

**Sunday, March 6, 2022**  
**Tone 4**  
**Cheesefare (Forgiveness Sunday)**

Troparion:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Your forty-two holy martyrs, O Lord, through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God. For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. Through their intercessions, save our souls!

Kontakion:

O Master, Teacher of Wisdom, Bestower of virtue, who teaches the thoughtless and protects the poor: strengthen and enlighten my heart. O Word of the Father, let me not restrain my mouth from crying to Thee: Have mercy on me, a transgressor, O Merciful Lord.

Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone:

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

(Vs.) In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!

Tone 5 (Martyrs):

Thou, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever!

Epistle:

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans. (Rom. 13:11-14:4)

Brethren, you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

Brethren, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation which addresses you as sons? - "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor lose courage when you are punished by Him. For the Lord disciplines Him whom He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers to discipline us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time at their pleasure, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. (Heb 12:1-11)

Alleluia Verses Tone 6:

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High!  
(Vs.) To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

Tone 4 ((Martyrs):

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Sing of His name, give to Him glorious praise!

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew. (Chapter 6:14-21)

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their offenses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their offenses, neither will your Father forgive you your offenses. And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, who disfigure their faces in order to appear to men as fasting. Amen I say to you, they have had their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not be seen by men to fast, but by your Father, who is in secret; and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where worm and rodent consume, and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither worm nor rodent consumes, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart."

The Lord told this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. And having agreed with the workers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And about the third hour, he went out and saw others standing in the market place idle; and he said to them, 'Go you also into the vineyard, and whatever is just, you will receive.' So they went. And again he went out about the sixth, and about the ninth hour, and did as before. But about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing about, and he asked them, 'Why do you stand here all day idle?' They answered, 'Because no man has hired us.' He said to them, 'Go you also into the vineyard.' But when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the workers, and pay them their wages, beginning from the last even to the first.' Now when those of the eleventh hour came, they received each a denarius. And when the first in their turn came, they thought they would receive more; but they also received each his denarius. And on receiving it, they began to murmur against the landowner, saying, 'These last have worked a single hour, and you have put them on a level with us, who have borne the burden of the day's heat.' But answering one of them, he said, 'Friend, I do you no injustice; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go; I choose to give to this last as much as to you. Have I not a right to do what I please with what is mine? Or are you envious because I am generous? Even so the last shall be first, and the first last; for many are called, but few are chosen.'" (Matt 20:1-16)