**MARCH 6**

**Tuesday Vespers of Cheesefare/42 Martyrs of Ammoria in Phrygia**

***(at Daily Vespers, Tuesday evening)***

**"Lord, I Call..." Tone 7**

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon You!

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!

Hear me, O Lord!

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

**Tone 7** *(from the Octoechos)*

In days of old, I was banished by a tree from Paradise,

and now that You have been crucified, O Christ,//

a Tree has led me back there.

*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.*

What a fearful wonder:

the Creator, standing before the creature, is condemned and crucified//

for the salvation of mankind!

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope on the Lord.*

O Cross of Christ, you are the wonder of the holy Angels,

the mighty wound of demons and evil spirits,//

and you save your servants.

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

**Tone 4** *(42 Martyrs of Ammoria) (Called from on high)*

Noble and victorious martyrs,

you were revealed in the final times

as unwaning stars in the Church's honored firmament.

You illumined all beneath the sun, O all-praised ones,

with the splendor of your sufferings, destroying the darkness of deception.

Therefore we celebrate your radiant and sacred suffering in faith,//

enriched by your intercession.

*v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

All-glorious two-and-forty martyrs of Christ,

you were bound after a summary arrest

and shut up in prison for a lengthy time.

You were divine preservers of the faith,

who refused to submit to the commands of that infamous beast of evil

fame,

Therefore he was enraged and slew you with the sword.

Now you have joyfully inherited higher things,//

joining yourselves to the heavenly Kingdom.

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

Let us shout the praise of Constantine,

Basoes and Callistus, Theodore and Theophilus,

and the rest of the divine company of athletes,

for they sacrificed themselves with joy,

electing to die for the Life of all.

Now they rest in the city of the living God,

entreating that on the day of judgment,//

we may find remission of sins and complete deliverance.

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

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

**Tone 4**  *(Cross-Theotokion) (As one valiant)*

Do not lament Me, O Mother,

seeing me, your Son and God, suspended on the Tree,

Who hung the earth unconditionally upon the waters

and fashioned all creation.

For I will arise and be glorified,

and with power I will shatter the kingdom of Hades and destroy its might,

and free those held captive by its wickedness.

For I am compassionate and the Lover of man,//

and I will lead them to My Father.

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**Aposticha**

**Tone 1 Idiomelon**  *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

O faithful, let us receive with joy

the divinely-inspired announcements of Lent!

Like Ninevites of old, like harlots and publicans,

who heard John preaching repentance,

let us prepare ourselves through fasting

for the Master's communion in Zion!

Let us wash ourselves with tears of purification;

let us pray to behold the fulfillment of Pascha, the true revelation!

Let us prepare ourselves to adore the Cross and Resurrection of Christ our

 God!//

Do not deprive us of our expectation, O Lover of mankind!

*v: I lift up my eyes to You, enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of*

*servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps. 122/123:1-2)*

(Repeat: “O faithful, let us receive with joy …”)

*v: Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122/123:3-4)*

**Tone 1** *(to the Martyrs)*

You made a wise exchange, O saints:

you offered your blood and received heaven in return.

You suffered for a time and now rejoice eternally.

Your trade was wise indeed!

Forsaking the corruptible, you received the incorruptible.

Now rejoicing with the angelic host,//

you ceaselessly praise the consubstantial Trinity.

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

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

 **Tone 1** *(Cross-Theotokion)*

When the most pure Virgin saw her Son on the Tree,

her heart was pierced with a sword of sorrow, and she cried aloud:

“How can the Creator of all be lifted on the Cross as one condemned//

in His desire to save mankind? “

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**Tone 8** **The Lenten Troparia**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the Fruit of your womb; //

for you have borne the Savior of our souls.

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

O Baptiser of Christ, remember us all,

that we may be delivered from our iniquities;//

for to you is given grace to intercede for us!

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Intercede for us, O holy Apostles and all the saints,

that we may be delivered from perils and sorrows;//

for we have acquired you as fervent intercessors before the Savior!

Beneath your compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos.

Do not despise our supplications in adversity,//

but deliver us from perils, O only pure and only blessed one!

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