

## The 19<sup>th</sup> Day of December

### Holy Martyr Boniface at Tarsus and the Righteous Aglais (Aïda).

#### Vespers

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

**D**esiring the glory that befits the martyrs, O Boniface, /  
Thou didst courageously suffer travail and torture, /  
And didst attain to the place of blessedness; /  
A place where there is no pain. /  
There to receive thy heavenly honors, ///  
A dwelling-place in paradise, eternal light, and everlasting life.

**T**hou didst suffer great torture, O bearer of passions, /  
The tearing of thy flesh and thy finger-nails, /  
The swallowing of molten lead, /  
And finally the severing of thy head. /  
Thus, thou didst join the divine choir of martyrs. /  
Therefore, we faithfully honor thy feast, O Boniface, ///  
The victorious martyr and converser with the angels.

**S**ending thee, her man-servant, before her, O Boniface, /  
The righteous Aïda received thee back as a divine master herself; /  
For thou didst overcome the passions, and triumphed over the tyrant, /  
And didst cast down the enemy. /  
For this, thou didst receive thy crown of victory. /  
Therefore, she constructed for thee a holy shrine ///  
Where she placed thy relics, praising thy sanctity.

***Note:** But if we sing “Alleluia” at Matins instead of “God is the Lord,” then the following 3 stichera to the Theotokos are sung at Vespers, at “Lord, I call,” before the above stichera of the Saint, in the same Tone and melody:*

**R**ain down upon me, O Lady, /  
The flowing waters of thy mercy, /  
And as thou art merciful, /  
Give drink to my heart being consumed by the heat of my passions; /  
And cause drops of compunction to fall upon me, O Maiden, /  
That I may find consolation, I pray thee, ///  
Together with those, who sincerely shed their tears.

**T**ake pity on me, O Lady, /  
 For I am shaken by the assaults of demons /  
About to be cast down into the pit of destruction; /  
 But strengthen thou me on the rock of virtues /  
 And destroy thou the counsels of mine enemies, /  
 And vouchsafe that I may follow the precepts of thy Son and God /  
 That I may receive the remission of my sins ///  
 On the Day of Judgment.

**I** have fallen in among thieves and murderers /  
 And have been stripped of my immaculate, heavenly garments /  
 And by their pitiless assaults, I have been grievously wounded /  
 And lie, barely alive, in a place of affliction: /  
 Yet, I pray, come thou before me, ///  
 Extend thy hand to me and raise me up, O Lady.

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

**I** lie on the bed of despondency, /  
 And waste my life away in laziness, /  
 I am terrified at the coming time of my end, /  
 And of serpent, who like a lurking lion who will devour my feeble soul; /  
 Yet, I pray, come thou to me before my end, ///  
 And in thy graciousness raise me up, O Lady.

**Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”**

**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 Aposticha is from the Octoechos.**

**The General Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 4:**

Thy holy martyr Boniface, O Lord, /  
 Through his sufferings received his incorruptible crown from Thee, our God /

## HOLY MARTYR BONIFACE AND RIGHTEOUS AGLAIS

For having Thy strength he laid low his enemies /  
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///  
Through his intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

### Matins

**Both Canons from the Octoechos, and that of the Martyrs, with 4 Troparia, in  
Tone 4**

*having the acrostic “With faith I praise thee, O most radiant martyr”, the composition of Joseph.  
—incomplete as of 12/5/22*

### The Kontakion of the Martyr, in Tone 4:

Thou didst willingly offer thyself to the Lord, /  
As a spotless sacrifice to Him ///  
About to be born of the Virgin for thy sake, O divinely-wise Boniface.

RLE 11/11/2014 SDA  
UPDATED 12/5/2022 SDA