

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 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 blessed and longsuffering ones, pray without ceasing for our souls.

Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheotokion: *To the melody, “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, blessed 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

The Canon

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

Ode 1

The Canon of the Martyrs, in Tone 4

*having the acrostic: “Preserve me through the prayers of the multitude of Thy martyrs,”
the composition of Theophanes.*

*Irmos: I shall open my mouth, and it shall be filled with the Spirit, I shall utter the words of my
song to the Queen and Mother: I shall be seen radiantly keeping festival and joyfully
praising her wonders.*

Refrain: Holy martyrs, pray to God for us!

Since you have Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness, illumining you with His
immaterial light, O saints, dispel the clouds of my ignorance.

Dwelling now in the safe haven of paradise, you tirelessly pour forth grace upon
those who come to you with faith, causing all despondency and the tribulations and
tumults of the earthly life to cease.

Strengthened by the invincible power of God, O wise martyrs of the Lord, you gave
no thought to the weakness of the flesh but, fearlessly, braved fire and torment.

Theotokion: Thou alone, O Bride of God, didst bear in thine arms Him who is enthroned in the highest and who took flesh of thee, the worthy abode of the Almighty foretold before the ages.

Ode 3

Irmos: *We glory not in wisdom, but in knowing that there is none as Holy as our God who hast exalted the horn of His faithful and given strength to our kings.*

Made strong by the power of Christ, O excellent witnesses of the Lord, you passed through fire and water with firm resolve on your way to heaven.

Having unwavering faith in the Salvation, O all-glorious martyrs, you courageously ignored the pain of your earthly travails.

Like the three youths in Babylon, O all-praised ones, you quenched the Persians' foolishness, with the dew of the Holy Spirit.

Theotokion: **H**aving acquired thee as our intercessor, O Mother of God, and placing our firm trust in thee, we are saved by thine intercessions are kept safe from every danger through thee.

Sessional Hymn to the Martyrs, in Tone 8: To the melody: "Of Wisdom"

Suffering greatly in their struggle /
The glorious martyrs ran their race of piety unharmed /
And utterly destroyed the enemy. /
And having won their crowns of victory /
They now pour abundant healings upon all who ask of them in faith. /
So, together us cry aloud: /
Entreat Christ God, O ye favorites of the Lord, /
That He may grant the remission of sins ///
To all who lovingly honor your holy memory.

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

All generations bless thee, O Virgin, /
As she who alone amongst women /
Gavest birth to God in the flesh without seed; /
For the fire of the Godhead came to dwell in thee /
And with thy milk thou didst feed thy Creator and Lord. /
So, together with the angels we worthily glorify thee, /
And we praise thine all-holy birthgiving, and cry to thee: /
Entreat Christ God that He grants the remission of sins ///
To those who faithfully honor His All-holy Nativity.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone:

When she beheld the Lamb, /
The Shepherd and Deliverer stretched out upon the Cross, /
With maternal tears the ewe-lamb cried aloud: /
“The world rejoiceth for it hath received deliverance though Thee, /
Yet my womb burns at the sight of Thy crucifixion, /
Which Thou dost endure in Thy compassion and mercy. /
O long-suffering Lord, and infinite source of mercy, /
Have pity and grant the remission of sins ///
To those who faithfully praise Thy divine suffering.”

Ode 4

*Irmos: He who sits in glory on the Throne of divinity, Jesus the True God is come on a swift cloud:
with His pure hand He has saved those who cry: Glory to Thy power, O Christ!*

Made brilliant by the beauty of your contest, you were revealed as great martyrs of Christ, enlightening all with the rays of your brilliance who cry aloud: Glory to Thy power, O Christ!

The blood of the martyrs was an offering of cleansing, given freely as a fragrant sacrifice to God, and pouring streams of healing upon all.

O holy martyr, by your supplications to Christ, you have fended off the ceaseless assaults temptations and misfortunes upon those who diligently keep your holy and festive memory.

O most blessed martyrs, having rejected the ungodly delusions of idolatry and revealing to all the life-creating power of God by your courageous deeds, you cried aloud in joy: Glory to Thy power, O Christ!

Theotokion: We have thee as a mighty weapon against the enemy driving away all sorrow and harm, and we flee from the assaults of the heretics, O blessed Theotokos.

Ode 5

Irmos: The wicked will not behold Thy glory, O Christ, but we who rise early to praise Thee shall behold Thee and Thine Only-begotten manifestation of the Father's divinity.

Offering thyself to Christ, O glorious Aphthónius, thou didst denounce the ungodly wickedness of the king; and, rejoicing, thou didst make haste to the light of faith.

Thou didst hasten toward thy eternal rest, O Aphthónius, and after emulating the sufferings of Christ, thou wast beheaded for His sake

Steadfast was thy unshakeable hope, O Elpidephórus the wise, for thou didst spit upon the passing beauty of this world and didst hasten to thy contest in the arena.

Theotokion: **C**hrist, the noetic Sun, shone forth from thee, shed the radiant beams of His divinity upon all, O Lady Theotokos. Therefore, we all glorify thee.

Ode 6

Irmos: *I will sacrifice to Thee with a voice of praise, O Lord! The Church cries out to Thee, having been cleansed of the blood of demons by the blood which, for mercy's sake, flowed from Thy side.*

Having disdained corruptible and transitory things of this world, you have been deemed worthy to behold the incorruptible things of heaven, O all-praised martyrs; Therefore, deliver us who call upon you with faith, from every temptation and misfortune.

O most glorious martyrs, by your prayers, entreat the unoriginate Trinity to release from prison those who are cruelly bound and held in chains.

Commending themselves to death for Thy sake, O my Savior, the brave martyrs received immortality and are become the saviors of those beset by dangers and despair.

Theotokion: **T**ear to pieces the record of my transgressions, O Maiden, and through thy prayers, grant me the release from the grief and suffering which hold me fast, and preserve me unharmed, O Lady.

The Kontakion of the Holy Martyrs, in Tone 2: *To the melody, "The steadfast...."*

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 recieve into the delight of blessed repose, ///
O Thou, who alone art good.

Ikos: **O**pen Thou my mouth, O Christ my Lord, that I may sing and praise the honorable struggles of Thy spiritual athletes, who, loving Thee above all, the Creator of all, didst forsake the corruptible things of this earth, and making the Sign of Thy life-bearing Cross upon their breast, took their place before the King of all, O Thou who alone art supremely good, as Thy valiant soldiers and martyrs.

Ode 7

Irmos: *Blessèd art Thou, O all-praised God of our fathers, who saved the children of Abraham in the fire, and slew the Chaldeans, whom justice rightly pursued.*

As Thou didst deliver the three pious youths from the flames, Thou didst also

preserve in the midst of a fiery furnace Thy holy martyrs who sang aloud to Thee: Blessèd art Thou, O all-praised God of our fathers.,

Acting through Thy holy martyrs, Thou dost bestow, in Thy compassion, abundant gifts and miracles, O Christ, upon all who sing aloud to Thee: Blessèd art Thou, O all-praised God of our fathers.

O ye holy witnesses of the Lord, you have truly led a multitude of martyrs to Christ by your faith and glorious miracles, and now, you cry aloud to Him: Blessèd art Thou, O all-praised God of our fathers,

Theotokion: **B**eing delivered from the ancestral curse by thee, and brought to everlasting life, we the faithful cry aloud to thee: Rejoice, O exceedingly glorious Lady, who hast given birth to the incarnate God for us!

Ode 8

Irmos: *The Offspring of the Theotokos saved the godly youths in the flaming furnace. He who was then prefigured has since been born on earth, and He gathers together all creation to sing: Praise the Lord, all you works, exalt Him throughout all ages.*

The bright day of your festival hath arrive, O glorious martyrs, illumining the whole world and bringing joy to those who praise you with faith and sing: Praise the Lord, all you works, exalt Him throughout all ages.

Having the invincible Lord of glory as your helper, O most excellent martyrs, you braved wild beasts, cruel torture, and the pit. To Him now we cry aloud: Praise the Lord, all you works, exalt Him throughout all ages.

Having you as our mighty protectors and defenders, O valiant Acindýnuse, Pegásius, Anempodístus, Aphthónius and the ever-memorable Elpidephórus, we praise and exalt the Lord throughout all ages.

Adorned with your beautiful crowns of victory, O blessed martyrs, you attained to the unwaning radiance in the heavens, crying out to God: Praise the Lord, all you works, exalt Him throughout all ages.

Theotokion: **W**e know thee to be truly the Theotokos, O immaculate Lady, for thou hast given birth to Christ, the Creator, God and King, who wrapped Himself in thy flesh, O most pure Virgin, and we praise and exalt thee throughout all ages.

Ode 9

Irmos: *Through weakness, Eve brought about the curse of disobedience, but thou, O Virgin Theotokos, hast budded forth blessing unto the world in the Fruit of thy womb. Therefore, we all magnify thee*

The choirs of the martyrs, the assemblies of all the saints, and all the first-born angels are amazed by your heroic struggles, O blessed martyrs of the Lord.

O blessed martyrs of the Lord, deliver from every sorrow and misfortune all who with faith celebrate your holy festival, asking for peace, tranquility and salvation.

Illumined with the light of heaven and shining with grace, entreat the Benefactor of all that He may grant to those who have struggled with you, and those who have sing your praises, the remission of all their sins.

Theotokion: **O**ur first mother Eve was driven from the tree of life of which she had been forbidden to eat; but thou, O Virgin Theotokos, hast given birth to everlasting Life, who grants life to the whole world through faith.

Exapostilarion of the Martyrs:

We praise you Acindýnus, Pegásius, and Elpidephórus, together with Aphthónius and Anempodístus, for, having denounced the superstitions and the deceptions of the Persians, you endured cruel beatings and suffered death for Christ, and have received great glory and eternal life.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion:

Rejoice, O palace of God the King! Rejoice, O mountain overshadowed! Rejoice, O bush that was not consumed! Rejoice, O throne of glory and table divine! Rejoice, O golden jar of manna! Rejoice, O fiery candle stand! Rejoice, O light cloud, Theotokos, Virgin Mary!

Aposticha from the Octoechos, and this sticheron of the Martyrs, in Tone 2

Verse: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

Having girded thy body with the streams of thy blood /
Well didst thou tread the path of thy sufferings, /
O holy martyr Acindynus, /
And being armed with divine strength /
Thou didst lay low all the devices of the enemy. /
Therefore, we earnestly beseech thee: /
Entreat Christ God on our behalf, that our souls may be saved.

Glory...,

The five holy martyrs of the Lord /
Felled the deceit of the enemy /

With their axes in a grove of trees. /
As the prophet David had foretold, /
And having confessed Christ before the wicked king, ///
They now pray unceasingly on behalf of our souls.

**Now and ever... Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, Tone 4: To the melody,
“As one valiant among the martyrs....”**

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!’

At Liturgy

The Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 2:

O martyrs of the Lord, blessed 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.

The Kontakion of the Martyrs, in 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 Elpidéphórus, /
Thou didst receive into the delight of blessed repose, ///
O Thou, who alone art good.

The Prokeimenon, in Tone 4: The Lord has shown the wonders of His will / to the saints who are in His land. *Verse:* I keep the Lord always before me; for He is at my right hand, and I shall not be moved.

The Epistle: (233) Ephesians 6:10-17

2 NOVEMBER

The Alleluia is in Tone 4: The righteous cried and the Lord heard them and He delivered them from all their troubles. *Verse:* Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

The Gospel: (36) Matthew 10:16-22

Communion Hymn: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous...Alleluia...

RLE 10/19/2014 SDA
UPDATED 11/8/2022 SDA
COMPLETED 9/5/2025 SDA