

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (3<sup>rd</sup> of Luke)/ 26 martyrs of Zographou Monastery

## STICHERA

V. (10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name! Tone 7*  
Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,  
 Who destroyed the dominion of death!  
 Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts,  
 for He enlightened the race of man!//  
 O our Maker and Savior, glory to You!

V. (9) *The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*  
 You endured the Cross and burial for our sake.  
 By Your death, You destroyed death as God.  
 We fall down before Your Resurrection on the third day,//  
 O Savior, glory to You!

V. (8) *Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*  
 When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker,  
 they were amazed and sang the angelic praise.  
This is the glory of the Church.  
This is the richness of the Kingdom.//  
 O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to You!

V. (7) *Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*  
 You were held by lawless men, O Christ,  
 but to me, You are God, and I am not ashamed.  
 You were smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny You.  
 You were nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it,  
 for I glory in Your Resurrection: Your death is my life.//  
 O Almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to You!

v. (6) *If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*  
 Fulfilling the prophecy of David,  
Christ manifested His greatness in Zion to the disciples.  
 He is praised and always glorified,  
 together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.  
 At first as the Word, He was bodiless,  
 but then He took flesh and was slain for our sake.//  
 He rose in power as the Lover of man!

*v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

You descended into hell as You willed, O Christ,  
overthrowing death as God, and rising on the third day as Master!  
With Yourself You raised Adam from the bonds of hell and from corruption!//  
Glory to Your Resurrection, only Lover of man!

*V. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*  
Established firmly upon the rock of the Faith like towers,  
O most venerable ones,  
denouncing from the tower the enemies of the Faith as heretical,  
you endured cruel and painful death by fire,  
and offered yourselves to Jesus as wholeburnt sacrifices,  
filling the celestial beings with sweet savor.  
Wherefore, we celebrate your memory with love,  
O saints who, praying, //  
offer entreaty in behalf of those who ever honor you.

*V. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*  
With divine hymns let us honor the most honored favorites  
of the all-pure Mother of God,  
twenty-six in number, the splendid trees of the Monastery of Zographou,  
its most fragrant roses and honored guardians,  
who denounced the deception of the heretics //  
and, tried by fire, were shown to be most pure.

*V. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*  
As is meet, let the all-glorious Thomas and the godly Parthenios,  
Simon, Barsanuphios and Job,  
Cyril, Micah and Sabbas,  
James, Cosmas, Hilarion and Dometian,  
Menas, Paul, Sergios and Anthony,  
Martinian and Joannikios, //  
with the other eight, be praised with hymns.

*V. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*  
O you twenty-six steadfast venerable athletes,  
divine regiment of the King of all:  
undaunted by the fire, and crowned by God most gloriously,  
you join in chorus in the bridal-chambers of heaven,  
and protect from all misfortunes  
the all-glorious Monastery of Zographou,  
which celebrates your holy memory, //  
having acquired you as its foremost guardians.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 4*

Your life has been truly shown to be blesséd,  
and your death honorable;  
for having for piety's sake treated your lives as of no account,  
like the three youths you were surrounded by material fire.  
And now your lot is with the saints,  
where you have made your abode in the eternal mansions.//  
Pray, O you martyrs, for our souls.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 7 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

No tongue can speak of your wonderful childbearing,  
for the order of nature was overruled by God.  
You were revealed to be a Mother above nature,  
for you remained a Virgin beyond reason and understanding.  
Your conception was most glorious, O Theotokos!  
The manner of your giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin!  
Knowing you to be the Mother of God,  
devoutly we pray to you://  
“Beseech Him to save our souls!”

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

**The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias. [43:9-14<sup>a</sup>]**

Thus says the Lord: All the nations have been assembled and rulers from them shall be assembled; who will declare these things among them? or who will make heard to you the things from the beginning? Let them bring their witnesses and let them be justified, and them hear and let them speak what is true. Be my witnesses, and I too am a witness, says the Lord God, and my servant whom I have chosen; that you may know and believe me, and understand that I AM; before me there was no other God, and after me there will not be. I am God, and apart from me there is none who saves. I have declared and I have saved; I reprovéd, and there was no strange god among you. You are my witnesses and I am a witness, says the Lord God. Again from the beginning I AM, and there is none who can deliver from my hands; I will make, and who will turn it back? Thus says the Lord God who redeems us, the holy one of Israel.

**The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon. [3:1-9]**

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment will touch them. In the eyes of fools they seemed to die and their departure was reckoned a disaster and their going from us their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of men they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Like gold in the furnace he tried them and like a whole burnt offering he accepted them. And in the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through stubble. They will judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones and visitation on his elect.

**The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon. [5:16-6:3<sup>b</sup>]**

The just live for ever, and their reward is with the Lord; the Most High takes care of them. Therefore they will receive a glorious crown and a beautiful diadem from the hand of the Lord, because with his right hand he will cover them, and with his arm he will shield them. He will take his zeal as his whole armour, and will arm all creation to repel his enemies; he will put on righteousness as a breastplate, and will wear impartial justice as a helmet; he will take holiness as an invincible shield, and sharpen stern wrath for a sword, and creation will join with him to fight against his frenzied foes. Shafts of lightning will fly with true aim, and will leap from the clouds to the target, as from a well-drawn bow, and hailstones full of wrath will be hurled as from a catapult; the water of the sea will rage against them, and rivers will relentlessly overwhelm them; a mighty wind will rise against them, and like a tempest it will winnow them away. Lawlessness will lay waste the whole earth, and evil-doing will overturn the thrones of rulers. Listen, therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and boast of many nations. For your dominion was given you from the Lord, and your sovereignty from the Most High.

**APOSTICHA**

**Tone 7** As the Savior of the world You arose from the tomb.  
As God You resurrected the race of man with Your flesh.//  
O Lord, glory to You!

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead,  
and enlightened all creation!

By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell.//  
By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

You descended into hell, capturing death, O Christ.  
In three days You arose again,  
resurrecting us who glorify Your Resurrection,//  
O Lord and Lover of man.

*v. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*

When You were placed in the tomb as one asleep,  
the sight was great and awesome.  
But when You rose on the third day as almighty God,  
You resurrected Adam with Yourself.//  
Glory to Your Resurrection, only Lover of man!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 6*

O Trinity infinite in power,  
Unity in three Hypostases:  
through the supplications of Your steadfast athletes  
and of the only Ever-virgin Theotokos, // save us who hymn You.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 6*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,  
was born of you, O most pure Virgin.  
By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.  
Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!  
Rejoice, O celestial Joy!  
Rejoice, O Lady://  
the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

### **TROPARIA**

**Tone 7** By Your Cross You destroyed death.  
To the thief You opened Paradise.  
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.  
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,  
to proclaim that You are risen,//  
granting the world great mercy.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,*

**Tone 1** Having honorably passed your life  
in asceticism at the Monastery of Zographou,  
O venerable regiment, twenty-six valiant fathers,  
you offered yourselves as sacrifices to God in the fire  
with the steadfast resolve of piety.  
Wherefore, you have received  
a twofold wreath from the Lord God, //  
sending up glory unto Him Who has crowned you.

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 1 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion*

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!”  
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in you,  
the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!  
Your womb became more spacious than the heavens,  
for you carried your Creator.  
Glory to Him Who took abode in you!  
Glory to Him Who came forth from you!  
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!