

## **The 24<sup>th</sup> Day of April**

### **Commemoration of the Holy Martyr Sabbas Stratelates (the General).**

#### **Vespers**

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

**O** invincible warrior and brave martyr Sabbas, /  
Thou radiant beacon illuminating the ends of the world /  
With the splendor of thy great deeds /  
Dispelling the gloomy darkness of the demons; /  
O thou confirmation of the martyrs, /  
And fellow citizen of heaven together with the angels, ///  
Pray for the salvation of our souls.

**C**onfined in prisons and burned by fire, /  
Subject to cruel torture and stretched out upon the tree, /  
Left to freeze in the cold and beaten mercilessly, /  
Yet thou didst remain steadfast, O passion-bearing martyr Sabbas, ///  
Accepting thy blessed end by being drowned in the River Tiber.

**B**ravely forsaking the beauty of youth, O richly-blessed one, /  
To take the path of suffering to the amazement of all, /  
Thou didst smite and vanquish all thine enemies /  
By thy great and holy deeds. ///  
Therefore, we praise and honor thee, O truly wondrous one!

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

**S**hower my thoughts with the dew of the Most Holy Spirit, /  
O most pure Mother of Christ, /  
Who in His boundless compassion, /  
Cleansed the multitude of our transgressions with a drop of dew. /  
Dry up the source of my passions, /  
And through thy prayers, O Lady, ///  
Vouchsafe that I may ever drink at the stream of life.

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

**S**eeing Thee the Lamb and Shepherd on the tree, /  
The ewe-lamb who gave birth to Thee lamented, /  
And as a mother cried out to Thee: /

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“O desired Son, how art Thou hung on the Tree of the Cross, /  
O Longsuffering One? /  
How art Thy hands and feet nailed by the transgressors, O Word? /  
How dost Thou shed Thy Blood, O Master?”

*Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.*

**The Troparion for the Saint, in Tone 4:**

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

**Or this Troparion for the Saint, in Tone 5:**

Renouncing all earthly glory and honor /  
Thou didst confess the Christ God before the false and treacherous king /  
And suffered greatly for His sake, O holy martyr. /  
For this thou didst receive a crown of victory /  
In the presence of the heavenly host from the King of all. /  
Standing now before Him, splendidly adorned, O holy martyr Sabbas, ///  
Intercede that He may save our souls.

**Matins**

*—incomplete as of 1/2013*

**The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Having been lifted up....”***

Revealing thyself as an invincible champion, O glorious one, /  
Thou didst vanquish the crafty snares of the enemy. /  
And through thy glorious suffering thou didst defeat invisible hosts of the adversary, /  
Weaving for thyself a crown of victory. ///  
Entreat Christ, O blessèd Sabbas, on behalf of those who faithfully honor thy holy  
memory.