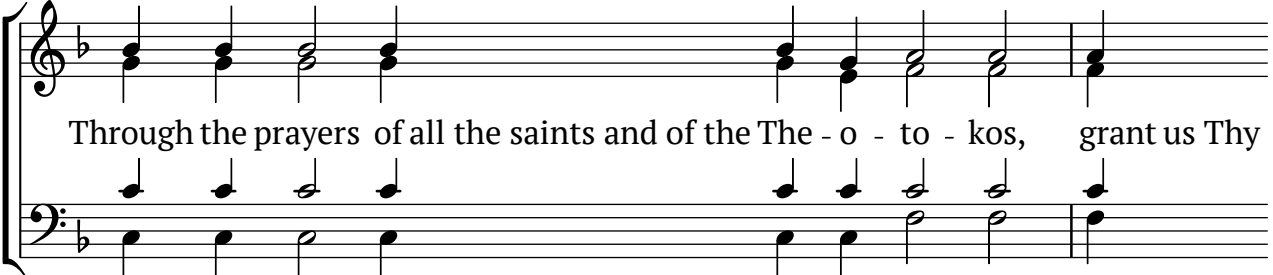


Stichera to the Martyrs, Tone 1


on Friday evenings

Common chant

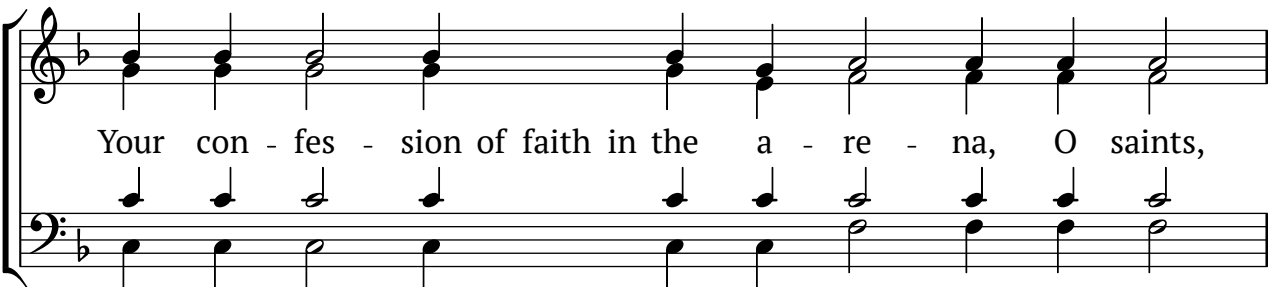
1. Through the prayers of all the saints and of the The - o - to - kos, grant us Thy



peace and have mercy on us, O Lord, for Thou alone art com-pas - sion - ate.



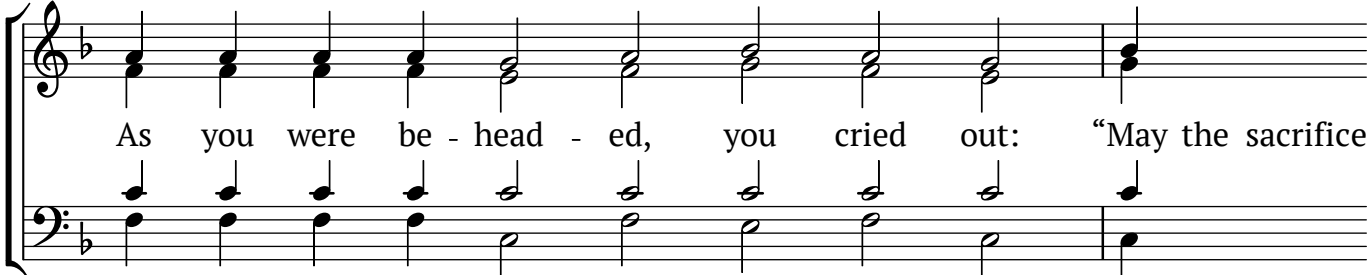
2. Your con - fes - sion of faith in the a - re - na, O saints,



filled the demonic hosts with fear and freed mankind from er - ror.



As you were be - head - ed, you cried out: "May the sacrifice



of our souls be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, for by desiring Thee, the Lover

of man - kind, we have cared nothing for this quickly pas - sing life.”

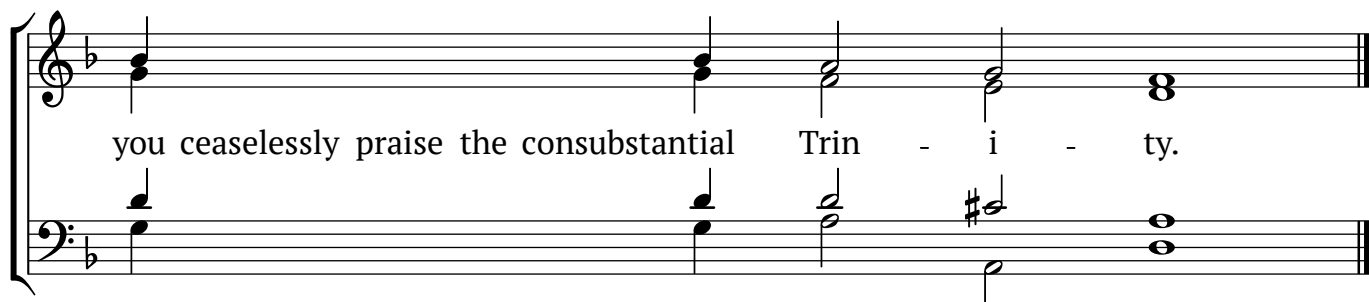
3.

You made a wise ex-change, O saints: you offered your blood and received

heav - en in re-turn. You suffered for a time and now rejoice e - ter - nal - ly.

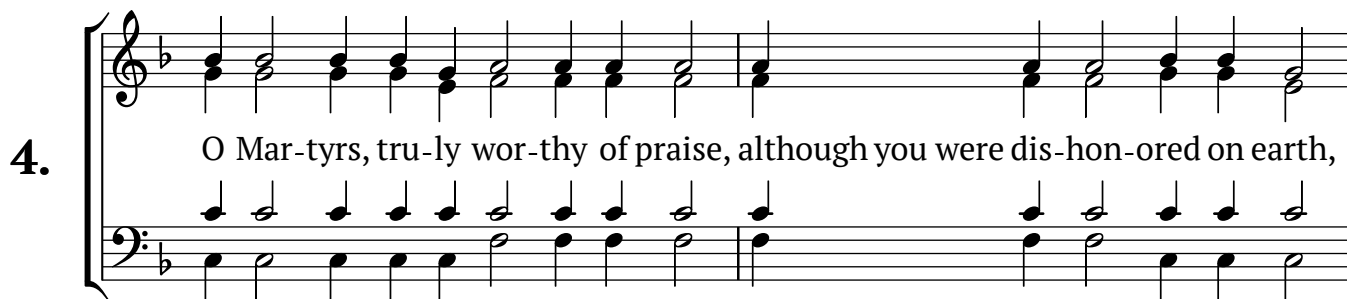
Your trade was wise in - deed! For - sak - ing the corruptible,

you received the in - cor - rup - ti - ble. Now, rejoicing with the an - gel - ic host,



you ceaselessly praise the consubstantial Trin - i - ty.

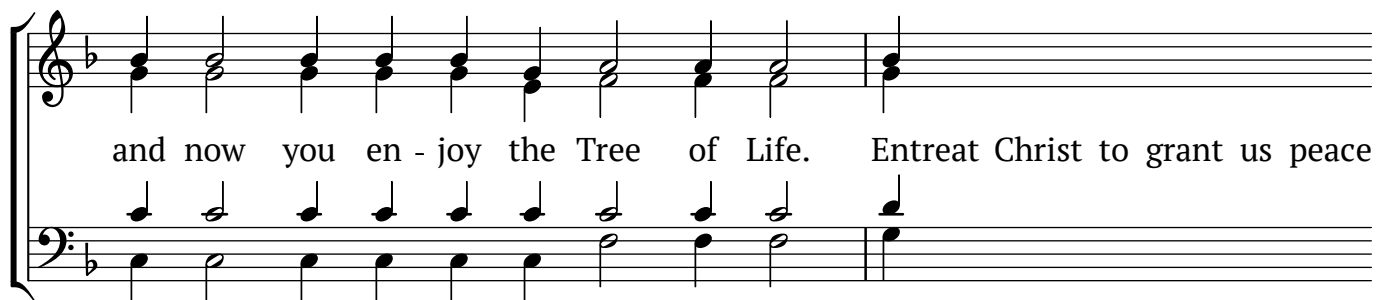
4.



O Mar-tyrs, tru-ly wor-thy of praise, although you were dis-hon-ored on earth,



the heav - ens re-ceived you. The gates of Par - a - dise o - pened to you,



and now you en - joy the Tree of Life. Entreat Christ to grant us peace



and His great mer - cy.

For the Departed, by St. John of Damascus

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

What plea - sure in life is not mixed with grief? What earthly glory

endures for - ev - er? All things are feeble shadows and de-lud - ing dreams.

Death sweeps them a - way in a sin - gle mo - ment. But in the light

of Thy face, O Christ, and in the sweetness of Thy beau - ty, give rest to

those whom Thou hast chos - en, for Thou alone lovest man - kind.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Then the Dogmatikon in tone 1: "Let us praise the Virgin Mary...")