

Vesper Propers. September 2, 2007
The holy martyr Mamas
Our venerable father John the Faster, Archbishop of Constantinople

The holy martyr Mamas was born in Paphlagonia to Christian parents who were imprisoned for the name of Christ. His father died first, and then his mother; the baby was left next to the bodies of his parents, and rescued by a pious widow. He was dumb until the age of five, and his first word was ‘mama,’ and it is from this word that his name derives. At the age of fifteen, he was brought before the emperor Aurelian. The emperor commanded him to blaspheme Christ, and Mammas replied, “I shall not deny my God and King Jesus Christ, either in my heart or with my lips.” After many forms of torture, Mammas was martyred by a pagan priest. (274)

Our venerable father John the Faster, patriarch of Constantinople. Originally a goldsmith, John was called to the priesthood as a young man. He was eventually chosen to be the Patriarch of Constantinople. He practiced fasting assiduously; he was both a man of prayer and a wonderworker right up to his death. (595)

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006
Tone of the Week: Tone 5 (begins on page 69), stichera 10 - 7.

Cantor: (Tone 8) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Stichera of the Martyr - Tone 8 samohlasen

Shed-ding your blood, O bless - ed one, you pre - sent - ed yourself to Christ,
the Be-stow - er of life, who shed his blood for your sake, and who made
you to participate in his glo - - - ry and to share in his king - dom,
for you prevailed over the De-ceiv - er, and utterly reduced his cruel



snares to ash - - - es.

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.
on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.



You were a pil-lar of pi - e - ty firm-ly set up-on the rock of faith,



un - shak-en by temptation or misfortune, O bless-ed one; for the great tem-pest



and tu - mult and the waves which buf-fet-ed you did not cast down your

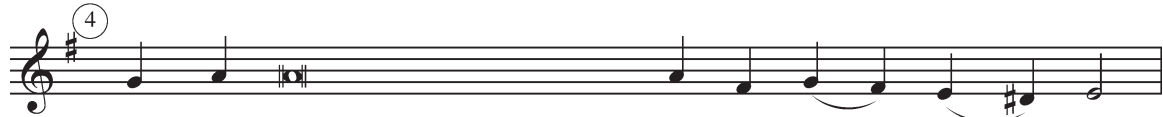


un-break - a - ble strength; for you desired to be a - dorned with the crown of



mar - tyr - dom.

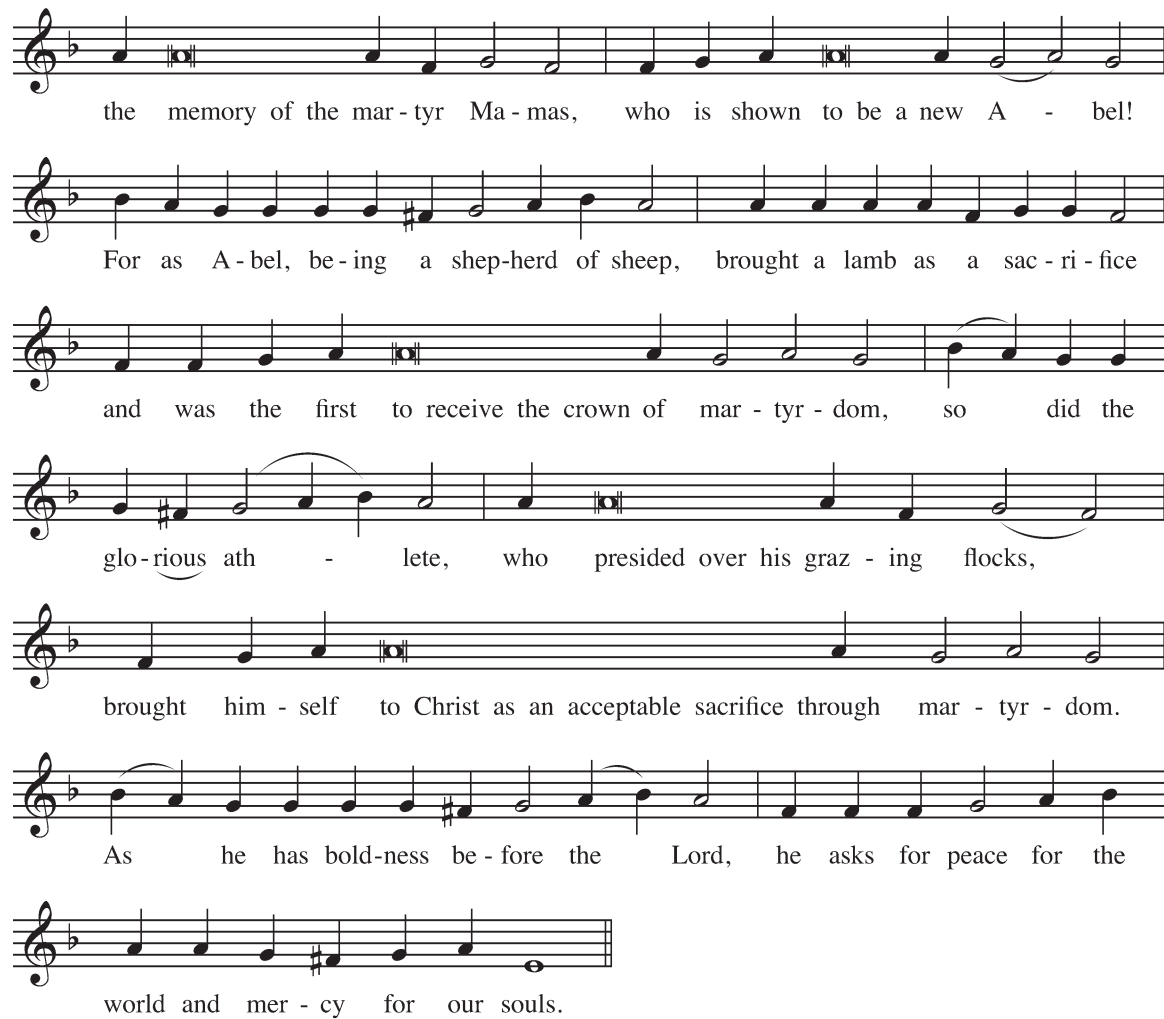
Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.
on 4)



While fol - lowing the life-bearing steps of our in - car - nate God



who, by his suf - fer - ing on the Cross, cut down the ty - rant,

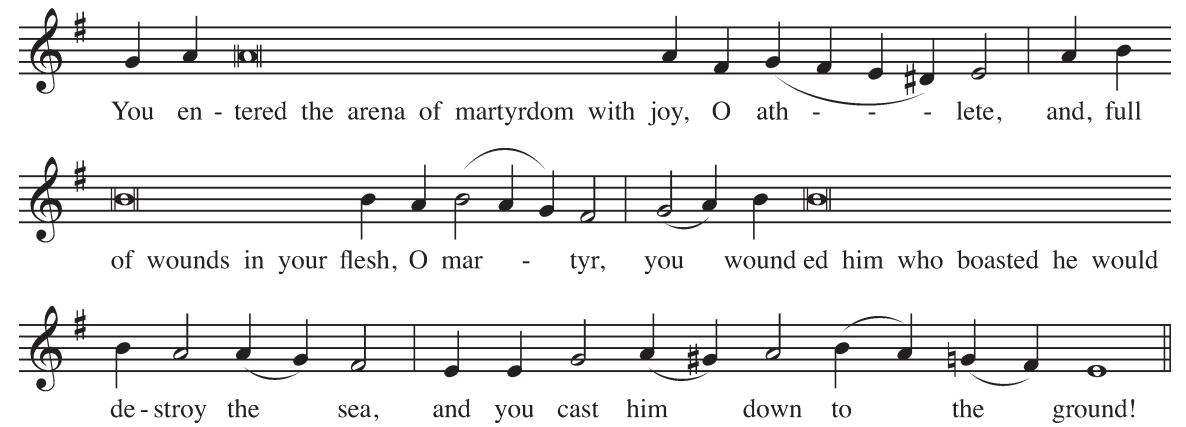


the memory of the mar-tyr Ma-mas, who is shown to be a new A - bel!
 For as A-bel, be-ing a shep-herd of sheep, brought a lamb as a sac-ri-fice
 and was the first to receive the crown of mar - tyr - dom, so did the
 glo-rious ath - lete, who presided over his graz - ing flocks,
 brought him - self to Christ as an acceptable sacrifice through mar - tyr - dom.
 As he has bold-ness be - fore the Lord, he asks for peace for the
 world and mer - cy for our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 4, page 67

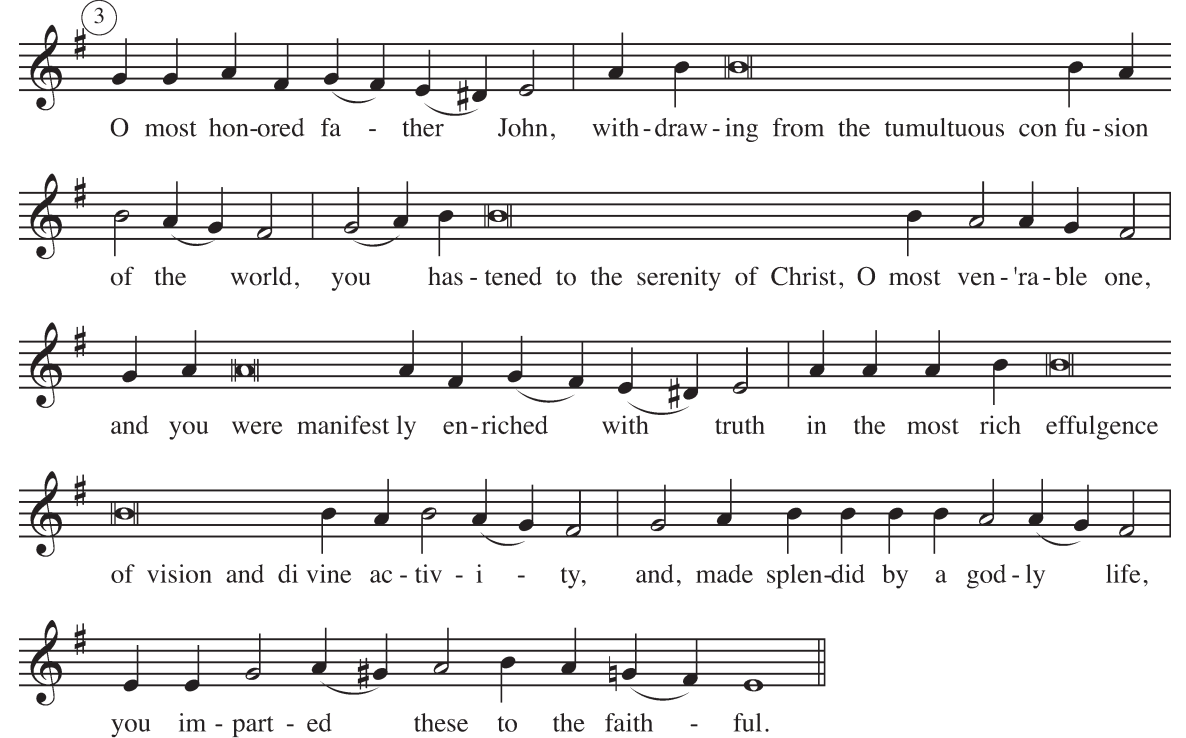
Troparion and Theotokion, Tone 5, page 81



You en - tered the arena of martyrdom with joy, O ath - - - lete, and, full
 of wounds in your flesh, O mar - tyr, you wound ed him who boasted he would
 de-destroy the sea, and you cast him down to the ground!

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
 (on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the Hierarch - Tone 8 samohlasen



O most hon-ored fa - ther John, with-draw-ing from the tumultuous con fu - sion
 of the world, you has - tened to the serenity of Christ, O most ven -'ra - ble one,
 and you were manifest ly en-riched with truth in the most rich effulgence
 of vision and di vine ac - tiv - i - ty, and, made splen-did by a god - ly life,
 you im - part - ed these to the faith - ful.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples! **Psalm 116**
 (on 2)

②

O most hon ored fa - ther John, a-dorned honorably with vestments like a noth-er
 Aa - ron, you now behold the Holy of Holies beyond the sec-ond veil.
 Oh! the in - ef - fa - ble bril-liance of your mind, pass ing all un-der stand - ing,
 O di - vine adornment of hier - archs, with whom you are now joined in
 fel - low - ship!

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.
(on 1)

①

O most wise fa - ther John, be - com - ing godly in the simplicity of your
 char - ac - ter, you now stand be - fore the Most High God, u - nit - ed
 with him through a high-er u - ni - ty, de - ified at his continual be hest and
 filled with his light, O divine and most sacred a-dorn ment of hier - archs.

Cantor: *(Tone 2)* Glory...

Doxastikon of the Martyr - Tone 2 samohlasen

At the ta - ble of God you were set like a new - ly-plant-ed ol - ive tree,
 the child of those who walk the path of the Lord. For the sake of your martyrdom,
 the Lord has blessed you, and you look up-on the good things of the heav en - ly
 Zi - on, ev - er de - light - ing with your parents in di - vine joy.
 O high - ly-praised Ma mas, by your en-trea - ties, make us par-tak-ers of
 that heav'n - ly joy.

Cantor: *(Tone 5)* Now and ever...

Dogmatikon, Tone 5, page 76

Aposticha, Tone 5, page 77

Cantor: *(Tone 4)* Glory...

Doxastikon of Mamas - Tone 4 samohlasen

Come together, all you faith - - - ful, and let us cel - e - brate