

Sunday, January 23, 2022
31st Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 6
Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and
Confessors of Russia

Troparion:

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

Kontakion:

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in thy goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, For you always ever protect those who honor you!

Prokeimenon in the 6th Tone:

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
(Vs.) To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Tone 7 (New Martyrs):

God is our refuge and our strength, our help in the afflictions that come heavily upon us.

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy. (1 Tim.1:15-17).

My child Timothy, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Brethren, we know that in everything God works for good with those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom He predestined He also called; and those whom He called He also justified; and those whom He justified He also glorified. What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will He not also give us all things with Him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 8:28-39)

Alleluia Verses:

He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven.
(Vs.) He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Him will I trust.

Tone 4 (New Martyrs):

The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their troubles.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke. (Chapter 18:35-43)

At that time when Jesus came close to Jericho, a certain blind man was sitting by the wayside, begging; but hearing a crowd passing by, he inquired what this might be. And they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was going past. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who went in front angrily tried to silence him. But he cried out all the louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then Jesus stopped and commanded that he should be brought to Him. And when he came close, He asked him, saying, "What would you have Me do for you?" And he said, "Lord, that I may see!" And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight, your faith has saved you." And at once he received his sight and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people upon seeing it gave praise to God.

The Lord said to His disciples, "Take care not to be led astray by men, for they will arrest and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, dragging you before kings and governors for my name's sake. It shall lead to your bearing witness. Resolve therefore in your hearts not to prepare your defense. For I myself will give you speech and wisdom, which all your adversaries will not be able to answer or resist. But you will be delivered up by your parents and brothers and relatives and friends; and some of you they will put to death. And you will be hated by all for my name's sake; yet not a hair of your head shall perish. By standing firm you will win true life for yourselves." (Luke 21:12-19)