

The 15th Day of March

Holy Martyr Agapius and the Seven Martyrs¹ with him at
Cæsaria in Palestine.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 3 stichera, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

O ye holy martyrs, /
You dismissed as nothing your tormentors and approaching death, /
And wisely going into the struggle with boldness and courage /
You clothed yourselves with glory as the bearers of victory, /
And were joined to the assembly of the ven’rable ones. ///
And forever glorifying you with them we call you blessèd.

O martyr Agapius, thou rich fountain of blessings, /
Loving the Source of all blessings thou didst hasten to Him /
And drank from the cup of torment /
Calling on the divine name of the Living God. /
O, thy forbearance and thy courage! ///
Through them thou hast received from Him splendor and glory.

O all-blessed martyrs, you voluntarily gave yourselves over to slaughter. /
You sanctified the earth with your blood, /
And illumined the air with your passage. /
Now you abide in heaven in the presence the everlasting light, ///
Beholding God and praying to Him for us.

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

We beseech thee, our benefactress and most-pure Lady: /
Spurn not thy servants until the end, /
That we not perish shaken by sorrows. /
But come and quickly rescue us from the present danger and affliction, /
O most holy one rejoicing in God, ///
For thou art our haven and invincible protection.

Or the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone:

Beholding Thee, O Jesus, nailed to the Cross /
And accepting suffering of Thine own will, /
The Virgin, Thy Mother, O Master, cried aloud: /

¹ Slav books indicate six martyrs.

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“Woe is me, O my sweet Child! /
How is it that Thou dost endure unjust wounding, /
O Physician who healeth the infirmities of mankind ///
And by Thy loving-kindness dost deliver all from corruption?”

The General Troparion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4: *(none given in the Menaion)*

Thy holy martyrs, Agapius and his companions, O Lord, /
Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God /
For having Thy strength they laid low their enemies /
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///
Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

Matins

The Canon of Saint Agapius, in Tone 8,

*having the acrostic: “I praise the holy martyrs in song,”
the composition of Bishop Joseph. — incomplete as of 1/2/2014*

(No Kontakion given in the Menaion)

UPDATED 1/2/2014 SDA
1/24/2015 SDA
5/8/2017 SDA
3/08/2023 SDA