore, He alone is known in two essences: as incarnate God and transcendent man.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

The great iniquities of Thy people were before Thine eyes, O Lord; and the godless foe hath defiled and razed Thy sanctuaries, as the Prophet Isaiah said: Your feasts My soul hateth; I will no more pardon your sins; when ye stretch forth your hands to Me, I will turn away Mine eyes from you. These people draw nigh to Me with their mouths, but their heart is far from Me. Mindful thereof, we now repent and turn to Thee, that Thy wrath may cease, and that we may prevail over those who assail us and say: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

O how the time of the iniquities of Thy people hath increased, O Lord, for Thou hast taken away our strength, Thou hast given us into the hands of transgressors and hast made us all slaves. Only Thou alone, O Lord, canst, if Thou wishest, free us, when we acknowledge our sins and turn to Thee, our Creator, and glorify Thee.

Glory... Only in God is there blessed life which is everlasting, but narrow is the way which leadeth to that life. Thy people, O Lord, have forgotten these things, and have not obeyed Thy words, O Christ our King, but have taken the wide path of sin. And perdition and violence have come upon us, yea, exile and death, that we may come to acknowledge Thee to be the only true path, O our Saviour, and convert, and glorify Thee.

Both... Thou art our refuge and consolation, O all-pure Theotokos. Beseech thy Son and our God to grant us salvation and the remission of sins.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

He Who sits in glory upon the throne of the **Godhead**,/ Jesus the **true** God,/ is **come** in a **swift** cloud,/ and with His pure hand He has saved **those** who cry:// Glory to Thy **power**, O Lord.

Canticle Five

Irmos: Thou hast come, O my Lord, as a light into the world:/ a holy light// turning from the darkness of ignorance those who hymn Thee with faith.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

In Thy mercy Thou didst descend to earth, O Lord; and, lifted up upon the Tree, Thou didst raise up fallen human nature.

Thou, O Christ, hast taken away the condemnation of my transgressions; and Thou, O Compassionate One, hast destroyed the pangs of death by Thy divine resurrection.

Theotokion

Thee do we wield as an invincible sword against the enemy, O Bride of God, for we have acquired thee as our confirmation and hope of salvation.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Mindless hades seized Thee in its maw; for, having seen Thee nailed to the Cross, pierced by the spear, bereft of breath, it thought that Thou, the living God, wast a simple man. But testing the might of Thy divinity it understood.

The grave and hades divided the ruined temple of Thy body, O Thou Who lovest mankind, and both were against their will compelled to pay a fine: the one by giving up the souls of Thy saints, and the other their bodies, O Immortal One.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Son of God, making His abode within thee, made thee for us a house of glory, the holy mountain of God, His bride, bridal-chamber and temple of sanctity, a paradise of everlasting delight, O pure one.

Through the Virgin's blood, O Christ, Thou didst receive blood which is seedless, all-pure, hypostatic, reasonable and noetic, animate, active, with a will, possessed of its own power, self-governing.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

When the Lord rejected tsar, prince and priest, He did not spare His temples and holy things, and they were then laid waste. My heart hath been troubled within me; I sigh, but there is none to console me. O Lord, look down and take pity; enlighten us with Thy commandments, that we may turn to Thee and serve Thee.

Thy people, O Lord, wished to escape the violence of the foe, but were unable, and others have sojourned among alien peoples. This hath taken place, for false leaders have spoken vain things and foolishness, and have not spoken of sin, to avert the wrath of God, captivity and exile. And now all the lips of our enemies are opened against us, their teeth have gnashed and said: Let us swallow them up! Arise and cry out at night, pouring forth prayer unto the Lord and stretching forth thine hands unto Him, saying: Behold our destruction, O Lord! Enlighten, look upon us, and have mercy!

Glory... Youths and virgins, elders and innocent babes have been slain; the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life to the earth; he hath set me in dark places, like the dead of old, and my soul hath been despondent within me; within me my heart is troubled; but

strength hath perished, yet my hope is in the Lord. Be Thou mindful, O Lord, of my poverty and embitterment. These things I spake within my heart; wherefore, I endure suffering from God, that the Lord may regard my humility.

Both... O all-pure Mary, entreat God Whom thou hast borne, that He grant thy servants remission of sins.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The whole **world** was amazed at thy divine **glory**,/ for **thou**, O Virgin who hast not known **wedlock**,/ hast **held** in thy womb the **God** of all,/ and hast given birth to an **eternal** Son,// Who rewards with salvation all who sing thy **praises**.

Canticle Six

Irmos: I will sacrifice to Thee/ with a voice of praise, O Lord,/ the Church crieth unto Thee,/ cleansed of the blood of demons// by the blood which, for mercy's sake, flowed from Thy side.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Girded about with power, Thou didst ascend the Cross, and as God didst wrestle with the tyrant. And Thou didst cast him down from the heights and with invincible power didst raise up Adam.

Radiant and comely, Thou didst arise from the tomb, O Christ, and didst drive away all the enemies by Thy divine power; and as God Thou hast filled all with gladness.

Theotokion

O wonder newest of all wonders! For when the Virgin, without knowing man conceived in her womb, Him Who sustaineth all things, He was not confined.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Hell opened its maw and swallowed me, and, mindless, it puffed up its soul; but Christ, descending, led up my life, in that He loveth mankind.

Death hath perished through death; for He Who slew death hath arisen, granting me incorruption; and appearing to the women He proclaimed immortal joy.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Of old the serpent beguiled and slew me through my first mother Eve; but now, O pure one, He Who fashioned me hath through thee called me back from corruption.

The Abyss of compassion ineffably showed thee to be His chosen abyss of miracles, O Maiden; for from thee hath Christ the pearl shone forth through the lightning-flashes of His divinity.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

The Lord hath granted consolation, for the mercy of the Lord hath not forsaken us and His compassion hath not ended; for they are renewed with each passing day. Wherefore, let us trust in God; the Lord is our portion, let us hope in Him Who is able to deliver us from all misfortunes, as He did Jonah from the sea monster.

It is a good thing to seek God, for the Lord is good to those who trust in Him, and good it is for the soul which awaiteth in patience the salvation of God, who giveth his face to the smiter and accepteth abuse, that the Lord not utterly reject it, but deliver from destruction the souls of the humble who trust in Him.

Glory... The Lord hath sent woe upon sinful people, but He hath mercy according to His great goodness and love in His care, for He hath smitten and rendered bitter the lot of the children of men not out of the volition of His heart, but when they trampled upon His commandments; for from the Most High come punishment and prosperity alike. Let not every mortal complain concerning his chastisement, but let his face be downcast because of his sins and let him lament until he sinketh down in death and beholdeth the Lord from heaven.

Both... Now do I flee unto thee, O all-pure one. Save me by thy supplications, and preserve me; for what thou wishest, thou canst do, as thou art the Mother of the Almighty.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

As we **celebrate**/ this sacred and solemn feast of the **Mother** of God,/ **let** us come, **clapping** our hands,/ O people **of** the Lord,/ and give **glory** to God// Who was **born** of her.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion Tone 4

My Saviour and Redeemer as God/ rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains./ He has shattered the gates of hell,/ and as Master,// He has risen on the third day.

R. Ikos

O all ye mortals, let us all hymn Christ, the Bestower of life, Who hath arisen from the dead and the grave on the third day, demolished the gates of death by His own power today, slain hades, broken the sting of death, and freed Adam and Eve; and let us earnestly cry out praise, for He alone, as the only mighty God and Master, hath arisen on the third day.

Canticle Seven

Irmos: The children of Abraham in the Persian furnace,/ afire with love of piety more than with the flame, cried out:// Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Mankind, washed in the divine blood of Christ, hath been recalled to incorruption, and in thanksgiving it chanteth: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

Thy tomb, the wellspring of our resurrection, hath been shown to be more splendid than any royal chamber, O Christ, for it bore the Life and is truly more beautiful than paradise.

Theotokion

Rejoice, divine and sanctified dwelling of the Most High! For through thee, O Theotokos, hath joy been given unto those who cry: Blessed art thou among women, O most immaculate Mistress!

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Lifted up upon the Tree, He Who hath saved man laid low the lofty eye and cast overweening pride down to the ground. O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

By Thy power lift up the estate of those who serve Thee, O Thou Who arose from the dead and emptied hades of its former riches, the souls of many men, O Master. O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The fire of love for the Virgin which is within my heart moveth me to hymnody, so that I cry out to the Mother and Virgin: O blessed one, the Lord of hosts is with thee.

Thou wast shown to transcend creation, in that thou gavest birth to the Creator and Lord; wherefore, O Theotokos, I cry out to thee: O blessed one, the Lord of hosts is with thee.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

Turn us to Thee, O Lord, and we shall repent; renew our days by our ministering unto Thee as before, for Thou art blessed, and Thy name is praised and glorified forever. For just art Thou in all that Thou hast wrought for us, and all of Thy works are truth, and straight are Thy paths; and all of Thy judgments are true. Wherefore, with contrite heart and humble spirit, let us say: Blessed art Thou, O God, Who art supremely hymned and exalted forever!

O Lord God, blessed art Thou; for with true judgment hast Thou brought all of these sufferings upon us because of our sin. For we have

sinned and transgressed, and have neither preserved nor kept that which Thou hast commanded us, that all may be well with us, and that we may glorify the holy name of Thy glory, which is supremely hymned and exalted forever.

Glory... O Lord, Thou Remitter of all the debts of sin, grant the grace of forgiveness unto the sinful land of Russia which Thou hast punished with bitter wounds. Yet not in Thy wrath, but according to the multitude of Thy compassions and Thine ineffable mercy cleanse the Orthodox land of the godless foe; raise up, O Compassionate One, thine anointed tsar, and hearken unto us; grant peace to the Church and salvation to Thy people, the Tsar and all the countless assembly of new martyrs entreat Thee, the one blessed God of our fathers.

Both... O Virgin Theotokos, who gavest birth unto the Word, thy Creator, in manner past recounting: Him do thou entreat, together with the great martyred Tsar, the Tsaritsa, their children, servants, and the other royal martyrs, and all the new martyrs of Russia, that He have mercy upon our souls.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Holy** Children bravely trampled upon the **threatening** fire,/ preferring not to worship created things rather than the Creator,/ and they **sang** in joy:/ 'Blessed art Thou and **praised** above all,// O Lord God of our **fathers**.'

Canticle Eight

Irmos: Stretching forth his hands,/ Daniel shut the lions' mouths in the pit;/ and the young lovers of piety, girded about with virtue,/ quenched the power of the fire, crying out:// Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Stretching forth Thy hands, Thou didst gather in all the nations, O Master, and didst reveal the one Church which hymneth Thee, unto those in heaven and on earth, who sing together: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord! Hymn and exalt Him supremely forever!

The angel clad in white, resplendent in the unapproachable light of the resurrection, appeared to the women, crying: "Why seek ye the Living in the tomb as one dead? Truly Christ hath arisen!" And unto Him do we cry: All ye works, hymn the Lord and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Theotokion

Alone among all generations, O all-pure Virgin, thou hast been shown to be the Mother of God; and thou wast the habitation of the Divinity, O most immaculate one, who wast not consumed by the fire of the unapproachable Light. Wherefore, we all bless thee, O Mary, Bride of God.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Creation, beholding Thine unjust slaughter, veiled itself in darkness and lamented; for when the earth was troubled, the sun clothed itself in gloom as in a black robe. And we unceasingly hymn and exalt Christ supremely forever.

Having descended to me, even unto hades, and made resurrection a way for all, thou didst ascend again, taking me with Thee on Thy shoulder, and didst bring me to the Father. Wherefore, I cry out to Thee: Hymn the Lord, O ye works, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Lord of all, Who fashioned thee of the rib of Adam, became incarnate of thy virginity. Unto Him do we cry out, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works, and exalt Him supremely forever!

In a shadow Abraham beheld the mystery which is in thee, the Theotokos; for he received thine incorporeal Son, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works! Hymn and exalt Him supremely forever!

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

Deliver us from standing at Thy left hand, O Lord Who orderest all things for our good and hast sent fiery purification upon our land, that we may cry out unceasingly: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

A great treasure have we in the holy Faith which Christ hath given us, unworthy though we are; and we cherish it amid prosperity and amid sufferings, as the great assembly of new passion-bearers preserved the Faith even unto death. And let us cry out with them: Hymn the Lord, O ye works, and exalt Him supremely forever!

Let us bless Father, Son, Holy Spirit, the Lord!

The all-good God, desiring to reveal the strength of the faith and the power of the patience of the royal martyrs, gave them a cup of bitter sufferings to drink and a martyr's death to undergo; and they did not murmur, but, like innocent lambs, opened not their mouths; and with patience and joy they endured all things, crying out: Hymn ye the Lord and exalt Him supremely forever!

Both... O Theotokos, who gavest birth unto the Saviour and Master of all, thou hast been shown to us to be the mediatrix of our salvation; wherefore, we beseech thee: Intercede, that the grievously suffering land of Russia be delivered from the godless, and vouchsafe salvation unto all that faithfully hymn thee forever!

We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him unto all ages.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Offspring** of the Theotokos/ saved the holy Children in the **furnace**./ **He** Who was then prefigured has since been **born** on earth,/ and He gathers together all the creation to sing:/ O all ye **works** of the Lord,// bless ye the Lord and exalt Him above all **forever**.

P. Magnificat

C. Song of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Canticle Nine

Irmos: Christ, the Chief Cornerstone uncut by human hands,/ Who united the two disparate natures,/ was cut from thee, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin./ Wherefore, in gladness// we magnify thee, O Theotokos.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou didst wholly receive all of me into union with Thee without confusion, O my God, through Thy suffering which Thou didst endure bodily on the Cross imparting salvation wholly unto me, for the sake of Thy great compassion.

Beholding Thy tomb open and the God-bearing grave-clothes emptied by Thy resurrection, with the angels Thy women disciples said: Truly the Lord hath risen!

Triadicon

Worshipping the Oneness of the divine Essence, the Trinity of Hypostases, and honouring rightly that which is in unconfused Hypostases, equal in power and one as to adoration, let us magnify It, all ye faithful.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Having deceitfully caused me to fall, the serpent took me captive away from Eden; but on the hard stone of Golgotha the Lord Almighty dashed him as if he were a babe, and through the tree of the Cross opened the entrance to delight again to me.

The mighty fortresses of the enemy hast Thou now brought to desolation; and with Thine almighty hand Thou hast plundered his riches, O Christ Who raised me up with Thyself from the wastelands of hades; and an object of scorn hast Thou shown him to be who of old boasted beyond measure.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

We behold thee as a lily, arrayed in a robe dyed by the divine Spirit, O all-pure one, resplendent amid thorns and filling with sweet fragrance those who sincerely magnify thee.

The Incorrupt One, receiving corrupt human nature from thy womb, O most immaculate one, showed it to be incorrupt within Himself, in His loving-kindness; wherefore, we magnify thee as the Theotokos.

Holy Royal Martyrs pray to God for us!

Wide is the path which leadeth to perdition, and many are they that enter thereupon, said the Lord. The people of Russia did not hearken unto this saying of the Gospel, and the wrath of God hath overtaken them; deliver us therefrom, O Christ, the holy and great martyred Tsar Nicholas and those slain with him pray, and as Thou lovest mankind, save Thou our souls.

O Jesus Christ our God, in accordance with the multitude of Thy mercies turn us, and we shall be saved; look down from heaven with mercy and love, and behold, for Thou hast given us over into the hands of the iniquitous, and we are humbled throughout all the earth because of our sins. And now we shall follow Thee and fear Thee, and seek Thy countenance. Put us not to shame, but save our souls, through the supplications of the holy royal passion-bearers.

Glory... Show forth Thy power, the passion-bearing Tsar beseecheth Thee; rescue us from our godless enemies by Thy wonders, and deal with us according to Thy meekness and the multitude of Thy mercies; and let all that act evilly against Thy servants be put to shame, and let their might be cast down, that they may understand that Thou art the one Lord God of all the world, Who art glorious and savest our souls!

Both... Thou art our strength, thou art our boast and joy, our preserver, aid, refuge, invincible intercessor and protection of the Russian land. O all-pure Theotokos, with the martyred Tsar and the great multitude of the new martyrs, pray that thy servants be saved.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

Let every mortal **born** on earth,/ radiant with light, in spirit **leap** for joy;/ and **let** the hosts of the angelic powers **celebrate**/ and honor the holy feast of the **Mother** of God,/ and **let** them cry:// Hail! Pure and blessed ever-Virgin, who gavest **birth** to God.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion Five (Luke 24:12-25)

Christ, the Life and the Way, risen from the dead, accompanied Cleopas and Luke on their way and He was made known to them at Emmaus at the breaking of the bread. And their souls and hearts were on fire when He spoke to them on the way and He interpreted to them the Scriptures and the things He had endured. Let us cry with them: "He is risen and has appeared to Peter."

Glory... Exapostilarion for the Royal Martyrs

The royal martyrs, who suffered for Thy sake, O Christ, underwent many torments and have received crowns of glory in the heavens, that they may pray in behalf of our souls.

Both... Theotokion

I sing the praises of Thy mercy without measure, O my Maker. For Thou hast emptied Thyself to suffer and save the nature of mortal man grown evil. And being God, Thou hast been pleased to be born from the Pure Maid of God according to my likeness, and Thou hast gone down even into hell, wishing by the intercession of her that bore Thee to save me, O Word, Thou all-merciful Master.

C. Lauds: Tone 4 Stichera

Let every breath **praise** the Lord/
 Praise the Lord from the **Heavens**/
Praise Him in the **highest**/
 To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God/
 Praise Him, all ye His **Angels**://
 Praise Him, all ye His hosts.
 To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God.

R. (The following may be read or sung antiphonally)

Praise Him, O sun and moon; praise Him, all ye stars and light.
 Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens.
 Let them praise the name of the Lord; For He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created.
 He established them forever, yea, forever and ever; He hath set an ordinance, and it shall not pass away.
 Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all ye abysses,
 Fire, hail, snow, ice, blast of tempest, which perform His word,
 The mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars,
 The beasts and all the cattle, creeping things and winged birds,
 Kings of the earth, and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth,
 Young men and virgins, elders with the younger; let them praise the name of the Lord, for exalted is the name of Him alone.
 His praise is above the earth and heaven, and He shall exalt the horn of His people.
 This is the hymn for all His saints, for the sons of Israel, and for the people that draw nigh unto Him.
 Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints.
 Let Israel be glad in Him that made him, let the sons of Sion rejoice in their king.
 Let them praise His name in the dance; with the timbrel and the psaltery let them chant unto Him.
 For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation.
 The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds.
 The high praise of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged swords shall be in their hands.
 To do vengeance among the heathen, punishments among the peoples,
 To bind their kings with fetters, and their nobles with manacles of iron,

V. To do among them the judgment that is written/ This glory shall be to all His saints.

1. We **glorify** Thy Resurrection,/ O all-**powerful** Lord,/ Who hast **suffered** the **Cross** and death// and art **risen** from the dead.
 - V. Praise ye God in His saints,/ praise Him in the firmament of His power.

2. By Thy **Cross** hast Thou set us free from the **ancient** curse/ and by Thy death hast Thou laid low the **devil**/ who tormented our **nature**,/ while all things have been filled with joy by Thy Resurrection;/ therefore, we **cry** unto Thee:// Glory be unto Thee, O Lord **risen** from the dead.
 - V. Praise Him for His mighty acts,/ praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

3. By Thy **Cross** instruct us in Thy truth, O Christ our **Saviour**,/ and deliver us from the wiles of the **adversary**;/ O **Thou**, Who art **risen** from the dead,/ raise us up, **fallen** through sin./ By the prayers of Thy saints stretch out to us Thine **arm**, O Lord, // Who **lovest** mankind.
 - V. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,/ praise Him with psaltery and harp.

4. Thou hast **taken** upon Thyself **death** in the flesh/ and hast mediated that we might be **immortal**/ and **Thou** hast dwelt in the tomb that we might be **free** from hell,/ and suffering as man, Thou hast risen as God, having raised us **with** Thyself./ Therefore, we cry unto Thee: Glory be unto Thee, O Lord, **Giver** of life,// Who alone **lovest** mankind.
 - V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,/ praise Him with strings and flute.

Stichera for the Royal Martyrs (Tone 3)

5. O royal passion-bearers and **martyrs**,/ ye were **led** as pure lambs before the **Master**:// Him do ye beseech that He **save** our souls.
 - V. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let every breath praise the Lord.

6. O glorious royal **martyrs**,/ your **wounds** and stripes heal the wounds of sin of all the **faithful**,// teaching great patience, O holy **athletes** of the Lord!
 - V. Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high;/ forget not Thy paupers to the end.

7. Tormented with grievous wounds and sufferings, O holy royal passion-bearers,/ ye did not **reject** the true **life** of our Lord,/ nor were ye **afraid** of those who contend **against** God.// Wherefore, by your supplications make us all **steadfast**.
 - V. I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart,/ I will tell of all Thy **wonders**.

(Tone 6)

8. By the prayers of Thy holy **martyrs**/ who were slain for their faith in **Thee**, O Christ/ - the Grand Dukes Michael, Paul, **Demetrius** and George,/ and the faithful royal servants: Elias, Basil and Eugene, Anastasia, Catherine and **Anna**,/ Alexis, John, Clement, John and **Nicholas**/ - have mercy and save **Thou** our souls,// for Thou art good and **lovest** mankind.

Glory... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 5)

How **wise**, O Christ, are Thy **judgments**!/ How by the grave clothes lying alone, Thou hast given Peter to understand Thy Resurrection!/ And **Thou** hast conversed on the way with Luke and Cleopas,/ and while **conversing**, Thou hast not straightway made Thyself **manifest**./ Therefore hast Thou been reproached as being only a stranger in Jerusalem/ not **sharing** to the end in her **counsels**./ But **dispensing** all things for the expedience of the **creature**,/ Thou hast unfolded the prophesies **concerning** Thee/ and **made** Thyself known to them by the **blessing** of the bread./ And their **hearts** were set on fire by **knowledge** of Thee./ And they already plainly proclaimed Thy Resurrection to the assembled **disciples**.// Through which have **mercy** upon us.

Both now and ever... (Tone 2)

Most Blessed art Thou, O Virgin Theotokos,/ for through Him Who became incarnate of thee is hades led **captiv**e,/ **Adam** recalled, the curse annulled, Eve set free, **death** slain,/ and we are given life. Wherefore, we cry **aloud** in praise:/ Blessed art Thou, O **Christ** God,// Who hast been thus well-pleased, **glory** to Thee.

P. The Great Doxology

R. Dismissal Tropar:

Having risen from the tomb, and having burst the bonds of hades, Thou hast destroyed the sentence of death, O Lord, delivering all from the snares of the enemy. Manifesting Thyself to Thine apostles, Thou didst send them forth to preach; and through them hast granted Thy peace to the world, O Thou Who alone art plenteous in mercy.

P. Litanies

Dismissal

R. Hours:

Tropar: Resurrection & Holy Royal Martyrs

Kontak: Holy Royal Martyrs/Resurrection alternating

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia as per Doxology service

Prokimenon for Tone 4

How magnified are thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

V. Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

Prokimenon for the Royal Martyrs (Tone 4)

V. For Thy sake, O Lord, we are slain all the day long.

Epistle(s): Rom 10:1-10 & Rom 8:28-39

Alleluia for Tone 4

V. Bend thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king, because of truth and meekness and righteousness

V. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity.

Alleluia for the Royal Martyrs (Tone 1)

V. Our God is refuge and strength, a helper in afflictions which mightily befall us.

Gospel(s): Matt 8:28-9:1 & John 15:17-16:2

Communion Verse: Praise Ye & Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.