

The 2nd Day of November

**Holy Martyrs Acindynus, Pegásius, Aphthónius, Elpidéphorus
and Anempodístus of Persia and the 7,000 Martyrs with them.**

Vespers

At “Lord I call...,” 6 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

Let us praise the company of the five martyrs, /
Acindýnus the wise, Pegásius, Elpidéphórus, Aphthónius and Anempodístus, /
Valiant sufferers and ardent defenders. /
They pour out grace unhindered and abiding hope, ///
Bestowing them freely upon the faithful.

Neither ice nor danger, /
Neither life nor death, /
Neither boiling cauldrons nor chasms in the earth /
Nor the jaws of wild beasts /
Could separate your patient and wise bravery from the love of Christ. /
Looking ceaselessly to Him and desiring Him alone ///
You triumphed over your enemies.

Being satisfied with sweetness, /
And being filled with light, /
And having inherited eternal life, O divinely-wise ones, /
Rescue from danger, chains and prisons, /
And from places of oppression, those who run to you, /
For you have boldness before God, ///
And have revealed your compassion, in true imitation of Christ.

Glory..., Tone 6:

Today a five-stared choir of martyrs /
As a light bearing cloud of stars /
Enlightening the faithful, has called us to a mystical celebration. /
Today, the servants of the Sun of readon, /
The destroyers of the Persian superstitions, /
Have led to piety those who honored the material sun and worshipped fire. /
Having drunk deeply from their cup of suffering, /
And having been crowned for the blood they shed for Christ , /

These champions of piety call out to us: /
“Come,” they say, “and rejoice in our struggle! /
Behold our crowns and honor! /
Christ spoke the truth — he who endures to the end is saved! /
Do this, that you may partake of our crowns.” ///
And have us as your intercessors before the Lord.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheotokion: *To the melody, “On the third day....”*

When the Virgin, Thy Pure Mother, /
Beheld Thee unjustly nailed to the Tree by lawless men /
Her womb, O Savior was wounded, ///
As Symeon had foretold.

Or Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week if a Resurrection service.

The Aposticha from the Octoechos and this sticheron to the Martyrs, in Tone 1:

Verse: God is wondrous in His saints, the God of Israel.

The lights of the five-starred martyrs have risen, /
Their number that of the wise virgins. /
Seeing their example, let us be enlightened by their memory. /
Through their prayers, O Christ, save our souls from all enemies and danger, /
Keep our lives in peace through their entreaties. /
For Thou ceaselessly pourest forth Thy rich mercies upon those who glorify Thee, /
As we put our hope in Thee, ///
Through their prayers grant to our souls great mercy.

Glory..., in Tone 2:

Come, O you lovers of the feasts of the Church /
And let us rejoice in the Lord on this day when we celebrate the passion-
bearing martyrs! /
Come, and let us praise them, saying mystically: /
Rejoice, Acindýnus! Rejoice Pegásius! /
Rejoice Anempodístus! Rejoice Elpidephorus! /
Rejoice Aphthónius /
For you have cast the deceit of idolatry into the abyss, /
Clearly confessing Christ in the midst of the arena. ///
Therefore, O blessèd and longsuffering ones, pray without ceasing for our souls.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheotokion: *To the melody, “When Joseph of Arimathea took Thee down from the tree...”*

Beholding thee nailed to the wood of the Cross, O Jesus /
She who know not wedlock cried out weeping: /
“O sweet Child, Thou Unapproachable Light of the All-unoriginate Father, /
Why hast Thou left me alone, who gave birth to Thee?
But hasten Thou and glorify Thyself ///
That they who glorify Thy divine sufferings may receive divine glory!”

The Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 2:

O martyrs of the Lord, blessèd is the earth which has drunk your blood! /
Holy are the abodes which have received your bodies; /
For in the furnace you conquered the foe /
And with boldness you preached Christ, /
Intercede with Him, as He is good ///
We beseech you, that our souls may be saved.

Matins

Two Canons from the Octoechos (not including that for the Martyrs) and this one of the Martyrs with 4 Troparia, in Tone 4

*having the acrostic: “Preserve me through the prayers of the multitude of Thy martyrs,”
the composition of Theophanes.
— incomplete as of 10/2014*

After Ode 6, the Kontakion of the Saint, Tone 2:

The pious and God-bearing martyrs, /
Who forsook all the things of this earth /
Acindýnus, Pegásius, and Anempodístus, /
And with them Aphthónius and Elpidephórus, /
Thou didst receive into the delight of blessed repose, ///
O Thou, Who alone art good.

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