

VESPERS SUNG ON SATURDAY 1st AUGUST 2020

✕ “LORD I CALL...”

Tone 7

[Music on website]

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.

Hear me, O Lord.

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee.//

Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise

in Thy sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice.//

Hear me, O Lord.

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!

Tone 7

[Music on website]

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 Saviour, glory to Thee!

The righteous await me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Thou didst endure the Cross and burial for our sake.

By Thy death, Thou didst destroy death as God.

We fall down before Thy Resurrection on the third day,//

O Saviour, glory to Thee!

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, 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 Thee!

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ,

but to me, Thou art God, and I am not ashamed.

Thou wast smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny Thee.

Thou wast nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it,

for I glory in Thy Resurrection: Thy death is my life.//

O almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquity, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

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!

For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy Word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Thou didst descend into hell as thou didst will, O Christ,

overthrowing death as God and rising on the third day as Master!

With Thyself Thou didst raise Adam

from the bonds of hell and from corruption!//

Glory to Thy Resurrection, O only Lover of man!

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 8

[Music on website]

O Stephen, chosen by the Apostles,

the first among the martyrs to suffer

and the foundation of those who serve as deacons:

thou dost enlighten with unfading light

those who celebrate thy radiant feast with splendour,

giving grace and mercy to thy servants. //

By thy prayers, O martyr, guide them to everlasting life!

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

O Stephen, thou martyr of Christ, [\[Music on website\]](#)
thou didst receive a crown of grace on thy head
in accordance with thy name.
Thou didst adorn thy neck with a chain of virtues as with gold
and didst become an all-wise dwelling of the Wisdom cherished by thee,
keeping it as thy beloved.//
Therefore thou hast been honoured with grace and glory.

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

O most honoured Stephen, [\[Music on website\]](#)
first of the martyrs to suffer,
thou art crowned with grace and glory, O Apostle.
When thou wast stoned, thou didst offer a crown to our King and God,
spiritual and more valued than gold and precious stones.
Thy deeds and name are beautiful.//
Keep us all in remembrance!

*For His mercy is confirmed on us; and the truth of the Lord endureth
forever.*

Tone 2
O most holy Stephen, [\[Music on website\]](#)
thou didst appear as first among deacons and first among martyrs,
for thy path was to holy things,
and thou didst lead many martyrs to the Lord.
Thus, heaven was opened, and God appeared to thee.//
Entreat Him that our souls may be saved!

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

Tone 6
O Apostle Stephen, [\[Music on website\]](#)
thou wast shown to be first among martyrs and deacons;
the adornment of athletes, the strength of the faithful,
and the glory of the righteous.
As thou standest before the throne of Christ, the King of all,
ask that those who celebrate thine honoured memory
may be counted worthy to be cleansed of their sins//
and to inherit the Kingdom of heaven!

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

Tone 7 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon) [\[Music on website\]](#)
No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing,
for the order of nature was overruled by God.
Thou wast revealed to be a Mother above nature,
for thou didst remain a Virgin beyond reason and understanding.
Thy conception was most glorious, O Theotokos!
The manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin!
Knowing thee to be the Mother of God,
devoutly we pray to thee://
“Beseech Him to save our souls!”

✠ **READINGS** – No readings are appointed for today

✠ **APOSTICHA**
Tone 7 [\[Music on website\]](#)
As the Saviour of the world Thou didst arise from the tomb.
As God Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh.//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

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.

Thou didst descend into hell, capturing death, O Christ.
In three days Thou didst arise again,
resurrecting us who glorify Thy Resurrection,//
O Lord and Lover of man.

v. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

When Thou wast placed in the tomb as one asleep,
the sight was great and awesome.
But when Thou didst rise on the third day as almighty God,
Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself.//
Glory to Thy Resurrection, only Lover of man!

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

Tone 8

Rejoice in the Lord, O crown-bearing Stephen, [\[Music on website\]](#)
for thou didst follow thy Master,
and wast the first martyr of Christ our King!
Thou hast abolished the deception of the Enemy, //
and dost pray to the Lord on our behalf.

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

Tone 8 (Aposticha Theotokion)

O unwedded Virgin, [\[Music on website\]](#)
who ineffably didst conceive God in the flesh,
O Mother of God most high,
accept the cries of thy servants, O blameless one!
Grant cleansing of transgressions to all! //
Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

✠ **TROPARIA**

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 7 [\[Music on website\]](#)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that Thou art risen, //
granting the world great mercy.

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

Troparion of the Protomartyr Stephen in Tone 4 [\[Music on website\]](#)

Thy relics have risen from the depths of the earth,
like a treasury for the immortal life of all creation.
The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them,
duteously honors thee, O Protomartyr Stephen. //
Preserve us from error and heresy by thine intercession!

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 4 [\[Music on website\]](#)

The mystery which was hidden from before the ages
and was unknown even to the angels,
God hath revealed to those on earth
through thee, O Theotokos.
For he who became incarnate in unconfused union
of his own will accepted the Cross for us,
raising again the first-created man //
and saving our souls from death.