

The 8th Day of April

Apostles of the 70, Herodion, Ágabus, Asyncrítus, Rúfus, Phlêgon, Hérmes, and those with them.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

O most-lauded apostles, /
You flew like eagles over all the earth /
Sowing far and wide the precious teachings of Christ /
Destroying the thorns of deception through grace, /
Bringing forth a most bountiful harvest /
Which is laid up in the spiritual chamber ///
For the eternal pleasure of the Maker of all.

Let us bless Herodion and Hermes, /
Ágabus, Asyncrítus, Rúfus and Phlêgon the divine, /
As branches of the fruitful vine /
Producing for us the sweetness of salvation, /
And making glad the thirsting hearts /
Of those who faithfully and truly celebrate /
Their divine and blessed memory. ///

With wisdom surpassing the heights of heaven, /
You announced to all the glory of our God /
Who became incarnate of His own will, /
O ye apostles and eye-witnesses of God, /
O instructors of piety, /
Ye unshakable pillars, the very foundations of the Church, /
Havens of piety, and ministers of the ineffable mysteries ///
And the bright beacons of light for our souls.

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

Containing within thy womb the uncontainable God, /
Who, in His love for mankind became a man /
And accepted from thee the substance of our flesh /
Thus deifying our nature, /
Do not disdain me, O all-pure one, in my sorrow. /
But come quickly and take pity on me ///
And release me from the harm and enmity of the evil one.

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Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

Seeing Thee nailed to the Cross, O Lord, /
The ewe-lamb, Thy Mother, cried out in amazement: /
“What is this sight, O Most-desired Son? /
What has the ungrateful assembly done to Thee /
Having once delighted themselves in Thy many miracles? ///
But I glorify Thy ineffable condescension, O Master!”

General Troparion of the Apostles, in Tone 3: (none is given in the Menaion)

O holy apostles /
Intercede with our merciful God, /
That He may grant to our souls ///
The remission of our transgressions.

Matins

The Canon of the Saints in Tone 3,

*having the acrostic: “Let us fashion a divine hymn of praise for the apostles,” the composition of Joseph.
—incomplete as of 1/2015*

The Kontakion of the Apostles, in Tone 2: To the melody, “Seeking the highest....”

O glorious Herodion, Asyncritus, Rúfus, Phlēgon, Ágabus and Hermes, /
You have shone forth as the most honorable disciples and apostles of Christ /
Ceaselessly pray, we beseech you, ///
That He may grant our souls the remission of our sins