

## MARCH 9 - The Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste

### FIRST ANTIPHON. PSALM 91.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord; to sing praises to Your name, O most High.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To show that the Lord is upright, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.  
Amen.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

### SECOND ANTIPHON. PSALM 92.

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, He has girded Himself.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

The world also is established, so that it cannot be moved.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.  
Amen.

Only-begotten Son...

### THIRD ANTIPHON. PSALM 94

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

*Refrain:* O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

*Refrain:* O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

*Refrain:* O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is His also.

*Refrain:* O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

## TROPARIA

**Tone 1** Through the sufferings which Your holy Forty Martyrs endured for Your sake, O Lord, / we beseech You, O Lover of ^mankind: //  
“Heal all of our infirmities!”

**Tone 4** In truth you were revealed to your flock  
as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence,  
so you won the heights by humility,  
and riches by poverty,  
O Holy Father Nicholas,  
intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages.  
Amen. KONTAKION

**Tone 6** Protection of Christians never failing, / Mediatress before the Creator, ever constant. / Do not despise the voice of prayer of sinners, / but in your goodness come to help us who faithfully call upon you. / Hasten to entreat, hurry to pray, O Theotokos, // interceding always for those honor you.

*The Prokeimenon in the fifth tone: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps. 11:7)*

*v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly. (Ps 11/12:1)*

## **THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS (12:1-10)**

*Brethren*, therefore, having around us a cloud of witnesses, laying aside all weight and the sin which surrounds us, we also in forbearance run the race set before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus the source and perfecter of the faith, who instead of the joy set before Him forbore the cross, despising shame, and sat at the right side of the throne of God. Think then of the such one who forbore onto himself hostility from the sinners, so that you are not hard pressed weary in your souls! You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.” If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

*Alleluia, tone 4*

*v. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give to Him glorious praise! (Ps. 65:1)*

*v. You, O God, has proved us; you have tried us with fire as silver is tried. (Ps. 65:10)*

## **THE READING IS FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW (20:1-16)**

COMMUNION HYMN I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!