

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> Day of March**

**Commemoration of the Holy Hieromartyrs of Chersón (*Khersón*):  
Basil, Ephraim, Capito, Eugene, Aetherius, Elpidius and  
Agathodorus.**

### **Vespers**

**At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”***

**O** invincible martyrs and all-praised hierarchs, /  
Lights of the universe and unshakeable pillars of God’s holy Church, /  
Defenders of the doctrines and instructors for pious believers: /  
You swept all deception and error away, /  
O divinely-wise fathers, /  
O ye guiding lights for our souls and companions of the angels ///  
And champions of the Holy Trinity.

**L**et us offer praise divine /  
To Ephraim the glorious, and to Basil the wise, /  
Agathodorus the blessed, together with Eugene and Capito, /  
Elpidius and most-glorious Aetherius, /  
For as they lived in righteousness, they suffered in holiness ///  
And now they abide in the mansions of heaven.

**H**aving put to death by his labors, the desires of the flesh /  
Basil the glorious, raised a man from the dead; /  
And Capito, the most-holy shepherd, /  
Rejoiced in the flames without being consumed. /  
By their prayers, O Lover of mankind, ///  
Grant us the remission of our sins and Thy great mercy.

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (*and melody*)**

**W**ash away the filth of the passions of my heart /  
O all-praised Theotokos /  
And cleanse all the wounds which come from my sins and their corruption, /  
O pure one; /  
Set in order my unstable mind /  
So that I who am condemned and am thy worthless servant ///  
May magnify thy power and great protection.

7 MARCH

**Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (in the Same Tone)**

**B**eholding Christ, who loveth mankind, crucified, /  
His side pierced by a spear, /  
The all-pure one, cried aloud, lamenting: /  
“What is this, O my Son? /  
How have these thankless people rewarded Thee /  
For all the good things Thou hast done for them? /  
Dost Thou hasten to leave me childless, O most belovèd Son? ///  
I marvel, O Compassionate One, at Thy voluntary crucifixion!”

**The General Troparion of the Hieromartyrs, in Tone 4: (No Troparion is given in the Slav Menaion)**

**O** God of our fathers /  
Deal with us according to Thy compassion, /  
Take not away Thy mercy from us /  
But through the prayers of our fathers ///  
Guide our lives in peace.

**Matins**

**The Canon of the Martyrs, in Tone 4,**

— incomplete as of 1/2015

**The Kontakion of the Hieromartyrs, in Tone 2: To the melody, “He that dwelleth in the highest...”**

**O**n this bright day we celebrate the blessèd memory /  
Of the splendid hierarchs of Chersón. /  
We praise them in song for they suffered for the sheep of Christ /  
And we cry out to them: O holy martyred hierarchs, /  
Beseech Christ, who is the Shepherd of all, /  
That He number us with the sheep standing at His right hand, /  
So that we may cry aloud to you: ///  
Rejoice, O holy fathers who shed your own blood for the sake of Christ.

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